

The strike was mainly on the ground that arrears of overtime at enhanced rate for the period from 1-8 1974 to 30-4-1975 had not been paid. Steps were already in hand from before the strike for making payment in a number of cases. special steps were taken to see that, in such cases, payment was made within a few days. In regard to the remaining cases (which were about 4000 in number) steps were taken for preparation of bills of arrears and have them paid as early as possible.

As a result of this agitation 8 Ma./Express trains were diverted via main line 8 passenger trains were fully/parially cancelled and one passenger train was detained causing inconvenience to a large number of passengers.

**Merger of M/s Smith Stanstreet and Company with IDPL**

2756 SHRI CHITTA BASU Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government contemplate to merge the Smith Stanstreet and Company Limited which has been taken over by Government in October 1977 with IDPL.

(b) if so the reasons thereof

(c) whether it is a fact that the workmen of the unit have demanded the retention of the separate identity, and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H N BAHUGUNA) (a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) Government have received a representation from the Smith Stanstreet Workers Union for maintaining the identity of Smith Stanstreet Co Ltd without merging it with

Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceutical Works or others

(d) This representation will be considered on its merits at the appropriate time

**Shifting of H.Q. of Western Railway**

2757 PROF P G MAVALANKAR Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to shift the headquarters of the Western Railway from Bombay to Ahmedabad or Baroda or any other place in the State of Gujarat,

(b) if so, when and how, and

(c) if not, why not?

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

(b) Does not arise

(c) On administrative, operational and economic grounds, the shifting of Western Railway Headquarters from Bombay is not considered desirable

**Re-employment on Higher Jobs**

2758 DR BHAGWAN DASS RATHOR Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether there was or is any proposal before the Ministry not to allow extension or re-employment on higher jobs in the Ministry of Railways to persons who have either retired or are on the verge of retirement,

(b) if so, action taken on such proposals, and

(c) whether even though the Government of India is of the view that retired and or retiring persons should not be allowed extension or re-employment unless there is any imperative need for such the Ministry is still pursuing cases of retiring persons for re-employment?