

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) Kendriya Bhandar's selling prices are generally lower than or equal to market price. At times there could be some items wherein Kendriya Bhandar prices may be higher than open market due to fluctuation in the market and variation in prices from batch to batch of items sold during fluctuations.

(b) Kendriya Bhandar being an organization undertaking commercial activities, verbal/written complaints regarding higher prices are sometimes received from individual customers, Members of Parliament etc. Six letters were received from Members of Parliament bringing out issues relating to selling of products at higher prices by Kendriya Bhandar than the open market. Necessary remedial action is taken on complaints received.

(c) Kendriya Bhandar has informed that in order to keep prices reasonable, prices are being obtained from manufacturers/authorized distributors as applicable to bulk purchasers and Kendriya Bhandar's selling prices are fixed after adding nominal margin of profit.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, Kendriya Bhandar has informed that it carries out market surveys periodically to ascertain reasonability of rates and keep the prices generally lower than the market rate.

Constitutional obligation on Kendriya Bhandar

1002. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM :

SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kendriya Bhandar was set up in 1963 in pursuance of a Union Cabinet decision as a welfare project for the benefit of Central Government employees and Government has "deep and pervasive" control over it;

(b) whether Kendriya Bhandar is an instrumentality of Government and it is a 'State' within the meaning of Article 12 of the Constitution and it is subject to the constitutional obligation under Article 14; and

(c) whether Supreme Court judgements concerning recruitment and regularization of services in violation of the Article 16 of the Constitution and recruitment rules are applicable on Kendriya Bhandar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

Kendriya Bhandar was set up in 1963 in pursuance of a Union Cabinet decision as a welfare project for the benefit of Central Government employees. It is a Multi State Cooperative Society governed by the Provisions of MSCS Act, 2002 and provision contained in the Bye-laws of the Kendriya Bhandar. The affairs of the Kendriya Bhandar are managed by the Board consisting of Chairperson and 9 Directors who are elected from amongst the delegates and 3 Directors nominated by the Government. There is no deep and pervasive control of the Government in the day to day affairs of Kendriya Bhandar.

(b) and (c) A statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

Targets under Millennium Development Goals

1003. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the targets set under the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) so far India is concerned;
- (b) how far these have been achieved by India so far;
- (c) the reasons for shortfalls in achieving the goals; and
- (d) the steps taken to remove the barriers in achieving the goals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) coordinates the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) monitoring system and releases Progress Reports from time to time. Millennium Development Goals, India Country Report, 2011 is the latest report brought out by the Central Statistical Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in December 2011. So far as India is concerned, 8 MDGs with 12 targets are relevant which are sought to be achieved during the period 1990 to 2015. A Brief on the MDG goals, targets and the assessment of performance for the latest year available based on this Report is given in the statement. (*See below*) There has been progress in all indicators. Since further progress is expected to be made in the remaining period upto 2015, it is hoped that performance with reference to the 2015 targets will be satisfactory.

The Administrative Ministries such as the Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Human Resource Development are implementing a number of schemes relevant to attainment of MDG targets.