

of the stocks kept in the godowns. This process continues till the stocks are disposed of.

Branches of Super Bazar

†3310. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

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

- (a) whether there are number of branches of Super Bazar in the country;
- (b) if so, the names of the cities and towns where these branches are operating alongwith the names of the States thereof;
- (c) the total number of persons employed therein as on April, 2000 along with the annual expenditure towards their salaries etc.;
- (d) whether certain employees have been appointed therein to monitor its efficient functioning and administration; and
- (e) if so, the number thereof alongwith the estimated annual expenditure being incurred there upon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The branches of Super Bazar are operating in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and NOIDA in Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The Super Bazar has reported that the total number of persons employed in Super Bazar as on 1st April, 2000 was 2069 and the annual expenditure towards their salaries is around Rs. 18.00 crores.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Super Bazar has reported that the number of persons working in their Administration and Workstudy Departments is 136. The annual expenditure on the salaries of these two Departments during 1999-2000 was Rs. 1,04,80,239.44.

Toy Standards of BIS

3311. SHRI KA RA. SUBBIAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the steps taken by Government in spreading awareness of toy standards of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS);

(b) whether any steps have been taken to monitor small scale industry which make toys;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government would consider to set up laboratories all over India to check the standard of toys; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to find out the toys manufactured with PVC (poly vinyl chloride), arsenic, cadmium, lead and mercury?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) Efforts by BIS made to spread awareness of the Indian standards relating to safety of toys include:—wide circulation of the draft standards by public comment;—interaction with concerned Government departments and Organizations such as the National Institute of Public Co-operation and Child Development, Ministry of Human Resources Development;—interaction with the Toy Manufacturers Association of India;—attending seminars on the subject of ‘toy safety’ at different places.

(b) and (c) The Development Commissioner of Small Scale Industries has been coordinating with the National Programme for the Development of the Indian Toy Industry, which envisages the setting up of a toy design and development institute, technology development of toy industries, etc.

(d) Testing facilities are reported to be available in laboratories managed by some private organizations. Testing facilities are also available with the Central Laboratory of the BIS, which are used primarily for product certification purposes.

(e) IS-9873 (part 3), 1999 prescribes the method of sampling of toys for elements like arsenic, cadmium, lead, mercury etc. besides stipulating limits for these elements. The standard can be used for ascertaining whether toys in question meet the stipulated requirements.

Dispute between Ministries on wheat stock issue

3312. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge wheat stock is causing debate between the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and the Ministry of Finance on the ways and means of doing away with such surplus stock of wheat in the best possible way; and