

(d) On preliminary investigation 14 staff members including 2 Gazetted Officers have been suspended. Further, punitive/disciplinary action will be taken in consultation with Central Vigilance Commission on completion of detailed investigation.

(e) Does not arise.

Taking Over of M/s. Keltron by BHEL

3699. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal of State Government of Kerala for taking over of M/s. Keltron Power Device Limited and M/s. Keltron Rectifier by BHEL is pending;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to materialise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DR. C. SILVERA) : (a) to (c). In July, 95 a proposal has been received from the State Govt. of Kerala which is under consideration of BHEL.

Stalls and Trolleys at Stations

3700. SHRI SHAILENDRA MAHTO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of stalls and trolleys allotted for providing catering services at the railway stations during each of the last three years;

(b) the conditions/criterion fixed for such allotments;

(c) the justification for increase in the allotment of various stalls and trolleys for catering services in view of heavy congestion at the various railway stations and nearest railway stations of Bombay, Madras, New Delhi, Bangalore, Calcutta; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to cancel such stalls allotted at the railway stations of these metropolitan cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) and (c). Allotment of catering/vending stalls and trolleys is made by Zonal Railways by inviting applications from reputed and professional caterers for meeting the catering requirements of the passengers. Selection is made by a process of screening the applicants on merit as per extant policy. However, few allotments have been made as special cases with the prior approval of the Ministry of Railways.

(d) Does not arise.

Electrification and Doubling of Railway Line

3701. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No.4089 on May 2, 1995 and state:

(a) whether the report regarding survey for doubling of Railway line between Andal and Sainthia has been received by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when it is expected to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) By 30.6.96.

Railway Line

3702. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work of the Howrah-Amta and Howrah-Seakhala Railway line has been abandoned;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) to (c). Construction of Howrah-Amta new B.G. railway line which was frozen for a few years due to constraint of resources and low operational priority has now been defrozen and an amount of Rs. One crore has been provided in 1995-96 for restarting the work. The work would be taken up shortly on Bargachia-Munshirhat (8 Kms.) in the first instance. Howrah-Seakhala a new B.G. line is a sanctioned work but could not progress for want of funds. The traffic potential of this line was reviewed in 87-88 after which the work was deleted. Railway has been instructed for carrying out a fresh appraisal of the traffic potential and the costs involved, for the above project. Further consideration of the project would be possible once the traffic appraisal report becomes available.

Halt Station

3703. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a halt station at Baltikuri between Bankura Nayabaz and Kona Stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) to (c). A demand for opening of a halt station at Baltikuri between