

(a), (b) and (c). The doctors in Government Hospitals are by and large conscious of their duty and responsibility towards the patients under their treatment. Instructions are reiterated from time to time to the staff including doctors in the hospital, to respond positively and to be courteous with the patients and their attendants. Surprise visits and checks are conducted by Supervisory Officers and whenever required, action is taken against Government doctors found lacking in a sense of responsibility and consciousness of duties.

Wagon shortage hits Iron Ore Export

*375. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK:

SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the wagon shortage has hit the iron ore export to Japan; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) There was no shortage of wagons for movement of iron ore for export to Japan.

(b) Does not arise.

Utilisation of Idle Rake as 313 up from Burdwan to Asansol

*376. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Eastern Railway opted to utilise the idle rake as 313 UP scheduled to leave Burdwan Station at 10.00 hours and reaching Asansol at 12.30 hours;

(b) if so, why the Eastern Railway is not fulfilling their commitment; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to meet the demand of the workers of general shift?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (c). On demand from two Members of the Zonal Railway Time Table Committee, an examination was made to start 313 Up Burdwan-Asansol Passenger at 5.50 hours from Burdwan instead of the present schedule of 10.10 hours. However, the proposal could not materialise due to operational difficulty.

No commitment as such was made to change the timings of 313 Up Burdwan-Asansol Passenger.

The general shift at Durgapur usually starts at 7.00 hours and closes at 16.00 hours. The workers of this shift can easily avail of 339 Up Burdwan-Ranchi/Hatia Passenger from Burdwan to reach Durgapur at 6.39 hrs. and 314 Down Asansol-Burdwan Passenger which leaves Durgapur at 16.51 hours for Burdwan. These trains adequately serve the requirements of the workers of the general shift. Representations from the passengers protesting against any change in the present schedule of 313 Up Passenger have also been received.

Social Burdens on Indian Railways

*377. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would quantify the social burdens in financial terms on the Indian Railways;

(b) whether these burdens are excluded from the payment of the dividend to the general revenues;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the arrangement in other foreign countries?