

**Setting up of Central Design Office  
in C. P. W. D., New Delhi**

4557. SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM:  
Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING  
AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up a central design office in the Office of the Engineer-in-Chief, C. P. W. D. during the current year;

(b) if so, the functions of that office and when it is likely to be set up; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in setting up this office ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND  
SUPPLY (SHRI IQBAL SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) The important functions of the Central Design Office are as follows:—

- (i) Standardising designs, estimates and specifications for works of repetitive nature.
- (ii) Preparing technical reports on important works including special architectural and engineering problems.
- (iii) To keep in touch with the latest developments in planning and construction of buildings and also with the research on building works being carried out in India and abroad.
- (iv) To lay down policies with regard to stresses and other standards to be adopted and also scrutiny of papers received from Organisations like the Indian Standards Institution, National Buildings Organisation etc.
- (v) To prepare standard specifications and schedule of rates.
- (vi) To look after the C.P. W. D. Laboratory for research and testing work and also the C. P. W. D. (Technical) Library.

The organisation would be set up during the current financial year.

(c) Government approved of the proposal only in November, 1968 and hence there has been no delay.

**Daily Allowance to Government Employees**

4558. SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Daily Allowance to Government employees was raised in March, 1968 in view of the rise in the cost of living;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to revise the rates of mileage and motor cycle allowance to the employees entitled therefor and if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND  
MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MO-  
RARJI DESAI): (a) Yes; Sir.

(b) No; Sir.

(c) On grounds of economy in administrative expenditure, there is no proposal to increase the mileage and motor cycle allowance.

**Gujranwala House-building Co-operative  
Society, Delhi**

4559. SHRI S. P. RAMAMOORTHY:  
SHRI GHAYOOR ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY  
PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOP-  
MENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the land allotted to the Gujranwala House Building Co-operative Society, Delhi has been fully developed and lay-out approved;

(b) if so, the cost of the land per yard and the cost of the the development of land per yard;

(c) the price per yard being charged or already charged by the Society from its Members;

(d) the amount of bonus/dividend paid to the members during the lifetime of the Society against the deposit by the members in advance and how it was paid;

(e) whether all the plots have been allotted and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time schedule fixed for allotment and construction of houses ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY):** (a) The lay-out plan of the Gujranwala Co-operative House Building Society Ltd., in respect of the land allotted to it, was sanctioned in 1966 and the development of land is nearing completion.

(b) The total amount of premium paid by the Society is Rs. 20,31,372.00 in respect of undeveloped land measuring 315 bighas 15 biswas, allotted to it. The actual amount of premium payable by it would be finalised after the development of the land has been completed.

(c) The society has so far charged from its members at the rate of Rs. 32.00 per sq. yard towards the cost of the land and development etc. The amount recovered from the members is subject to adjustment after the completion of development.

(d) Under the bye-laws of the society, no bonus is allowed on the amount paid for the land.

(e) and (f). As against 592 residential plots, the 'draw of lots' in respect of 260 plots of 167 sq. yards each was held on 18th August, 1968. The proposal of the society for the allotment of other plots on seniority basis to its members was accepted and the society was asked on 27th September, 1968 to make arrangements for the holding of 'draw of lots' as early as possible. The society has not yet fixed the date for holding the 'draw'. After the development of the land has been completed in accordance with the sanctioned lay-out/service plans, a perpetual lease of the residential plots would be executed in favour of the society and thereafter subleases in respect of the residential plots in the names of the individual members of the society would be executed. The members are given a period of two years for the construction of houses on the plots.

#### **Floods in North Bengal**

**4560. SHRI SAMAR GUHA:** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether instead of gradual and uniform rise of water level as a result of continuous rain during recent North Bengal floods, the flood water suddenly rose to an

abnormal height of 65 feet near the Teesta Bridge assuming an extraordinary phenomenon like a huge tidal-bone;

(b) if so, whether the course of the Teesta river in the Himalayan region has been or will be surveyed to ascertain the causes of flood;

(c) whether Government tried to ascertain if the recent North Bengal flood was caused by Chinese nuclear blast in Tibetan region, where Chinese army is making frantic efforts to build cane-bunkers along the Indian borders;

(d) whether Government have reached any final conclusion as to the causes of recent North Bengal flood; and

(e) if so, the findings thereof?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD):** (a) The fact that the water rose 60 feet above the highest flood level at the Anderson bridge indicates that there was an obstruction in the bed of the river Teesta by slips from the banks. This has been further confirmed when the river went down and an obstruction 30 ft. high was noticed at the Anderson Bridge.

(b) to (e). With a view to go into the causes of recent floods and to devise remedial measures to avoid recurrence of large-scale damage and disruption of communications in future, the Govt. of India have set up a Technical Committee. The Committee has been asked to submit its report by the end of this month.

#### **Development of Calcutta**

**4561. SHRI SAMAR GUHA:** Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of West Bengal asked for a special allocation of Central funds for developing Calcutta which has been recently described by many national and international newspapers as a Dying City;

(b) if so, the amount asked for and the outlines of the plan submitted to the Central Government for the development of Calcutta;