

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:751
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006
REVIVAL OF SUPER BAZAR
Deora Shri Milind Murl

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

- (a) the date and objectives of launching the Super Bazar scheme alongwith the number of its branches across the country and the total strength of its employees;
- (b) the date and reasons for suspension of the scheme;
- (c) the financial status of Super Bazar at the time of its suspension;
- (d) the efforts made by the Government for the revival of Super Bazar alongwith the success achieved therein;
- (e) whether the Government has recently received proposals from some agencies/organizations for revival of Super Bazar; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a) & (b): The Cooperative Store Ltd., (Super Bazar) Delhi was originally registered on 15th July, 1966 under the Bombay Cooperative Societies Act 1925 as extended to the Union Territory of Delhi. It was set up for undertaking wholesale/retail distribution of consumer goods and essential commodities. In January, 1996, it was registered under the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act . Super Bazar started incurring losses from 1996-97 onwards. The Central Registrar of the Cooperative Societies issued Order for the winding up of Super Bazar on 5th July, 2002. The Super Bazar was in operation with 134 branches and 1934 employees at the time of issue of the order for winding up of Super Bazar.

(c): The financial liabilities of the Society as on 5.7.2002 were to the extent of Rs. 83.67 crores (approximately).

(d) to (f): The Employees Unions of Super Bazar filed a number of writ petitions in Delhi High Court challenging the winding up of Super Bazar. These petitions were dismissed on 19.03.2004. The Super Bazar Dalit Karamchhari Sangh filed Special Leave Petition No.8398/2005 in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court in its Order dated 28.2.2006 inter alia observed that professional management of the Super Bazar is absolutely essential. With a view to explore the possibility of having an arrangement under which the management of the Super Bazar may be entrusted to a body of professionals, the Supreme Court constituted a Committee of Officials to consider all aspects of the matter. The Committee submitted its Report on 29.3.2006 in the Supreme Court of India.

On 5.5.2006, the Supreme Court directed the Committee to issue an advertisement in two National daily news papers within two weeks from 5.5.2006. In compliance of this Order, a notice for inviting bids to start Super Bazar afresh was published on 19.5.2006 in two National daily news papers. M/s Reliance Industries Ltd. and Indian Labour Cooperative Society alongwith Indian Potash Ltd. had submitted their bids. These bids were opened by the Committee on 8.6.2006. The bids were evaluated by the Committee and a Report was submitted in the Supreme Court on 4.7.2006. The next date of hearing of the case in the Supreme Court is 05.12.2006. Therefore, the matter is sub-judice.