

Indigent passengers from whom it is not possible to recover the cost of medicines, etc. may be treated free on a certificate to that effect being recorded by the doctor.

WAGON INDUSTRIES

*467. SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MO-KHERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an insertion made by the Indian Engineering Association (Railway Wagons and Components Division) in the 'Jugantar', a Bengali daily published from Calcutta, on the 27th July, 1969 on the wagon industries in the country ;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ;

(c) whether it is a fact that as a result of Government's policy on wagon industries, both export potentiality and employment potentiality are likely to decline; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to eliminate such a possibility ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The wagon builders have adequate orders commensurate with their actual performance. Their out-turn has been dropping since 1966-67 even though the orders available at the beginning of each year, have been substantial. The performance during 1968-69 has not shown any improvement.

The prices of wagons were determined after receiving offers from the wagon builders and negotiating the same with them. The prices offered are considered reasonable.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) The question does not arise.

EXPENDITURE ON COMMITTEES ON SMALL CAR PROPOSAL

*468. COL. B.H. ZAIDI : SHRI C. D. PANDE :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of committees appointed by Government to enquire into the feasibility and the best way of implementing

the proposal to manufacture a small car in India ever since the idea was first mooted; and

(b) the expenditure incurred in the case of each of these committees and the extent of foreign exchange involved in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) : (a) Two Committees have so far been set up by Government to enquire into the feasibility of producing a low cost passenger car in the country. These are the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Automobile Industry set up in 1959 with Shri L. K. Jha as Chairman and the Low Cost Car Committee, with Shri G. Pande as Chairman, set up in 1960.

(b) An amount of Rs. 27,000 approximately was spent on the Low Cost Car Committee. Information about the expenditure spent on the *Ad hoc* Committee on Automobile Industry is not readily available. No expenditure in foreign exchange was incurred on these committees.

REPLACEMENT OF COMPARTMENTS IN SOUTHERN RAILWAY

1032. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have under consideration a proposal to replace all the compartments in use on the Southern Railway by new ones this year; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

INCENTIVES TO FOREIGN ENTREPRENEURS TO START INDUSTRIES IN INDIA

1033. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any scheme under consideration for providing incentive to new entrepreneurs from abroad to start industries in this country ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?