CHAPTER – V : STORES AND STOCK SECTION-B - PARAGRAPHS

IRRIGATION AND FLOOD CONTROL AND RURAL WORKS DEPARTMENTS

5.1 Idle stock of materials

(a)

Random procurement of stores without assessing requirement and non-transfer of the same to newly created divisions resulted in idle stock of Rs.39.60 lakh

Consequent upon trifurcation of Rural Works Department (RWD) into independent departments of Rural Works (RW), Public Health Engineering (PHE) and Irrigation and Flood Control (IFC) as per Government order of April 1995, the Tezu R.W. Division started functioning as IFCD, Tezu from November 1995.

Test check of records (December 1999) of Tezu, Irrigation and Flood Control Division revealed that the Division, while functioning as Rural Works Division, procured materials worth Rs.39.60 lakh between December 1986 and March 1994 relating to water supply (Rs.32.41 lakh^{*}) and rural works (Rs.7.19 lakh^{**}) against a reserve stock limit of Rs.5 lakh (sanctioned in September 1991) without assessment of actual requirement and these materials were lying idle in IFCD store at Tezu as of December 1999 although all the works relating to Rural works were transferred to Roing RWD and that of water supply were transferred to Khonsa PHED after trifurcation of composite RWD in April 1995. In August 1996, after a delay of 3 years and 4 months, the Chief Engineer, IFCD took up the matter with his counterpart in PHED and RWD for lifting of such materials by the concerned Divisions. However,

^{*} PHE materials: G.I. specials: 8759 nos.: Rs. 11.58 lakh; Filtration Plant: 13 nos.: Rs. 5.30 lakh; Bleaching Power chlorinator: 14 nos.: Rs. 1.84 lakh; Alum Dozer: 14 nos.: Rs. 1.86 lakh; Raincoat: 178 nos.: Rs. 1.26 lakh; Dieset: 44 sets: Rs. 3.62 lakh; Plumbers field kit box: 8 sets: Rs. 1.99 lakh; Fire hydrant: 173 nos.: Rs. 1.56 lakh; water strainer: 19 nos.: Rs. 0.96 lakh; Field kit; 14 sets: Rs. 1.22 lakh; Other misc. articles; Rs. 1.22 lakh.

^{**} Rural works: Rock driver set: 3 sets: Rs. 4.14 lakh; Raincoat: 179 nos.: Rs. 1.26 lakh; field kit: 10 sets: Rs. 0.95 lakh; wire mesh; 633 m²: Rs. 0.33 lakh; U bolt for wire rope: 452 nos.: Rs. 0.17 lakh; other misc. articles: Rs. 0.34 lakh.

neither PHED nor RWD has lifted any materials till December 1999 for reasons neither on record nor stated (December 1999).

Thus, owing to random procurement of stores by the erstwhile RWD without assessment of requirement and non-transfer of the materials at the time of transfer of the works had resulted in holding of idle stock of Rs.39.60 lakh, besides inviting the risk of loss owing to prolonged storage, for a period ranging between five to thirteen years as of December 1999.

The matter was reported to the Government and the Department in February 2000; reply had not been received (December 2000).

(b)

Injudicious procurement of materials without assessing requirement and failure to transfer such materials to the concerned departments resulted in locking up of Government fund of Rs.25.81 lakh and also led to avoidable expenditure to that extent by the concerned departments

It was seen in audit (December 1999) that Popumpoma Rural Works Division, Itanagar procured materials worth Rs.25.81 lakh relating to water supply (Rs.19.04 lakh^{*}) and Irrigation works (Rs.6.77 lakh^{**}), against stock, between February 1990 and August 1995 without assessment of the actual requirement and these materials were lying idle in store as of December 1999. In the meantime, Rural Works Department (RWD) was trifurcated into independent departments of Rural Works, Public Health Engineering and Irrigation and Flood Control as per Government order of April 1995 and all the works relating to PHE and IFC were transferred to the newly created Divisions of PHED and IFCD between October 1995 and October 1996. However, the materials so procured were not transferred at the time of transfer of the works for reasons neither on record nor stated (March 2000). Scrutiny of records of aforesaid PHE and IFC Divisions revealed that the Divisions, for implementation and maintenance of water supply and irrigation schemes, had been procuring materials afresh from the market despite availability of such materials with RWD. Although in August 1998, after a delay of 3 years and 4 months, the Chief Engineer, RWD took up the matter with his counterpart in PHED and IFCD for lifting of such materials by the concerned Divisions, neither PHED nor IFCD has lifted the materials till March 2000.

Thus, injudicious procurement of materials by the composite RW Division without assessing the requirement and failure on the part of the Government/Department to transfer such materials to PHED and IFCD at the time of transfer of the works, even after a lapse of more than four years, had

^{***} Irrigation materials: R.C.C. spun pipe: Rs.5.25 lakh; R.C.C. Collar: Rs.1.52 lakh.



^{*} Water supply materials: G.I. pipe: Rs.9.94 lakh; FRP pan: Rs.3.17 lakh; pipe dia set: Rs.1.58 lakh; Bleaching Powder Chlorinator: Rs.1.04 lakh; Automatic backward type filtration plant: Rs.1.33 lakh; Hydro bending machine: Rs.1.44 lakh; White Zinc: Rs.0.54 lakh.

resulted in not only locking up of Government fund to the extent of Rs.25.81 lakh, but also led to avoidable expenditure to that extent by PHED and IFCD.

The matter was reported to the Government and the Department in February 2000; their replies have not been received (December 2000).

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