

have very big interests in Oman and there are 200,000 Indians working there. My proposed visit to Oman is expected to further strengthen, in concrete terms, our relations with that country. As the date of the function in Oman cannot be changed, it is, to my regret, inevitable that I miss the sitting of the Lok Sabha on the opening day of its ensuing Session.

That is why I have accepted it. In the national interest he has gone there.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is a violation of the convention.

MR. SPEAKER : I have got so many instance—1964, again 1964, again 1964.....

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara): They were Deputy Ministers.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot do anything. I am going according to convention. It is something which is in the national interest.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am not creating any precedent. I am only following the precedent.

MR. BHAGAT.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : Sir, I have great pleasure in introducing to you, and through you, to the House my colleagues who have been appointed as Ministers :

Shri A.B.A. Ghani Khan Choudhury—
Minister of Programme Implementation

Shri Arjun Singh—Minister of Commerce

Shri B.R. Bhagat—Minister of External Affairs

Shri Ajit Panja—Minister or State in the Ministry of Planning

Shri Arun Singh—Minister of State in the Department of Defence Research and Development

Shri Dalbir Singh—Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development

Shri Jagdish Tytler—Minister of State in the Department of Civil Aviation

Shri Rajesh Pilot—Minister of State in the Department of Surface Transport

Shri Sitaram Kesri—Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

Shri Sukh Ram—Minister of State in the Department of Defence Production and Defence Supplies

Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi—Minister of State in the Department of Education and Culture

Shri Giridhar Gomango—Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Welfare

Shri S. Krishna Kumar—Deputy Minister in the Department of Family Welfare

Shri P. Chidambaram—Deputy Minister for Personnel and Training, Administrative Reforms, Public Grievances and Pension

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Storage and Maintenance Facilities in FCI Godowns in Delhi

*1. **SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to lack of adequate and proper storage and maintenance fac-

ilities in the Food Corporation of India godowns in Delhi, wheat bags are lying in the open and wheat is rotting ;

(b) the reasons for lack of storage and maintenance facilities in these godowns ; and

(c) whether Government are making or propose to make proper storage and maintenance arrangements in these godowns for the commodities kept there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) :

(a) to (c) : A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) No, Sir. However, as on 1.10.1985, 17,126 tonnes of wheat was held by the Food Corporation of India under cover and plinth storage in Delhi.

(b) Does not arise,

(c) The Corporation has been taking various measures for preservation and maintenance of stocks in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage. These measures include prophylactic and curative treatment and periodic inspection of stocks.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Sir, whenever an hon. Member puts any question, it is very easy for the Government to say 'No, sir.' in reply. I have seen with my own eyes and if the hon. Minister could take the trouble of seeing, even today he will find that foodgrains are lying in the open in Okhla, Naraina, which is also called Mayapuri and Shakti Nagar godowns. If foodgrains have been kept in the Godowns like this out of some compulsion, there should not be any need for the bureaucracy to hide this fact. As tonnes of foodgrains rot in the process of keeping it in the open and the consumers are supplied these rotten foodgrains, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether Government would make arrangements to store these Foodgrains in covered godowns; if so, the time by which it will be done ?

[*English*]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, the first and the foremost point is that there is no reason for concealing anything or defending anyone or protecting anyone. The fact is that there is no grain which is under the blue sky or under the open sky. What is loosely termed as open is actually the thing which is known as CAP.

Therefore, the answer to the Question is absolutely correct because there is no grain which is rotting. But some damage has taken place because of floods, as the Hon. Member has said in Naraina as well as in Shakti Nagar and Okhla. This has been segregated, as the answer also has indicated ; no inferior grain is supplied to PDAs. It is inspected by the State and Central Administration as well as by the FCI before it is accepted. As far as the covered godowns to which he has referred to, we have taken it up with the Planning Commission. Planning Commission has not agreed to all our proposals. I shall be extremely grateful to the Hon. Member if he lends his voice and gets us the clearance.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : I have seen in many parts of the country, particularly in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, that foodgrains are kept in the open. Sir, I have most humbly mentioned the names of three or four godowns and I can say with challenge that if the hon. Minister or any official of the Government or anybody on your behalf could go there, foodgrains can be found lying uncovered even today. Will the hon. Minister like to see it with the permission of the House and with your permission sir ?

[*English*]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : My officers have visited these areas and as I have already said, there is no grain which is rotting. It is closely monitored. Periodic visits are made by the officials of the FCI as well as our officers. We can continue the practice and we can intensify it.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Today, there is a great shortage of godowns in the country. Earlier, there was a scheme under which the Government used to give advance to private parties and construct a number of godowns through them. Is that scheme still continuing so as to construct more and more godowns to protect the foodgrains from rotting? If no such scheme is there, I would like to know whether, in view of the shortage of godowns, any such scheme is under consideration of Government under which advance money could be given to private parties to construct maximum number of godowns?

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, there is ARDC loan as well as bank loans. Banks are giving loans to private people to build storage godowns. The FCI constructs its own godowns and where it is not possible, it takes the help of Central Warehousing Corporation and State agencies. Private people are free to take loans from any source they like.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Our estimates for the next year's crop are for 15 crore tonnes. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether in view of the prospects of such a bumper crop, Government have considered any proposal to assess the need for additional storage capacity required for the next year? If so, the State-wise and region-wise requirement of storage capacity?

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, the question is about Delhi.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : He is Bairagi, he can go anywhere.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : I can go anywhere but I would not go out of the godown.

MR. SPEAKER : It would not happen like that, but you can go anywhere you like.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, I can only say that we are trying to augment the covered capacity throughout India. If the Planning Commission give us the money we can keep it up.

Exhibition of T.V. Film "Sach Ki Parchhain"

*2. **SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the reaction of the Delhi Police Force relating to exhibiting T.V. film 'Sach Ki Parchhain'; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (a) No, Sir. No representation has been received from the Delhi Police.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Sir, personally I am not able to persuade myself that the Information and Broadcasting Ministry does not know the reaction. As a matter of fact it has been reported repeatedly for days together in the national press. However, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the TV film 'Sach ki Parchhain, depicts police persennel in a very bad light. I would also like to say that everybody knows that the police force is corrupt and negligent but at the same time the police force by and large are doing their job with dedication and at times risk their own life. Daily we find in the Papers that some police man has been killed here and there. In that background it is necessary that the T.V film should depict the total picture, viz., both