

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:907

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2000

IRREGULARITIES IN SALE OF ITEMS BY SUPER BAZAR AND NCCF

CHANDRA NATH SINGH;PRABHUNATH SINGH;RAM SAGAR

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the large scale corruption and irregularities going on in the sale of stationery and other office use items by the NCCF and Super Bazar to the Government departments;
- (b) if so, the number of cases have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government propose to review the order authorizing the above stated institutions and to withdraw the same;
- (d) whether the items from the established manufacturers sell, less than unbranded or not so reputed manufacturers in these institutions at rates higher than in the open market;
- (e) if so, the purchase policy of these institutions and the manner in which it is drawn up;
- (f) whether these institutions do not reply or inform their registered dealers to their letters, proposals, etc. and take arbitrary and discriminatory actions as a consequent to that;
- (g) the manner in which the quality of the item supplied to the Super Bazar/NCCF is checked; and
- (h) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to curb the irregularities and eradicate the corruption in the above institutions?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENVASA PRASAD)

(a), (b) & (c) : The Department of Personnel & Training had issued an order in 1981 (which has been amended from time to time) asking the Central Government Ministries/Departments etc. to procure stationery and other items from Kendriya Bhandar, Super Bazar and the NCCF without inviting tenders/quotations in relaxation of the procedure laid down in the GFR.The Department of Personnel & Training as also the Department of Consumer Affairs have been receiving complaints from various sources against the above mentioned cooperatives alleging corruption and irregularities on their part. The cases involving irregularities corruption etc. are investigated by the Vigilance Department of these organization and CBI, depending upon the nature of the case and suitable action is taken on a regular basis. The Department of Personnel & Training is undertaking a comprehensive review of the policy relating to purchase of stationery and other items etc. by these organizations.

(d) & (e): The NCCF and the Super Bazar have their own Board of Directors to look after their business and other administrative matters. These organizations have their own purchase policy and procedure. In the NCCF, they have a Business Committee where the purchase policy of the NCCF is decided upon.In Super Bazar, they have a Purchase Committee to go in to the details of the purchase and take decision before placing an order for purchase. The NCCF has reported that they purchase major branded items from either the manufacturers or their distributors/dealers. The Super Bazar gives preference for purchase of similar items if manufactured by small scale manufacturers and reputed companies, if the quality and the rates are competitive.

(f) : The NCCF and the Super Bazar have informed that all the letters received from particular dealers are attended to promptly by them.

(g) : The NCCF has advised the user Departments to send complaint etc. within 30 days of the receipt of the goods.While the Super Bazar has a system of pre-purchase quality control of stationery items at their own quality control laboratory, they also undertake random checking from the sales area.

(h) : Both the NCCF and the Super Bazar have their own Vigilance Departments headed by their Chief Vigilance OfficersThe Vigilance Departments looks into all cases of irregularities and corruption whenever the same is brought to their notice.