

Doubling of Cochin-Trivendrum and Shoranur-Mangalore Lines

1909. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways had undertaken any survey for doubling the railway line from Cochin to Trivendrum and Shoranur to Mangalore in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the proposed time schedule for doubling the lines, if any?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (c). A survey was carried out for doubling on Kayankulam-Trivandrum section along with an alternative BG alignment via Kottarakara and Nedumanged. As the alternative alignment was not found to be financially viable, the doubling of Kayankulam-Quilon and Quilon-Trivandrum was approved in the years 1989-90 and 1990-91 respectively.

A Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey has been approved in 1990-91 to examine the feasibility and need for doubling of Shoranur-Mangalore section.

On Ernakulam (Cochin) Kayankulam section, an alternative BG line has been taken up for construction via Alleppey. Out of this BG line, Ernakulam-Alleppey section has been commissioned in October, 1989 and the line on Alleppey-Kayankulam is likely to be completed during 1991-92. When completed, it will provide double line facility on this section—one the existing line via Kottayam and the other via Alleppey.

Completion of doubling on Kayankulam-Quilon-Trivandrum would depend upon the availability of resources. Doubling on Mangalore-Shoranur would depend on the

findings of the survey report.

Thapar-Dupont tie-up

1910. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Thapar-Dupont tie-up may be snapped" appearing in the Economic Times of 18 September, 1990;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(c) since when these joint venture proposals are pending and the reasons for delay in their clearance?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. M/s Thapar Du Pont submitted a composite application for foreign collaboration and import of capital goods for setting up of a unit in Goa for the manufacture of Nylon-66 Tyre Cord/Industrial Yarn in technical and financial collaboration with M/s. E.I. Du Pont de Nemours & Co. of USA. Decision on such proposals are taken on techno-economic considerations after the evaluation of the project proposals.

LPG Cylinder Blast in Hospital in Bangalore

1911. SHRI JOSS FERNANDEZ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was an explosion in the Nature Cure Hospital in Bangalore City due to leakage of an LPG cylinder;

(b) if so, the details of the incident and