

श्री राम सहाय : क्या मैं जान सकूंगा कि कितनी कीमत की चीजों का प्रादान प्रदान होगा ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : जैसा मैंने बतलाया कि चाय, टैक्सटाइल . . .

श्री राम सहाय : वैल्यू कितनी होगी ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : जितना सरकार को चाहिए उतना वह साल ब साल खरोदती है।

ACCOMMODATION FOR THE OFFICE OF ACCOUNTANT GENERAL AT GWALIOR

•161. SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to Starred Question No. 206 answered in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th March, 1963 and state:

(a) whether the proposal to acquire some building for accommodating the office of the Accountant General at Gwalior has materialised; and

(b) if not, when it is likely to materialise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Instead of acquiring an existing building, it is now proposed to construct a new building. Land is being acquired for this purpose.

•SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: May I know if there is any skeleton office of the Accountant-General's office functioning anywhere outside Gwalior as yet and, if it is so, where?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: No, Sir. With the consultation of the State Government, the main office has been shifted to Gwalior but there is acute lack of accommodation there.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: Is there any other office or part of the main office functioning anywhere outside Gwalior?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: Yes, the branch offices are functioning in Bhopal and in Nagpur.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: May I know whether these offices are going to be brought to Gwalior?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: Those branch offices will function in those places, but the main offices will be located in Gwalior.

SHRI A. D. MANI: I should like to ask the hon. Deputy Minister whether the accommodation that the Government is going to secure for these offices will include quarters for the staff about which representations have been made to Government and, if so, by what period does Government expect that the necessary accommodation would be available to the staff?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: Staff quarters will also be constructed. Necessary steps are being taken to acquire a plot of land and price and everything of the land have been settled. Estimates have already been prepared and we have asked the State Government really to get that land for us.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Is it not a fact that a sub-office of this Accountant-General's Office is situated even outside the State of Madhya Pradesh?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: No. Three branch offices are functioning, one is at Bhopal, the second is at Nagpur and the third is at Gwalior, and the main office is already located at Gwalior.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Nag-pur is in the State of Maharashtra 01 Madhya Pradesh?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: It is in Maharashtra but because of the suitability of the area and also for administrative convenience, it has been decided to keep that branch office at Nagpur.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I want one clarification. My question was whether any sub-office was situated outside the state of Madhya Pradesh. The Deputy Minister replied, 'No'. But, Nagpur, I think, is outside Madhya Pradesh State. So, the answer should have been in the affirmative, not in the negative.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: I have already said that the office has been kept at Nagpur because of administrative convenience. I think the hon. Member has not heard the whole answer and only puts the question.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: The hon. Deputy Minister has just now stated that the sub-office at Nagpur will be closed or will be shifted to Gwalior. In that case, may I know from her whether there is any Proposal for the transfer of the staff from Nagpur to Gwalior or whether all the staff will be retained at Nagpur?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: The branch office which is at present functioning in Nagpur would be retained at Nagpur. That is what I said.

SHRI A. D. MANI: The Minister said that the estimate has been ready for the accommodation which is going to be secured for the office as well as for staff quarters. I should like to know how much the construction cost would be according to the estimates.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: Well, the necessary expenditure which has been sanctioned is for the acquisition of a plot of land which will be

costing Rs. 3,86,250 and that instruction has already been issued. The estimates are being prepared by the C.P.W.D. for the construction of the building.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Is it not a fact that large and spacious buildings are left vacant in Gwalior and, if so, why is it that the Government has decided to construct a new building?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: Two private buildings were considered at Gwalior. One was Jadav Mahal. The proposal to acquire Jadav Mahal was dropped as it was later proposed to purchase the Gwalior Hotel which was more suitable. But the Gwalior Hotel is now required by the Defence Services for the N.C.C. Directorate. That building is not available for us and therefore the need was felt to construct an independent building for locating these offices.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: The hon. Deputy Minister just now stated that the staff would be retained at Nagpur. If I have heard her correctly, she said so. But I know definitely that many of the clerks who are working in that office have been served with notices and they have been asked to go to Gwalior. They have made a representation to the Finance Ministry as well as the Home Ministry that they should be retained there and if it is not possible to retain them in the same place, they should be transferred to some other Central office at Nagpur. If so, what is the actual position in this respect?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: It was said that the Maharashtra Government had asked for the vacation of that building and it was decided that if the building was to be vacated, then we might have to shift that office. Now, the Maharashtra Government has agreed. That branch office is small. Actually, the strength of that office is quite small. Now, the Maharashtra Government has agreed and therefore there is no need to shift it.