

for relief against drought and other natural calamities and we are following that.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Is there any proposal to stock foodgrains in modern silos ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : We are trying to find ways and means of constructing very cheap and efficient storage system including modern silos.

SHRI D.B. PATIL : It has been stated that foodgrains have been stored in the open. It has also been asked by the Hon. Member as to what is the total loss suffered due to foodgrains having been stored in the open. Now my question is this. What was the total loss suffered for the last 3 years ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : For that I need a separate notice. But I may point out that losses do occur on account of various reasons. It is partly due to storage in the open apart from transit losses etc.

SHRI ERASU AYYAPU REDDY : What is the quantity that is stored in the open ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : I think it is about 2 million tonnes.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Has any effort been made to take advantage of the private warehouses which people have built for their own use in order to minimise these losses by keeping them in the open ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : The total storage capacity now being utilised by the F.C.I. consists of about 50 per cent which is owned by the F.C.I. The other half belongs to Central Warehousing Corporation well as State Warehousing Corporations and also includes hired capacities from various private owners of godowns.

Serious Lapses by DDA Housing Divisions

***23. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been

drawn to a report published in *Times of India*, New Delhi edition of 7 January, 1985 regarding 'Serious Lapses' by Delhi Development Authority Housing Divisions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

The Quality Control Cell of DDA carried out technical audit of three of their housing divisions on 7-1-85 and listed the following irregularities in different divisions, in addition to a few cases of over-payment :—

- (i) Lack of integrated planning and execution of development work.
- (ii) Lack of Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction.
- (iii) Absence of Technical sanction.
- (iv) Lack of detailed plans of existing work.
- (v) Large excess in quantities during execution.
- (vi) Refund of Earnest Money of tenderers other than the lowest on the same day.
- (vii) Acceptance of tenders by Asstt. Engineers beyond their powers of acceptance.
- (viii) Non-maintenance of important Accounts records.
- (ix) Non-recovery of taxes in unauthorised colonies.
- (x) Over measurement of a drain by 132 metres.
- (xi) Large over measurement for two pump houses in Nand Nagri.

- (xii) Simultaneous payment for disposal and supply of earth.
- (xiii) Large excess in expenditure over Budget provisions.

The DDA have taken several administrative measures to ensure that such lapses and irregularities do not occur in future. The important administrative measures taken by them are as follows :—

- (i) Inspection of divisions by Superintending Engineers.
- (ii) Insistence on the pre-requisite of Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction.
- (iii) Instructions that the works should not be split up and that wide publicity be given to tenders in the press.

In cases where over-payment and serious violation of rules were found to have been committed, explanations of the concerned officials have been called for.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : The Government has pledged clean administration, but the answer to this question is rather shy. This is because just a statement has been given in answer to my question and nobody would know that statement unless I say what it contains.

Firstly, this statement itself says that the Quality Control Cell which had carried out the inspection had given a report, and this report says that in addition to a few cases of overpayment, there were thirteen other irregularities. These irregularities are of the nature of non-maintenance of important accounts records, over measurement of a drain by 132 metres, large over measurement for two pump houses in Nand Nagri, lack of integrated planning and execution of development work, lack of administrative approval and expenditure sanction etc. This does not reveal the type of things that were done, and that actually, these irregularities involved crores of rupees.

The newspaper report, which I have quoted in my question says :

“All established accounting systems had been systematically violated by the three housing divisions operating in the trans-Jamuna area.”

The report further says :

“In a situation where the accounts are not so kept and details not so fully recorded as to afford the requisite means for satisfying any inquiry, the public sum spent in terms of crores of rupees on maintenance, repairs and minor works remains known only to the concerned officials of the division...”

The statement laid on the Table of the House by the Minister indicates only thirteen points.

The newspaper report further states :

“D.D A. engineers deliberately kept the names of projects to be undertaken incomplete, vague and confusing taking every care not to reveal the exact location and the actual scope of work.”

My question was based on this. The statement does not refer to the sums involved, but it lists those thirteen very serious omissions. What are the measures that have been taken ?

MR. SPEAKER : Why don't you put the question ? This is not the way.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Among the measures taken, you have indicated : Inspection of divisions by Superintending Engineers etc. Was there no system of inspection earlier ? Further, when was this report submitted, and when was this action taken ? What is the time limit ? What has actually been done in relation to these particular lapses ?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFUOR : I am grateful to the hon. Member; she has asked the question and replied also.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I have not replied for the benefit of the House, I have stated these facts.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : All right; I am very thankful to you for asking this question.

Firstly, the Government has not tried to conceal anything, because the report itself speaks how such irregularities have been committed. It was for your benefit and for the benefit of the House that the statement was laid on the Table of the House.

I am myself seized with these irregularities and the irregularities are such that not only the hon. Members, but the Government is also very much concerned about them and I am going to take the action called for.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : When was report submitted and when was the action taken ?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : The preliminary report was received in the Vigilance Cell on 5-1-84, and the detailed report was received by the Vigilance Cell on 2-4-84. Memos submitted by CE on 14-7-84 Memo issued on 18-10-1984. Memo has been issued to one EE, 4 Engineers, 2 Assistant Engineers, and 4 Junior Engineers. Some replies have been received and some we are awaiting. You know, when action is going to be taken then there are certain rules and procedure which shall have to be followed. Otherwise everything will become null and void. So, first they are asked within a certain specified period of time to explain why these irregularities have been committed. Then some of them send replies and some of them take time. So, we are going to give them all the rope, before we hang them.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I would like to know where the rope's end is.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : She wants to cut short the rope.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : The hon. member is very vigilant and here the Minister is also equally vigilant. So there is nothing to worry.

Possession of Land to the Allottees in Sector—VII of the Rohini Scheme

***24. SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI :** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether possession of land to the allottees in Sector VII of Rohini Scheme of Delhi Development Authority has been given;

(b) whether the allottees have been permitted to start construction on the plots;

(c) if not, the reasons for not permitting the construction; and

(d) the time likely to be taken in allowing the construction ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) out of 4808 plots allotted in Sector VII in the first two draws, possession has been given to 2752 allottees.

(b) Yes, Sir.

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

SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI : I am asking this question through you, because a lot of suffering is caused to the people in this sector, due to some bureaucratic problems. I am sure the hon. Minister is aware that the cost of construction is increasing day by day and the allottees of these plots are very poor people. Will the Minister see that the allottees get their allotment properly and early. Also, they should be given the maps and other things in time, so that there need not be any complaints.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : Certainly, What the hon. member has suggested will be looked into very carefully. There are certain things. When the DDA allots plots, certain things are demanded from those persons to whom the lands are allotted. When they make delay in giving these specific things, then the delay takes place. So far as the question of allotment of plots is concerned, I find from the answer given in the paper that somewhere