

Reservation Under The Constitution

1048. SHRI PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any reservation rules have been framed under the reservation law which are applicable in all the spheres;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIAMTI. MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no Act on reservation and the question of framing any reservation rules, therefore, does not arise. The reservation is under implementation through executive instructions which have the force of law under Article 13 of the Constitution of India

[English]

Funds to NGO's by Consumer Affairs Departments

1049. SHRI M. RAJIAH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Department of Consumer Affairs has been funding any N.G.O.'s for implementation of any consumer affairs awareness programmes; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the assistance given during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) Under the Central Excise & Salt Act, 1944, as amended in 1991, the Government has set up the Consumer Welfare Fund to give financial assistance to NGOs, State Governments etc. to undertake activities in the field of consumer protection. The Fund has been created by the Department of Revenue but is being operated by the Department of Consumer Affairs. The financial assistance is mainly given for production and distribution of literature, setting up facilities for training & research in consumer education; setting up of complaint handling/counselling/ guidance mechanisms like consumer guidance bureau setting up of consumer product testing laboratories etc.

During the last three years, the following assistance has been sanctioned:-

Year	Amt. Sanctioned
1995	90,44,633/-
1996	86,50,849/-
1997	40,31,450/-

[Translation]

Prices of Crude

1050. SHRI MANIK RAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the prices of crude oil have again gone up suddenly after coming down to the level of 9-10 dollar per barrel creating a threat of petrol crisis again.
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to avoid the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) The prices of crude oils in the international market have firmed up marginally after touching a low of about 9-10 dollars/bbl in March 1998. However, there is no perceived threat of petrol crisis.

- (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Super Bazar

1051. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) the aims of objectives for setting up the Super Bazar and the extent to which these objectives have been achieved;
- (b) whether the Super Bazar is selling most of the items at the maximum retail price and not at competitive prices;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the duties and functions of the vigilance wing of the Super Bazar;
- (e) whether the suppliers registered with the Super Bazar accountable to them;
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (g) whether damaged stocks accumulated in the Super Bazar are being shown as assets; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The Cooperative Store Ltd. (Super

Bazar). Delhi is a Cooperative Society which was set up in 1966 and its main objectives, as given in its bye-laws, are as under :-

- (i) to undertake wholesale and retail distribution of consumer goods and essential commodities; and to establish department stores;
- (ii) to develop an effective link between the producers/suppliers and the consumers with the object of transforming production on a continuous basis to suit the changing market;
- (iii) to raise the quality of products and maintain standards;
- (iv) to foster the growth of new products and new manufacturing units through market support and management advice;
- (v) to lower distribution costs and to introduce fair and better trading practices such as fixed prices etc; and
- (vi) to provide an information service to both producers and consumers;

(b) No, Sir. The retail prices being charged by Super Bazar are comparable to those of the other reputed retailers in Delhi/New Delhi.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Super Bazar, Delhi being a commercial organisation has a vigilance department also, which functions as per the guidelines given in the vigilance Manual and the instructions issued by the Govt. and the Central Vigilance Commission, from time to time.

(e) and (f) The suppliers registered with the Super Bazar, Delhi are accountable to the Super Bazar, Delhi, as per the terms agreed between them.

(g) and (h) As per the accounting system followed in the Super Bazar, Delhi, the damaged stocks are valued at 50% of its original cost and taken in the balance sheet of the Super Bazar as current assets. The value of these

damaged stocks varies from year to year as most of the goods damaged are replaced or returned back to the supplier, as per agreed terms.

Inventory of Stocks in Super Bazar

1052. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a huge inventory of stocks in various departments of the Super Bazar as on October 1, 1995;

(b) if so, the details of inventory between October, 1995 to March, 1998, department-wise together with their sale figures;

(c) whether complaints have been received regarding raising inventory disproportionate to sales; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Super Bazar, the Departmentwise sales/ inventory from October, 1996 to March, 1998 is as given in the statement attached. The details of sale and inventory holding in the Super Bazar during the period October, 95 to September, 96, have already been furnished in reply to another similar question raised by the Hon'ble M.P. on 26.11.96 vide Unstarred Question No. 710 in the Sabha.

(c) and (d) The Cooperative Store Ltd. (Super Bazar), Delhi is an autonomous Cooperative Society registered under the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984. It has its own Board of Directors to take decisions on its day to day activities including business matters. The Govt. of India do not interfere in such matters. The complaints with regard to holding of inventory disproportionate to sales, had been received in the past from the Hon'ble M.P. which were replied to on 17.11.97 and 19.2.98.

Statement

(Amt. Rs. in Crores)

Department	Oct. 96		Nov. 96		Dec. 96		Jan. 97		Feb. 97	
	Sale	Inv.	Sale	Inv.	Sale	Inv.	Sale	Inv.	Sale	Inv.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Gro/Toilet	688.48	739.54	741.12	761.91	744.01	753.46	797.45	724.17	855.44	699.28
Textiles	8.54	54.69	11.42	54.34	18.30	49.23	14.42	44.30	11.07	42.33