

(b) So far as stoppages of work by the direct employees of the Port Trust are concerned, negotiations are held by the Port Managements with the unions to resolve disputes so that strikes are averted to the extent possible. In respect of stoppages of work by private cargo handling workers like those in the tea warehouses, the Port Trust use their good offices for resolving the dispute.

At Calcutta prolonged negotiations between the concerned workers' unions and the Tea Trade and Industry with the assistance of the State Labour Department and Tea Board were held as a result of which a settlement has been arrived at in March, 1981 according to which erstwhile Calcutta Tea Workers Board has been dissolved and the workers have been provided alternate employment in individual Tea Warehousing and Blending Companies. It is hoped that the situation will improve.

On the whole, tea shipments from Indian Ports have been much more during 1980-81 as compared to 1979-80.

#### Utilisation of funds allotted to States

9465. SHRI CHIRANJIT LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that States do not spend well the funds allotted to them for execution of Central Transport Projects within the stipulated period and as such they lapse; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure that the funds allotted are properly utilised within the stipulated period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No funds are allotted to the States by this Ministry for execution of Central Transport Projects as such. However, funds are allotted to States and Union Territories for Central Sector Road Schemes, e.g., National Highways, Strategic Roads, Roads of Inter-

State or Economic Importance, etc. In regard to these Road Schemes, the experience has been that the funds allotted are spent fully within the stipulated period according to sanctions issued and that there are no lapses generally.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Railway Workers

9466. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway workers are paid less amongst the workers of the organised sector of other industries; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The emoluments of Railway Workers are fixed on the basis of recommendations of Pay Commissions appointed by the Government from time to time and are comparable with the emoluments of workers in other Central Government Departments as the latter are also fixed on the basis of recommendations of Central Pay Commissions. Since the wages in the other organised sectors are also not uniform, no comparison has been attempted of the emoluments of Railway Workers with those of workers of any of the other organised sectors, nor does the Government consider that such a comparison is valid.

#### Import of Vitamin 'A'

9467. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government have suggested that since most of the vitamin 'A' content in the Vanaspati was lost in the storage process and while frying

food, there was no rationale in spending Rs. 1 crore to import Vitamin content;

(b) whether this decision of the Government has been challenged by various Samitis and have demanded that it should be restored;

(c) if so, what was the main reason for Government taking this decision;

(d) if so, whether Government have decided to withdraw the same order; and

(e) if not, the main reasons for the same?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR):** (a) A Group of experts in a meeting held under the Chairmanship of Director General of Health Services has suggested that most of vitamin 'A' in vanaspati is lost on storage and frying and there was a national economic loss on account of use of vitamin 'A' by vanaspati industry. The Group felt that large amount of vitamin 'A' could be saved and utilised in a better way in Public Health Programmes. Based on their recommendation, draft Rules were notified to invite comments from the public.

(b) to (c) Comments have been received from a large number of Organisations/individuals (including Samithies) and these will be considered in consultation with the Central Committee for Food Standards before a decision is taken by the Government.

**Demand of Medico Students regarding Job Security, Internship Stipend etc.**

9468. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some medico students demanding Job security, internship stipend and implemen-

tation of the agreement signed by the Government with medical students, courted arrest recently in the capital;

(b) if so, the number of such medicos; and

(c) the reaction of Government regarding their demands?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR):** (a) and (b) Yes. As reported by the Commissioner of Police Delhi, 356 medicos were arrested for violating prohibitory orders under Section 144 Cr.P.C., around Parliament House on 13-3-1981, 4-7-1981, 10-4-1981 and 16-4-1981.

(c) The demands raised by the All India Medical Students Association have been taken note of by the Government. Besides, all the State Governments have also been addressed, for taking such action as may be considered appropriate.

**Sick Wagons for Rourkela Steel Plant**

9469. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA RATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wagons provided to the Rourkela Steel Plant contain a high percentage of sick ones affecting the disposal of stocks and that has led to the heavy losses to the plant; and

(b) if so, the steps his Ministry proposes to take in this regard?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):** (a) Repairs to wagons are done when they are empty. All the wagons needing repairs arriving for Rourkela Steel Plant with raw materials are allowed to go into the steel plant and after unloading, they are taken out and repaired. This is the normal procedure for other steel plants also. Even with this position, the availability of good wagons for