

[10 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

(d) There has not been any increase in the CIPs of foodgrains for Below Poverty Line (BPL) population since 01.06.1997.

(e) Does not arise.

Condition of Sugar Industry

†987. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the condition of sugar industry in the country, particularly in Northern India, including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, is becoming miserable day by day;

(b) if so, what measures are being taken by Government to revive the sugar industry in these States; and

(c) whether Government would formulate any sugar policy, in the light of the condition of sugar industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Unethical Trade Practices Against Consumers Rights

988. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned. Goods once sold will not be taken back, as reported in the Times of India dated the 12th November 1999;

(b) if so, whether a large number of consumer goods manufacturing firms/shopkeepers are indulging in unethical trade practices, by ignoring the rights of consumers.

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take any action in such cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (d) According to the provisions of the consumer Protection Act, 1986 the seller of the goods are liable to repair/replace the defective goods or return the money etc. to the consumers. Therefore, "Goods once sold will not be taken back" etc. are not enforceable under the law. The provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 are quite adequate and effective to protect the interest of consumers in case of defective goods purchased by/delivered to the consumers for any consideration. Aggrieved consumers have the right to seek redressal against unfair trade practices in the consumer courts for getting appropriate relief.

Absence of sports policy

†989. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is no sports policy in the country till date;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that this is the main reason for India's poor performance in Olympics and Asian games; and
- (c) if so, what is being done by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The National Sports Policy, formulated in 1984, sought to fulfil the objectives of Broad-basing of Sports and achieving Excellence in Sports. The Policy is proposed to be revised keeping in view, inter-alia, the various emerging trends and requirements.

Monastries/Monuments in Ladakh

990. SHRI KUSHOK THIKSEY: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ladakh region has more than 50 Monastries/Monuments from 10th to 15th century AD, eleven of which are monuments of national importance;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.