

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:642

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000

USE OF CIVILIAN TRUCKS FOR SUPPLYING DEFENCE ITEMS

RAJESH RANJAN (PAPPU YADAV)

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether civilian trucks are being used for defence supplies in the Central Ordnance Depots instead of railway wagons;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the outcome of the enquiry conducted in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

- (a) Both Railway wagons and civil hired transport are being engaged for supply of Defence materials by Central Ordnance Depots.
- (b) Only full rakes are accepted by Railways, necessitating despatch of smaller quantities of stores by civil hired transport. Stores to areas not covered by rail and urgently required are also despatched by civil hired transport.
- (c) Due to some complaints, Court of Inquiry was ordered regarding the hiring of civilian trucks in Central Ordnance Depot, Kanpur. The enquiry has since been completed. Based on the findings of the Court of Inquiry, disciplinary action against three Army officers and one civilian officer found responsible for irregularities in award of contracts has been initiated.