

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a)

The Government has decided to set up the Indian Railways' Wheel & Axle Plant at Yelahanka (Bangalore) at an estimated cost of Rs. 38.39 crores. The Civil Engineering works are in progress.

(b) Total foreign exchange requirement is estimated at Rs. 11.58 crores and this will be met with from the IDA Credit.

(c) For transfer of technical know-how required for the manufacture of wheels, collaboration has been entered into with M/s. Amsted Industries Inc. of United States of America. For axles, a decision has yet to be taken.

Railway Service Commission for Karnataka

272. **SHRI A. K. KOTRASHETTI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to set up a Railway Service Commission for Karnataka; and

(b) during the last five years how many applications have been received from Karnataka for various posts in the Railway service and how many have been appointed, state, year-wise and category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) No.

(b) State-wise statistics of the number of applications received are not maintained by the Railway Service Commission.

Railway Division in Trivandrum

273. **SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Government have finally decided to set up a Railway Division in Trivandrum;
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(b) if so, whether any works have been initiated for its implementation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) to (c).

It was decided to form a full-fledged broad gauge division on Southern Railway with headquarters at Trivandrum. After the announcement of this decision, several representations were received from various interests in North Malabar, Cochin and Ovakkot areas protesting against the inclusion of Mangalore-Ernakulam Section in the proposed new division. In view of the reduced kilometrage of the proposed division, if Mangalore-Ernakulam Section is excluded, it was subsequently decided to form, as a first step, a Transportation Division only having jurisdiction over the all Broad Gauge Shoranur-Trivandrum-Kanyakumari-Tirunelveli Section and develop it further, in due course, as a full-fledged division when enough additional broad gauge jurisdiction could be added to it to make it viable. As this scheme also was not generally received well, the Chief Minister of Kerala has been requested to have discussions with all the concerned interests in the area so as to evolve an agreed alternative. A reply from the Chief Minister of Kerala is awaited.

Conformation of New Drug Policy by Foreign Drug Company

274. **SHRI D. D. DESAI:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any foreign drug company has taken steps to conform to the new drug policy announced by Government this year;

(b) if so, the names of the companies and the steps they have taken.