

operated machines are not being observed in the Central Telegraph Office, New Delhi;

(b) whether a foreign-trained official brought this to the notice of the officers concerned and offered suggestions for improvement; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to encourage sound and constructive suggestions from workers and implement them after examination?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts & Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) The rules are observed.

(b) Certain indicator lamps have recently been fitted as an experimental measure in C.T.O. for improved supervision. A further modification to this scheme using low voltage lamps has been decided by the Telephone District for implementation on receipt of stores. A similar suggestion was also received from a member of the staff of C.T.O., New Delhi.

(c) Constructive suggestions from workers are always encouraged.

Telegraph Masters

589. Dr Melkote: Will the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Telegraph Masters are employed to work as operators on overtime payment;

(b) whether it is also a fact that unqualified operators are employed to perform the duties of Telegraph Masters on over-time payment and supervise the work of qualified Telegraph Masters;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) if not, why such procedure is being adopted in the New Delhi Central Telegraph Office?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) Yes, in special circumstances.

(b) and (c). In the absence of regular Telegraph Master on duty, the senior Telegraphists may be required to exercise supervision on officials doing operative duties.

(d) Does not arise.

R.M.S., Delhi

590. Dr. Melkote: Will the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to shift the present R.M.S. Divisional Office to a place on Alipur Road, Delhi;

(b) whether most of the officials employed in this office have been provided with Government accommodation at Vinayanagar which is over 10 miles from the newly proposed office;

(c) whether Government have received representation from the workers protesting against such a change of office; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to ameliorate the workers' grievances in this regard?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) Yes.

(b) No. Out of 341 Class III and 107 Class IV officials attached to the R.M.S. 'D' Division at Delhi only 52 have been allotted Government accommodation. Of these 52 officials 34 Class III officials have been allotted accommodation in Vinay Nagar and Moti Bagh and 6 Class IV officials, in Sewa Nagar. The remaining 12 Class III officials are residing in the Civil Lines.

(c) Government have received representations from the Union as well as directly from members of the staff. Whereas the Unions do not favour the proposed shift, representations have been received from the members of the staff to effect the change.

(d) As stated at (b) above a total of only 40 officials have been provided

with Government accommodation in distant colonies. Of these only 5 officials are doing stationary duty and have to attend office on all working days. The remaining 35 officials perform duty in travelling sections and have to attend office about 6 times only in a month. The question of exploring the possibilities of allotting to those few officials who perform stationary duty, alternate quarters in places as near to their place of duty, as possible, is under consideration.

Telegrams

591. Dr. Melkote: Will the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telegrams sent by post instead of being transmitted on line as scheduled during the period 1st April 1962 to 1st October 1963 to and from various Telegraph Offices in India;

(b) the revenue collected from the public towards telegraphic transmission for the above said messages;

(c) the amount actually refunded to the public being the difference between postage and telegraphic charges during this period for the telegrams sent by post; and

(d) the action Government propose to take to refund the difference to others as well, who have not been paid so far?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) 19,49,470 telegrams were disposed of by post either fully or partially, i.e., between two intermediate points.

(b) Since Inland message drafts after disposal are destroyed after 3 months and the Department records only the total collection of revenue, charges for such messages which are disposed by post are not known.

(c) Refunds are granted not merely for the fact of posting at any stage but for inordinate delay, mutilation,

non-delivery and such other lapses due to any cause when brought to the notice of the Department. Postage charges are not deducted from the refunds so granted. Therefore, the figures of refund due to posting of telegrams alone minus the cost of postage are not available.

(d) Does not arise.

Rules for Allotment of Quarters

592. Dr. Melkote: Will the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rules framed by Government to regulate allotment of quarters for Government servants are not applicable to Posts and Telegraphs employees;

(b) whether separate rules have been issued by the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs to regulate such allotment of quarters for the Posts and Telegraphs employees and the said rules are at variance from those issued by the President; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the discrimination?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) to (c). The rules framed by the Works, Housing and Rehabilitation Ministry regulating allotment of General Pool quarters to Government servants, are applicable to P. & T. employees when such employees are allotted the General Pool Quarters. These rules, however, are not applicable when the P. & T. employees are allotted P. & T. quarters. For such allotments, separate rules have been framed by the P. & T. Department. These rules are slightly different from those of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation Ministry because the requirements and conditions in the P. & T. Department are different from those in the General Pool.