

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2709
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2006
ACCOMMODATION FOR KENDRIYA BHANDAR
Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Kendriya Bhandar does not have any accommodation of its own and was allotted Government accommodation in 1963 under a cabinet decision to run its outlets for the benefit of Central Government employees;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government propose to withdraw the accommodation from them without providing alternative accommodation/land;
- (d) if so, is there any proposal to reconsider the decision and allow Kendriya Bhandar to retain Government accommodation on normal rental;
- (e) whether Kendriya Bhandar has asked for allotment of Government land on rates at which land was allotted to other institutions like newspaper etc. at nominal prices to build their infrastructure; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a)&(b): In accordance with the Cabinet decision of 1963, it was decided to allot suitable General Pool Residential Accommodation (GPRA) to run Kendriya Bhandar outlets under the aegis of the Department of Personnel & Training, Government of India, on payment of normal licence fee of Re. 1/- per month plus charges for services. Kendriya Bhandar was set up with the objective of providing consumer goods of daily necessity at reasonable prices. It also continues to sell a wide range of stationery and office equipment to the Government offices. Prior to 1.5.2003, it was selling commodities under the Public

Distribution System. It has, since, diversified its activities to offer a large range of products, particularly consumer durables to meet the expanding market for such goods. As Kendriya Bhandar had a role in the Public Distribution System, units of accommodation were allotted over the years to Kendriya Bhandar in Delhi and some other places, for opening and running retail outlets in various Government housing colonies.

(c): The matter regarding continued allotment of Residential accommodation to Kendriya Bhandar was reviewed in October, 2005 and it was decided that accommodation allotted to Kendriya Bhandar at various places shall be got vacated in a phased manner over a period of three years.

(d): At present there is no proposal under consideration to withdraw the decision to get the accommodation vacated from Kendriya Bhandar.

(e)&(f): A request dated 9.11.2004 was received from Kendriya Bhandar for allotment of 1500 sq meter of land in Rouse Avenue or any other location in Central Delhi. However, no land has been allotted to Kendriya Bhandar so far.