

Reforms in Electoral Law15. **SHRI YASHWANT BOROLE:****SHRI MOHINDER SINGH****SAYIAN WALA:****SHRI UGRASEN:**

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Starred Question No. 36 on the 15th November, 1977 regarding proposals for electoral reforms and state:

(a) when comprehensive reforms in the electoral law in the country are likely to be brought out; and

(b) what is the nature of these reforms?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) The proposals in regard to amendments to the election law are still under examination. As the proposals require deep study and careful consideration, some more time will be taken by Government to arrive at decisions in the matter.

(b) The reforms would be in the direction of ensuring free, fair and smooth elections and would deal *inter alia* with steps to be taken for avoidance of misuse of official authority and machinery in elections, removal of corrupt practices and money power in elections, quick disposal of election petitions, reduction of election expenses, maintenance of electoral rolls upto date, etc.

Railway Link up of Ferozepur and Amritsar16. **SHRI MOHINDER SINGH SAYIAN WALA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the vital border area position there are proposals under consideration to link up

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Ferozepur and Amritsar through a short distance railway track Makhu and Taranta (Tarn Taran) via Harike Pattan; and

(b) whether in the interest of lifting of cotton, paddy and wheat crops and feed centres of consumption in the country a rail link is being considered to link Fazilka with Abohar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b) There are no proposals presently under consideration to link up Ferozepur and Amritsar through a short distance railway track from Makhu to Tarn Taran via Harike Pattan or to link Fazilka with Abohar.

Policy of L-Base17. **SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that his attention has been drawn by various Members of Parliament to certain irregularities done by interested officials in twisting the policy of L-Base from time to time with the view to pass off advantage to a particular section in the drug industry; and

(b) has any enquiry been made and what is the result of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) In December, 1977, five Members of Parliament had urged for an enquiry to be made to establish facts on the following points:—

(i) If the cost of L-Base to the canalising agency after all duties, etc., is about Rs. 600/kg and the price being charged by that agency is Rs. 650/