

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) Yes. The wagon supply is not adequate for current clearance of all the traffic offering.

(b) Wagons, as available, are supplied to consigners in the order of the registrations of their indents consistent with the preferential traffic schedule i.e., traffic entitled to any preferential treatment according to the comparative order of preference prescribed in the General and Special Orders issued under Section 27-A of the Indian Railways' Act, 1890.

(c) Yes.

(d) The General Manager, Eastern Railway, has been asked to take suitable action.

(e) This information is not available with the Railway as it relates to the disposition of contents of public godowns.

AMENITIES FOR P. AND T. STAFF

279. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) what new facilities and amenities are proposed to be given to the staff of the Posts and Telegraphs and Telephone Departments in 1952-53;

(b) how many complaints and grievances from the staff (either individually or through Unions or otherwise) were received by Government in the year 1951-52; and

(c) how many have been favourably dealt with?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The welfare plans of the Department include the opening of or of making of provision for the following:—

Co-operative Stores and Societies.	... 36
Canteens	... 50
Night Schools for Class IV Staff.	... 18
Dormitories	... 9
Tiffin Rooms	... 33
Cycle stands	... 36
Retiring Rooms	... 9
Holiday Homes	... 2
Recreation Clubs	... 23

Reservation of 12 additional beds in different T.B. Sanatoria, construction of a five-bed ward in the Madar

Sanatorium, Ajmer, and a thirty-bed ward in the L.L. Sanatorium, Kasauli, for the P. and T. Staff suffering from Tuberculosis.

Construction of quarters for the staff throughout India, approximately at a cost of Rs. 27 lakhs.

(b) and (c). The information is not readily available. Its compilation will entail considerable effort, which will be out of proportion to its utility.

MEDICAL ALLOWANCES

280. Dr. M. M. Das: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exist any distinction between Gazetted and Non-Gazetted employees of the Income-tax Department in matters of medical allowances for Hospital treatment;

(b) if so, what are they; and

(c) whether it is a fact that in West Bengal Non-Gazetted employees living outside Calcutta are not entitled to medical expenses?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No medical allowance is granted to the employees of the Income-tax Department, but their actual expenses on medical attendance and treatment to the extent admissible under the relevant Medical Attendance Rules are reimbursed to them. Generally speaking, no distinction is made between gazetted and non-gazetted staff as such.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No. All Central Government employees whether Gazetted or non-gazetted are entitled to medical concessions under relevant rules when stationed in West Bengal, including Calcutta. The only distinction is that as the Government of West Bengal could not make available the services of their Medical Officers in Calcutta to attend on Central Government non-gazetted employees stationed in or passing through Calcutta, they are allowed to receive medical attendance from private registered medical practitioners, at the cost of Government, while Central Government non-gazetted employees outside Calcutta are entitled to the professional services of the Medical Officers employed under the Government of West Bengal in accordance with the Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944.