

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken for supplying clear drinking water to the passengers on these stations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Is the hon. Minister aware that on all the stations from Kotah upto Ratlam only muddy water is available for drinking?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: No. Sir. I have just denied that statement.

SPARE PARTS FOR MOTOR VEHICLES OF P. & T. MOTOR SERVICE IN DELHI

*823. { SHRI P. K. KUMARAN†:
DR. A. SUBBA RAO:

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether spare parts for motor vehicles of the Posts and Telegraphs Motor Service in Delhi are purchased without calling for sealed tenders; and

(b) what is the annual expenditure on spare parts for Posts and Telegraphs vehicles in Delhi?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): (a) No.

(b) Rupees sixty five thousand eight hundred (average for the last three years).

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that a large part of these spare parts is purchased from, what is called, second-hand markets, *Kabadi*

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri P. K. Kumaran.

markets and recorded as genuine goods?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: No, Sir. There are certain rules for purchasing spare parts. In the first instance, these parts are purchased directly from the manufacturers as far as possible according to rate contracts entered into by the Director-General of Supply and Disposals. Then, by advertisements we invite sealed tenders and select certain firms and from those firms local purchases are made. As you know, it is very difficult to get spare parts nowadays because of foreign exchange difficulties and so we have to buy from local markets but that is done by calling for competitive quotations.

SHRI M. R. SHERVANI: What is the number of vehicles run by the P. & T. Department in Delhi?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: I have not got the figure of the exact number of vehicles but I can give the mileage done annually. I think we are doing 10·5 lakh miles.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

NEW RULE OF RAILWAY ESTABLISHMENT CODE

*806. SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new Rule 1712(2) of the Indian Government Railway Establishment Code Part I requiring approval of the Inquiry Authority for the appearance of a railway employee in assistance of another railway employee has recently been framed; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for framing such a rule?