

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The relevant rule reads as follows:

"Hospital leave may be granted on leave salary equal to either average or half-average pay as the authority granting it may consider necessary".

The practice on the Northern Railway has been to grant such leave on full pay except when the accident on duty is due to the neglect or fault of the employees.

TELEGRAMS SENT FROM KISHTWAR

*309. **SHRI OM MEHTA:** Will the Minister of POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telegrams booked in Telegraph Office at Kishtwar on the 28th March, 1964 were delivered at Jammu Cantonment on 3rd April, 1964;

(b) whether it is a fact that for the last one year there had been inordinate delay in the delivery of telegrams in that area; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take to improve the faulty line and delivery of telegrams?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI):

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes, on several occasions.

(c) Projects to reconstruct the telegraph line in the area have been sanctioned and also undertaken. The progress is retarded due to the difficult terrain, climatic conditions and recent blasting operations. Considerable improvement is expected by the end of this year.

SIDING FROM BHADRACHELLAM ROAD TO KOTHAGUDIUM

*310. **SHRI P. K. KUMARAN:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the work in connection with the siding from Bhadrachellam Road to the proposed 120 N.W. thermal plant at Kothagudium, Andhra Pradesh is likely to be undertaken;

(b) what is the length of the proposed siding and its estimated cost; and

(c) what percentage thereof will be borne by the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Board?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) The work has been started in February, 1964 and is in progress.

(b) The length of the siding is approximately 10 miles and the estimated cost is about Rs. 87 lakhs.

(c) The entire cost of the siding is borne by the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Board.

COLOURING VANASPATI GHEE

*311. **SHRI JAGAT NARAIN:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised any scheme for colouring vanaspati Ghee; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

MANUFACTURE OF JAGGERY FROM TODDY

*312. **SHRI J. S. PILLAI:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how much jaggery is manufactured in our country from coconut toddy, date-palm toddy and palm toddy; and

(b) the names of the States where this jaggery is available?