

की अनुमानित लागत सहित एक अर्ध पक्के भवन का निर्माण कार्य अब पूरा हो चुका है।

(ग) जाफराबाद स्थित स्कूल के लिए एक अर्ध पक्के भवन को अब पूरा कर लिया गया है। जहां तक ब्रह्मपुरी में पक्के भवन के निर्माण का संबंध है लोक निर्माण विभाग से प्राक्कलन और नक्शे मांगे जा रहे हैं। जहां तक गौतमपुरी के स्कूल भवन का संबंध है इस स्थान का पुनः सीमांकन किया जा रहा है।

Construction Projects by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

162. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 26 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th February, 1987 and state:

(a) what is the additional amount involved due to escalation of costs and infructuous expenditure in connection with the construction of projects by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) what are the names and designations of the officers responsible for the delay and consequential loss to Government;

(c) what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken against the said officers;

(d) what are the details of instructions issued to streamline the procedures of construction work in the light of the Comptroller and Auditor General's observations; and

(e) whether any departmental proceedings have been initiated against the concerned officers and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (e) The informa-

tion is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) and the Military Engineering Services (MES) are the main construction agencies of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) for construction of school buildings and staff quarters. However, in 1968 it was considered that to bring innovation in designs, to reduce the cost of construction and for quick construction the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA) and Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) should be assigned some of this work. Both these are Government sponsored organisations. Four works were assigned to these organisations. However, it was found that it did not lead either to reduction in cost or quick construction. Therefore, the matter was reviewed again at the level of Chairman in 1981 and these works were withdrawn from these organisations and entrusted to the normal construction agencies.

The KVS on its own initiative requested the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) in 1980 to conduct a special audit of all construction works. In the Audit Report received in 1986 the CAG has pointed out four cases in which assigning of works to CBRI and SPA led to delay with ultimate withdrawal of works from them and assignment to other agencies which caused escalation of cost in 7 cases, which includes 3 cases relating to CPWD, amounting in all to Rs. 2,81,24,000 and infructuous expenditure amounting to Rs. 5.76 lakhs. The instances of escalation in cost and infructuous expenditure pointed out by the CAG have been examined by the KVS. The Government and KVS are of the view that the work was assigned to SPA and CBRI with bonafide intentions of cutting down the costs and speeding up the construction and also that both these are Government sponsored organisations.

This decision of assigning the work to these agencies and subsequent withdrawal from these agencies was taken at the level of Chairman. These escalation in cost is mostly national in the sense that the money available for construction in the KVS did not generally lapse in this period but was used on other works which as a result got expedited. As far as cases of infructuous expenditure are concerned, in the case relating to construction of a tube-well in Delhi, the CAG has faulted the construction agency i.e. CPWD. In other two cases relating to expenditure incurred on preparing the designs for Kendriya Vidyalaya at Patna and Jamalpur, part of the expenditure incurred has been made use of in the construction subsequently made by the CPWD and they have given a rebate of Rs. 63,400 on that account to the KVS. Thus no particular official of the KVS has been found responsible for escalation in cost or infructuous expenditure. There is no question, therefore, of taking Departmental action against any official.

The KVS has initiated action for computerising the information regarding construction works to allow for close monitoring so that any delay or hold up of works taking place is detected immediately and action taken in time. The construction agencies which could not complete the works assigned to them in time are no longer being assigned fresh construction works.

Purchases in National Museum, Delhi

163. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL. Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that purchases in National Museum, Delhi are generally made from one single company manufacturing an item without inviting tenders;

(b) if so, the name of the company from which items like fans, coolers

and other equipment were purchased during last years; and

(c) the quantity and value of such goods purchased for the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Physical verification of Antique in National Museum, Delhi

164. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that physical verification of antiques in different sections of National Museum, Delhi has not been carried out periodically as required under the rules?

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) when was the last physical verification carried out there;

(d) whether any antique has been found to be missing from the Museum and sold to other countries; and

(e) if so, what steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (e) Physical verification of antiquities is carried out in the National Museum as a continuous process. No antique has been found missing during verification. However, separately, 'Golconda Rumal' has been reported missing. The loss of the Rumal is under investigation. That the Rumal is missing from the National Museum has been notified to the Art Dealers Association, USA and also to