

Poonacha was also very impressed by this. Will the hon. Minister assure the people of that part of the country that in the interests of the development of the Terai areas and the hill areas of Tehri-Garhwal this line between Rampur and Haldwani will be taken up ?

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH : Having regard to the importance of Nainital which is a tourist centre I think it will be a good thing for the country if the Rampur-Haldwani line is constructed in a broad-gauge form. I will see that that matter is properly gone into and expedited.

*124. [The questioner (Shri Niranjan Varma) was absent. For answer, vide col. 940 infra.]

COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY FOR BIRLA GROUP OF INDUSTRIES

*125. **SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA :**
SHRI SYED HUSSAIN :†
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI Z. A. AHMAD :
SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :
SHRI M. V. BHADRAM :
SHRI M. M. DHARIA :
SHRI G. GOPINATHAN NAIR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision about the setting up of a Commission of Enquiry for the Birla Group of Industries; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Syed Hussain.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) As I indicated in the statement on the subject made by me in this House on the 18th February, 1969, investigation of the cases which required enquiry and action has already been given to the highest possible machinery under the laws in force in the country. Cases investigated by the authorities which reveal a contravention of law, rules or regulations, can be speedily referred to the tribunal which has the authority under the law to assess, penalize or inflict punishment. In order, however, to maintain a close check and follow-up in respect of the investigations which are still continuing and also for expedition of the cases now before the various tribunals, Government have decided to appoint a special Commissioner of high status with a judicial background and experience in legal affairs, in the Cabinet Secretariat, to co-ordinate investigations and bring up matters for Government decision quickly.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Sir, a discussion has been scheduled on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes; since there is going to be a full-dress debate for six hours I think we can go over to the next question.

SHRI Z. A. AHMAD : We would like to ask some questions. Short questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : I submit to you, Sir, though you have allowed a discussion, this question was framed with a certain different angle. In the discussion we may have something else.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am sorry I do not agree with you. We must take up as many questions as possible. This we have discussed many times and for six hours we are going to discuss this.

*126. [The questioners (Shri Bhupesh Gupta and Shri Yella Reddy) were absent. For answer, vide col. 943 infra.]