

Closure of Super Bazars in Delhi

496. SHRI GAYA SINGH:

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to close down Super Bazars in Delhi;

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

(c) whether the workers have been paid arrears of their wages and gratuity, P.F. etc.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the dues on these accounts and reasons for not paying these dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Cooperative Store Ltd. (Super Bazar) registered under Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act 1984, started incurring loss from 1996-1997 which mounted in subsequent years. The accumulated loss has reached the level of Rs. 39.28 crores (unaudited) by the end of 2000-2001. Besides, the Super Bazar has the liability of suppliers dues, employees salary, loans etc. of about Rs. 65 crores. The Store has no resources for meeting these liabilities. The severe financial constraints faced by Super Bazar have very adversely affected the overall functioning of the Store. Its sales turnover have reduced drastically and reached a level of Rs. 37 crores (approx.) per year. Considering the deteriorating stage of Super Bazar, the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies have been requested to take action for the winding up of the Super Bazar under the provisions of Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act 1984.

(c) to (e) An additional financial assistance of Rs. 750 lakhs have been released to Super Bazar as loan to bridging its financial requirement enable them to meet the wage liabilities of its employees upto August, 2001. The compensation to Super Bazar employees will be paid in case of the winding up of Super Bazar.

Rotting foodgrains in Itarasi godowns

†497. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wheat worth rupees 36 crore has rotten in the godowns of Food Corporation of India in Itarasi which was purchased by

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Government from the farmers of Hoshangabad district and a part of it came from Punjab;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that two lakh tonne wheat worth more than rupees 185 crore has rotten and the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food and Civil Supplies has recommended that it should be thrown into the sea; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Out of the total stocks of 299.77 lakh tons of foodgrains available with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) as on 1st October 2001, only 2.18 lakh tons are damaged which works out to 0.72%.

(c) In spite of various steps taken for maintenance and preservation of foodgrains, some damage to the foodgrains stock takes place due to prolonged storage as well as due to natural calamities such as flood, cyclone etc. Such damaged stocks retrieved after segregation and salvaging, are disposed off for purposes of cattle feed, industrial use, manure and dumping as these are not fit for human consumption.

Disposal of Sugar Stocks

498. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA:

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that sugar worth Rs. 1,800 crores is lying in godowns of Karnataka;

(b) whether the Karnataka Government has requested to help to clear the sugar stocks; and

(c) if so, the action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The Government is aware of the high level of sugar stocks held by sugar factories in the country including the factories located in the State of Karnataka. As intimated by the State Government of Karnataka, , about 9.08