

(ख) यदि हां, तो दोनों तटबन्धों के बीच बसने वाले लोगों की स्थिति में इससे क्या फर्क पड़ेगा ?

सिचाई और विद्युत् मंत्री के सभासचिव (श्री सं० प्र० मेहदी) : (क) हां, हां। कोसी नदी का कोसी बराज से व्यवर्तन १८ फरवरी, १९६३ को आरम्भ कर दिया गया था और इसे ३१ मार्च, १९६३ को सफलतापूर्वक पूर्ण कर दिया गया।

(ख) इससे पूर्व कि दो तट-बन्धों के बीच रहने वाले लोगों पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ सकता है इसको आंका जा सके; नदी के बहाव को अगले दो अथवा तीन सालों तक और खाम कर बाढ़ों के दिनों में देखना आवश्यक होगा।

[ (a) Yes, Sir. The diversion of the Kosi river through the Kosi Barrage was started on the 18th of February, 1963 and successfully completed on the 31st of March, 1963.

(b) The behaviour of the river will need to be observed for the next two or three years, specially during floods, before an assessment could be made of the effect of diversion on the people living between the two embankments.]

#### SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS

#### Catering Contracts in Constitution House

S.N.Q. 5. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director of Estates recently invited tenders for catering in Constitution House;

(b) the number of tenders received, together with the details of rates quoted by each tenderer;

(c) whether any decision has been taken in the matter;

(d) if so, which tender has been accepted; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna):** (a) Yes.

(b) Five.

(c) Yes.

(d) The lowest tender has been accepted.

(e) Does not arise.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** May I know why for catering in Constitution House tenders were first invited in November last, then no decision was taken in the matter, and fresh tenders were again invited last month, that is, in March, and why it was that the old contract was extended from month to month on an *ad hoc* basis without taking any final decision on the tenders received?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** For the simple reason that we were rather in a period which was emergency... (Interruptions). Yes, yes. Our intention then was to convert Constitution House into a sort of hostel for outsiders or for government servants. I had then personally requested and asked the 14 MPs living there if they would like to move to Western Court where accommodation would be provided to them; I also told them if they wanted to go anywhere else, accommodation could be made available to them somewhere else too. That was the main idea.

Now the intention is that we might carry on with the present arrangement for about 6 months more because Constitution House may be demolished and rebuilt. We may have a new plan there. That is all under consideration.

So, we have accepted the lowest tender now.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** May I know what is the position—I would request you to throw some light on it if the Minister cannot—in regard to tenders, when tenders are invited, they are received, and no decision is

taken on them, and without assigning any reasons fresh tenders are invited? Is it regular, proper and correct?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** The tenderer remains the same; the rates were the same. There is no change whatsoever. In fact, so far as the tenderer is concerned, he seems to be very popular because I receive a large number of recommendations, both oral and in writing, to have his tender continued.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** My question has not been answered. What is the position in law? Is it a correct procedure? I am not talking of this particular tender, but generally. Tenders are invited and tenders are received....

**Mr. Speaker:** If he wants to discuss some other matter, he might come to me and we can discuss that. Other matters should not be brought in here at present.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Not other matters, but so far as this question is concerned. May I know the reasons for inviting fresh tenders in March when the old tenders invited in November last were just shelved and no decision was taken on them?

**Mr. Speaker:** The answer given is that due to the emergency....

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Is that an adequate answer. Can he take shelter behind the emergency for this purpose? This has nothing to do with the emergency.

**Mr. Speaker:** He said that the intention was that Constitution House might be converted into a residence for government servants or other persons arriving there. Therefore, a decision was not taken so far as I could understand. Does he want to add?

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** A question on the same subject was asked last month, and the answer then given

was that the tenders that were received in December were not competitive enough. No question of emergency was mentioned by the Minister then. At the same time, in regard to Western Court, another Government hostel, the same tenderers, as far as I know, gave tenders and though they were not competitive, a decision was taken thereon, while with regard to Constitution House it was shelved and fresh tenders were invited, and received in March.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** I wrote personal letters to all the 14 MPs in Constitution House....

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** It is not a question of MPs here, it is a Government hostel. It is a public matter, and that is why we are interested.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** I wrote to them including the questioner, and suggested that they might shift.....

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** These are extraneous matters.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** May I complete my reply?...if they would like to shift from Constitution House, alternative accommodation would be provided to them. A demand was even made that instead of one room, two rooms should be provided. I agreed even to that. But now, for a period of about six months we want to continue the present arrangement, and the tender has been given to the lowest tenderer who happens to be the present caterer. He put in a tender, his son put in a tender, and I believe a near relation also put in a tender, but out of the five his happened to be the lowest, and it was accepted.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Sir, I seek your protection. The question is not of accommodation at all. It is of catering, and not for MPs only. It is a Government hostel, and in the public interest I am asking the question. MPs are living elsewhere also. I want to know why in this particular case of Constitution House only, tenders were invited and received in

the first instance but no decision was taken, while in Western Court at the same time in November tenders were invited and received and a decision was taken thereon, though they were as uncompetitive as the tenders received in respect of Constitution House. I want to know why in the matter of Constitution House alone a decision was not taken and the matter was shelved.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** May I submit only one thing, that we invited four tenders—for North Avenue, South Avenue, Western Court and Constitution House. The tender for Western Court was accepted. It was decided by the House Committees of North Avenue and South Avenue that the tenders should not be accepted, that they would make their own arrangements, and I agreed to that. As far as Constitution House is concerned, we have invited new tenders and accepted the lowest.

