

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी० एम० पून० चा)  
(क) 80 बार ।

(ख) 61 बार ।

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) On 80 occasions.

(b) On 61 occasions.]

**MERGER OF RAILWAY MEDICAL SERVICE WITH CENTRAL HEALTH SERVICE**

200. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration to merge Railway Medical Service with Central Health Service;

(b) whether any memorandum on this behalf has been received from Railway Medical Officers' Association; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) No.

(b) and (c). No, but representations have been received from Railway Medical Officers Association requesting that the scales of pay and avenues of advancement, etc. of Railway Doctors should be the same as those of their counter-parts in the Central Health Service. These are under consideration.

**DIFFICULTIES FACED BY SOAP MANUFACTURERS DUE TO RAW MATERIAL SHORTAGE**

201. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer given to the Starred Question No. 642 in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd June, 1967 and state:

- [ ] English translation. 926  
RSD—3.

(a) whether it is a fact that the small scale manufacturers of soap in West Bengal are finding it difficult to continue the manufacture of soap due to the scarcity of Palm Oil and Copra; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government have so far taken to remove their difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) No such difficulty has been brought to the notice of this Ministry.

(d) Does not arise.

**DEMANDS OF RAILWAY PORTERS AND VENDORS**

202. SHRI D. THENGARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 657 in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd June, 1967, and state the action taken by Government on the demands of the Railway porters and vendors?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): As the licensed porters and vendors are not regular railway employees, their unions are not eligible for recognition. Licensed porters and vendors have been allowed, as a special case, outdoor medical treatment for self only at Railway hospitals/dispensaries wherever they exist. They are, however, not eligible for educational and other facilities which are admissible only to regular railway employees. All complaints against Supervisory staff of Railway porters etc. are looked into and suitable action is taken where necessary.

**INDUSTRIES IN U.P. FACING CLOSURE**

203. SHRI D. THENGARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state: