

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:621
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2002
ADDITIONAL REVENUE SOURCES
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of computers purchased by the Railway Board, and the Northern Railway Head Quarter from the NCCF and the Kendriya Bhandar during the last three years, along with the make and configuration and cost thereof;
- (b) whether the prices charged for the computers are much higher than the open market;
- (c) whether the DOP&T unauthorisedly and illegally extended the relaxation portion of the GFR for not inviting tenders as agreed to by the Ministry of Finance in the case of Kendriya Bhandar, NCCF and Super Bazar as replied by the Finance Ministry to USQ No. 4252 dated April 19, 2002 and USQ No.7738 dated May 17, 2002; and
- (d) if so, the action propose to take to ensure that they buy stationery and other items on the basis of open tender from NCCF?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a) to (d): It was inter-alia stated that the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(a): 125 Computers of Celeron/Pentium-II/Pentium-III PCs of Compaq and Wipro have been purchased from Kendriya Bhandar and NCCF during the last three years, i.e., 1999-2000, 2000-01 & 2001-02 at an approximate cost of Rs. 95 lakhs. However, Northern Railway did not purchase any computer from Kendriya Bhandar and NCCF during this period.

(b): The Computers are being purchased from Kendriya Bhandar and NCCF as per the guidelines issued by Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension (Department of Personnel & Training). Hence, the prices in the open market have not been compared with that of Kendriya Bhandar and NCCF.

(c) & (d): DoP&T issued instructions in consultation with Ministry of Finance in July 1981, making it mandatory for Central Government Departments/ bodies controlled or financed by the Central Government, to make local purchase of stationery and other items from the Kendriya Bhandar. As per information assimilated from DOP&T, it has been construed that DOP&T issued further instructions in 1987 and 1994 merely to bring Super Bazar and NCCF also under the purview of this arrangement. However, the provisions of the Office Memorandum dated 14/07/81 are under review by the DoP&T.

The Ministry of Railways are only following the extant guidelines issued by Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension, Department of Personnel & Training, regarding procurement of stationery and other items.