**Mr. Speaker:** The objection taken is this. If he intended Constitution House to be converted into residence for Government officials, would that have made any difference in inviting tenders and accepting them, because the Minister has laid great stress on that, that the tenders were not accepted because there was an idea that Constitution House would be converted into residence for Government officials?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** We have done the same thing in Kotah House. When Kotah House which was a Government hostel.....

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** He is sidetracking the whole issue.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** Sir, I am not allowed to explain my case.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Minister might be allowed.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** In Kotah House also we used to invite tenders. Then we placed Kotah House at the disposal of the Ministry of Defence. That contract, as far as we are concerned, was terminated. At that time

it was also intended that the entire Constitution House would also be dealt with in the same manner as Kotah House. So, we did not accept any tender at that time. When we took the decision that we would carry it on as a Government hostel as we are doing now, fresh tenders were invited.

**Mr. Speaker:** He has made it clear now. It was the intention to place this also in the hands of the Ministry of Defence?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** Yes, Sir, I had written personal letters to all the MPs. living in Constitution House.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Not satisfactory.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी उत्तर दिया देते हुए बताया है कि हाउस कमेटी के लोगों से परामर्श नहीं किया गया। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सत्य है कि कुछ वर्ष पूर्व तक यह प्रथा थी कि हाउस कमेटी अथवा कम से कम उसके चेयरमैन से इस बारे में परामर्श किया जाता था और यदि यह सत्य है तो इस प्रथा को क्यों समाप्त किया कर दिया गया है ?

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : यह बात नहीं है। जनाब, बात यह है कि कांस्टिट्यूशन हाउस में १७० कमरे हैं। वहाँ सिर्फ १४ एम०पी० रहते हैं, जिन में से पांच अपना खाना बनाते हैं, नौ हैं जो केटर से लेते हैं। मैंने हाउस कमेटी से भी कहा और स्पीकर साहब से भी कहा कि तीन चार तरोके हो सकते हैं। एक तो यह कि १२, १३ या १४ एम०पी० जो रहते हैं वे जो भी इन्तजाम करना चाहें, मैं सहमत हूँ। अगर वेस्टर्न कोर्ट जाना चाहते हैं तो सहमत हूँ, अगर किचनेट्स लेना चाहते हैं तो मैं सहमत हूँ। यह जो हम रन कर रहे हैं वह एज ए पार्ट आफ दि हाउस कमेटी नहीं रन कर रहे हैं। यह गवर्नमेंट स्टेज रन कर रहे हैं, जिसमें एम० पी० भी हैं और १५० या १६० गवर्नमेंट सर्वेंट्स भी रहते हैं। (Interruptions.)

**Mr. Speaker:** Order; order. It is no use pursuing it.

चूँकि मेरा नाम लिया गया है इसलिये मैं श्री भक्त दर्शन से कहना चाहता हूँ कि चूँकि इरादा यह था कि डिफेन्स पर्सनल के लिये ले लिया जाय इस लिये मेम्बरों से कहा जाय कि वे दूसरी जगहों पर चले जायें। इस बास्ते जो हाजसिंग कमेटीज हैं उन के दोनों चेअरमैनो ने एग्री कर दिया कि ऐसा कर दिया जाय और हम अपना हक छोड़ते हैं। उनका ऐग्रीमेंट हो गया। दोनों ने ऐग्री कर लिया, तब यह फैसला इस बारे में कर दिया गया।

**Shri Daji:** Since it has not gone to the Defence Dept., will it be taken out back to the jurisdiction of the House Committee?

**Mr. Speaker:** I will look into it.

Order, order. I have seen some papers falling from the Press Gallery, from the top. They should be more careful with their papers.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking

\*935. { **Shri D. D. Mantri:**  
**Shri P. C. Borooah:**  
**Shri Surendra Pal Singh:**  
**Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:**  
**Shri Ramshekhar Prasad Singh:**  
**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to take over the Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking from Delhi Municipal Corporation; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

##### National Building Construction Corporation Ltd.

\*936. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**  
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Shri Shiv Charan Gupta:**

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Building Construction Corporation Ltd., has been able to bring down the cost of construction;

(b) whether it is rendering advice to its clients for bringing down the cost of construction;

(c) whether any fees are charged for this purpose; and

(d) if so, how much?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna):** (a) It is too early to assess the extent to which the National Buildings Construction Corporation has been able to bring down the cost of construction but since it was set up in November, 1960, it has secured 130 contracts of the value of Rs. 9.25 crores by competitive tender at prices lower than those of other contractors.

(b) This is not a function of the Corporation.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

##### नदी घाटियों में जल सा न

\*९३७. श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री २४ अगस्त, १९६२ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ५६२ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नदी घाटियों के जल साधनों का अध्ययन करने का जो प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन था उसके बारे में क्या निश्चय किया गया है ; और

(ख) उक्त निश्चय को कार्यान्वित करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?