

(b) if so, whether any objection was raised by the representatives of the Unions against such tape-recording?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

RATE OF WAGES OF CASUAL LABOUR ON CENTRAL RAILWAY

460. SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a difference in the rate of wages paid to the casual labour in different Divisions of the Central Railway; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Yes.

(b) Wages are based on rates prescribed by the local authority or State Governments and these vary from place to place.

TRANSMISSION OF HINDI TELEGRAPH MESSAGES

461. SHRI ABDUL GHANI: Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to state:

(a) the number of words of Hindi Messages transmitted between various offices in India through telegraph circuits during 1960-61, 1961-62 and 1962-63;

(b) the number of man-hours utilised for the transmission and reception of these messages during the above periods; and

(c) the man-hours required for handling equal number of words in English?

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

(a) Approximately 3,499,660/3,534,940 and 4,508,340 words were transmitted during 1960-61, 1961-62 and 1962-63 respectively.

(b) Separate statistics regarding man-hours employed on different services are not maintained.

(c) There is practically no difference, in man-hours employed in the transmission and reception of telegrams either in Devnagri or Roman script or morse circuits.

PROPOSAL FOR IMPROVING OF TELEGRAPH SERVICES

462. SHRI ABDUL GHANI: Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to appoint highly qualified and experienced telecommunication engineers to take charge of the principal telegraph offices in India situated at New Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras with a view to improve efficiency in telegraph service; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

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

(a) and (b) There is no such proposal under consideration at present. A case for reorganisation of the control of telegraph offices is, however, under consideration. The upgrading of the charges of big Central Telegraph Offices and posting of suitable officers will be examined at the appropriate time.

NEW DELHI TELEGRAPH OFFICE

463. SHRI ABDUL GHANI: Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over Rs. 30,000 are being spent every month in the New Delhi Telegraph Office towards overtime employment;