

PANJA): (a) and (b). The approach adopted in the Seventh Plan is to decentralise the planning process in a phased manner. It is proposed to take the decentralisation of planning from the State level to the District level in the first hand, as the District is a well-known and accepted administrative unit. Eventually, the decentralisation on planning is to be extended further to the block level, particularly from effective implementation of anti-poverty programmes.

**Construction of houses by A.W.H.O.
at Vijayawada and Krishna Distts.
A. P.**

2556. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Army Welfare Housing Organisation (AWHO) has taken up construction of Houses for the Army personnel including ex-servicemen at different places in the country; and

(b) if so, whether Army Welfare Housing Organisation proposes to construct House for Army Personnel at Vijayawada and Krishna Districts, Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Army Welfare Housing Organisation, which is a registered Society and a non-Government agency, has informed Government that there is no such proposal at present. However, once adequate demand is generated, and if land is available, such construction would be undertaken.

Business done by Kendriya Bhandar

2557. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the Annual Report (1983-84) of the Kendriya Bhandar wherein sales figures show that nearly half of the sales pertain to stationery;

(b) if so, the reasons for the poor sales of grocery, consumer and textile items and what steps have been taken to improve their sales;

(c) whether there is any proposal to bifurcate consumer and grocery from ration to boost the sales of consumer and grocery and if not, reasons thereof;

(d) names of household goods being sold by the Society and names of such outlets and the quantum of business done under it during 1983-84;

(e) whether there any proposal to identify areas whereby more meaningful service can be rendered to Government servants for whose convenience the Society was established; and

(f) whether there is any proposal to tone up the administration of the society ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir. From the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 1983-84, it will be seen that out of total sales of Rs. 946.54 lakhs during 1983-84, stationery sale was to the tune of Rs. 431.57 lakhs, constituting 45.59 per cent of the total sales.

(b) The sale of grocery, consumer and textile showed an increasing trend during 1983-84 as is evident from the statement I given below.

(c) Ration department (under Public Distribution System) is already working as a separate unit independent of consumer and grocery department.

(d) Most of the house-hold items of daily use in 'grocery' and 'consumer' are being sold by the Society through its 39 outlets located in different Central Government Employees residential colonies. The quantum of business done during 1983-84 is indicated against part (b) above.

(e) Society has identified 10 new localities for opening of new branch stores and self-

service department stores, so that it may serve more Government servants residing in those areas. The proposal for opening of two new branch stores is under process.

is evident from increased sales and improved profitability during last 3 years as per statement-II given below. However, continuous review of the performance of the society is done to improve its performance.

(f) Society is being managed efficiently as

Statement-I

(Rupees in lakhs)

	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
Grocery	85.72	118.71	226.64
Consumer	69.70	92.94	140.86
Textile	17.90	12.50	21.40

Statement-II

(Rupees in lakhs)

Year	Sales Turnover	Gross Profit	Net Result	
			(+)	(—)
1981-82	442	9.30	(—)	9.00
1982-83	617	53.19	(+)	19.27
1983-84	946	79.25	(+)	31.95

[Translation]

Steps to improve environment

2558. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the main steps taken to improve the State of environment in the country during the last three years; and

(b) the details of works undertaken in this regard in Rajasthan and the assistance given by the Central Government therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) After the setting up of the Department of Environment in 1980, the major steps taken to improve the State of Environment in the country include :

- Environmental appraisal of development projects to suggest, wherever possible, suitable safeguards to mitigate adverse impacts;
- Creation of environmental awareness;
- Integrated eco-development programmes for demonstrating technologies for regeneration of selected degraded ecosystems;
- Soil conservation, afforestation, pasture development through public participation;
- Setting up of State Departments of Environment;
- Enforcement of Legislative and administrative measures for air and water pollution control;
- Launching of Action Plan for pollution control in Ganga; and