

Creation of posts in Super Bazar Cooperative Store, Delhi

1752 SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman/General Manager of Super Bazar Cooperative Store Ltd., Delhi has been delegated with powers to create posts and also to fill up those posts:

(b) if so the pay scale upto which such posts can be created and whether recruitment rules for those posts have been framed:

(c) how many of these posts have been created in the year 1993-94 and upto June 1994 indicating the reason in each case which necessitated creation of these posts in spite of the ban imposed by Government:

(d) the names of the persons appointed against each post, the dates of their appointment and whether the qualifications and experience are according to the recruitment rules; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUD-DIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Super Bazar has informed that under the provisions of the Delhi Co-operative Societies Act, 1972 and its bye-laws, the Managing Committee is vested with the powers for creation and filling up of all categories of posts and for majority of the posts. Recruitment Rules already exist.

(c) to (e) During the year 1993-94, one post of System Analyst and two posts of Assistant Programmes were created for the Computer Division. This was necessitated to man the newly established Computer Division in the Store. No person has been appointed against these posts. Super Bazar has informed that all the applications received for System

Analyst were rejected as none of them was found suitable by the Departmental Selection Committee, and the applications received for the posts of Assistant Programmes are being scrutinised.

Revamping PDS in Bihar and Orissa

1753. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating any scheme for revamping the Public Distribution System, in Bihar and Orissa in 1994-95 in view of the increase in the number of Districts in these states so that Public Distribution System can be better managed; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUD-DIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) has been introduced in 22 States, including Bihar and Orissa, and five Union Territories. The RPDS Scheme was launched formally by the Prime Minister on 1-1-1992. The implementation of the RPDS Scheme is continuing in all the States/UTs including Bihar and Orissa. In Bihar 156 Blocks have been identified in consultation with the State Government for implementation of Revamped PDS. Similarly in Orissa 143 Blocks have been identified. Increase in the number of Districts in these States will not lead to any change in the areas identified for coverage under RPDS.

Exclusion of income-tax payers from purview of PDS

1754 SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 682 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th June, 1994 and state:

(a) whether Government have benefited from the move of excursion of income-tax payers from the purview of Public Distribution System (PDS):

(b) if so, the details thereof and if but, the reasons therefor.

(c) whether Government propose to extend this facility to some other States and Union Territories; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The Central Government has not taken any decision to exclude Income Tax payers from the purview of Public Distribution System (PDS). The recommendation of the Committee of Ministers on the National Policy on PDS, to exclude certain relatively better off categories of consumers from the supply of subsidised foodgrains through the PDS was made for ensuring the supply of larger and more meaningful quantities of PDS foodgrains to the needy and deserving sections of the society. The recommendation was not made for achieving any reduction in the level of food subsidy expenditure.

(c) and (d) Operational responsibility for implementation of the Public Distribution System including decisions on eligibility criteria, is that of the State Government and UT Administrations. State Governments and UT Administrations can decide on their own regarding excluding of Income Tax payers from the supply of subsidised foodgrains and other PDS commodities.

Consumer consciousness amongst people

1755. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take some measures to generate more consumer consciousness amongst the people and make them to resist more misleading claims in advertisements;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to amend the Drugs and Magic Remedies Act, 1954 to achieve the above mentioned objectives;

(d) whether Government also propose to utilise electronic media to stir up consciousness about citizens' rights and consumer protection requirements;

(e) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether Government also propose to involve the States and Union Territories in this regard; and

(g) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The Government has taken a number of measures to increase consumer consciousness amongst people. Such measures include preparation of audio visual material, printed literature in the form of booklets, brochures, posters, postcard size material etc. in the field of consumer protection. It is also publishing a quarterly journal "Upaibhokta Jagaran" which disseminates useful information to the consumers. The printed material is made available to consumer organisations free of cost.

(e) Yes, Sir.