

RAJYA SABHA

Friday, 23rd August 1957

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

HOSTEL FOR WORKING WOMEN UNDER GOVERNMENT EMPLOY

*211. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state whether Government propose to construct a hostel for working women under Government employ; if so,—

(a) what would be the estimated cost of the hostel; and

(b) the approximate date by which the construction work is to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI K. C. REDDY): There is a proposal to construct residential accommodation for for women employees of the Government living singly.

(a) and (b). The type of accommodation to be constructed for them is under consideration. It is, therefore, not possible just at present to indicate approximate cost or completion date.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know how many of the working girls at the moment are going without accommodation?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I have no statistics about that at present.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What is the arrangement under which working girls are given accommodation at the moment?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: There is a hostel which is running since 1946 for the working girls. This hostel is at present supervised by the Rehabilitation Directorate in the Ministry of Rehabilitation and, subject to correction, we give them some accommodation from the general pool also.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What is the accommodation provided in this hostel?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I have not got that information.

श्री राम सहाय : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि सरकारी कर्मचारियों को और ग्राम तौर पर ब्लाकों को जो तकलीफ है उसके बारे में क्या आप विचार कर रहे हैं ?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: We are continually building new structures for Government employees both male and female.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARNAND: What is the location of this hostel? Without any reference to the location, the answer as well as the question are both extremely vague because Government employees can be at Bombay as in the Telephone Department or in other places also. It does not necessarily mean a particular place.

SHRI K. C. REDDY: This is in Delhi.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARNAND: How is it to be taken for granted that it is to be in Delhi?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I thought the question related to employees in Delhi.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARNAND: There is no definite indication.

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Possibly there are such people in Bombay and Calcutta as well. So far as Delhi is concerned, we have two places in view, Lodi Road and Mathura Road. We

have not yet decided the exact location. As regards Bombay and Calcutta I have no information at present.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Just now the hon. Minister stated that he did not know the actual number of lady employees who were keen to get houses. Unless he knows the size of the problem, how is the plan going to be implemented?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I have not kept count of the women living singly and working in Government. We have got the figures but I have not got the figures now here.

DR. P. C. MITRA: May I know whether in this hostel accommodation will be given to both married and unmarried women?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: In the proposed hostel the idea is to give accommodation to both married and unmarried women and widows also who live singly and who have no one to whom they are attached.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: Will it be possible for the Government in the near future to provide accommodation to all Government servants in Delhi?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Well, Sir, that is our objective; it takes time.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: How long will it take approximately? Four years or five years, how long?

(No reply.)

ASSISTANCE TO WEAVERS IN MADRAS
STATE TO CLEAR THE STOCKS OF
"MADRAS HANDKERCHIEFS"

*212. **SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA IYER:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to help the weavers in the State of Madras to clear the stocks of "Madras Handkerchiefs" with them;

(b) whether any arrangements have been made to market the goods in West Africa under Governmental agency; and

(c) whether Government have considered any means to save the weavers from the private exporters?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The All-India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society normally deals with this problem. Government have sanctioned to the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society interest free loan assistance to the tune of Rs. 5 lakhs on one occasion to purchase accumulated stocks of Madras Handkerchiefs from weavers.

SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA IYER: Is there any proposal to have a marketing arrangement in West Africa for these goods?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: It is not necessary now because the demand for the material has shown a little improvement. From the long-term point of view the sartorial habits in Africa are changing.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH: Is it a fact that an officer was appointed before the election to tackle this matter on account of urgent summons from Madras but subsequently as soon as the elections were over he was withdrawn?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I am not aware; it is not a fact.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUBIR SINGH: Sir, he says he is not aware. If that is so, how does he say it is not a fact?