

Sale of Stationery to the Government Officers

311. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that DOP&T issued two Office Memorandum on 19th August, 1987 and 11th April, 1994 authorising Super Bazar and NCCF to sell stationery and other items to the Government offices giving relaxation to certain provisions of GFRs without the prior approval of the Ministry of Finance;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to investigate the matter and to bring before the law the guilty officials responsible for issuing those OMs; and

(d) the steps taken to revoke those OMs forthwith?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Instructions were issued in July, 1981, in consultation with Ministry of Finance, making it mandatory for Central Government Departments/bodies controlled or financed by the Central Government to make local purchase of stationery and other items from Kendriya Bhandar. Instructions issued in 1987 and 1994 were merely to bring Super Bazar and NCCF also under the purview of this arrangement.

(d) The provisions of O.M. dated 14.7.1981 are under review and a decision will be taken soon.

Growth rate for Tenth Five Year Plan

312. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the approved 8 per cent GDP growth rate estimated during the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002- 2007) is realistic in view of the past experience of the Ninth Plan and midterm Reserve Bank of India review forecasting a GDP of only 5.5 per cent as against 6.6 per cent forecast earlier;