

(a) whether the Helium Liquefier Plant of Model 1410 purchased by the Scientific Instrument Centre of Delhi University from a U.S. company in 1985 has not started functioning so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the persons responsible for the delay in its functioning?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE)

(KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c). According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, a Helium Liquefier Plant of Model 1410 was purchased by the Scientific Instrument Centre of the University from a US company in March, 1985. But it could not be installed immediately as the building was not ready. Later when it was installed and came into operation, it was found that the Cold Box of the machine was defective which could not be rectified in India and had to be shipped to USA in April, 1990. The machine was received back in March, 1991 but was heavily damaged in transit. Therefore, it had to be sent again to USA for repairs in January, 1993. It has been received back in May, 1993 and would be installed with the help of the US engineers who are expected to come to India in October, 1994. Delhi University is being advised to enquire into the circumstances under which the Plant could not be operationalised after its purchase in 1985.

[English]

Alleged Corruption Cases in Super Bazar

2418. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUP-

PLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case of supply of sub-standard items by the Super Bazar has come to the notice of the Government during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government ensure that indents submitted by branches and godowns at Super Bazar are thoroughly scrutinized by the Audit Department;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of cases of corruption detected in the Super Bazar in the preceding three years giving the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check misappropriation of funds by the Super Bazar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the year 1992-93, Super Bazar purchased dusters which were found to be of sub-standard quality. Super Bazar has reported that departmental enquiry proceedings were initiated against the concerned officer but before completion of the enquiry the concerned officer expired. Super Bazar has informed that before introduction of any item, strict quality control measures are undertaken and random sampling at pre-sale stage is also carried out.

(c) and (d). The Cooperative Stores Ltd., Delhi, popularly known as Super Bazar, is an autonomous Cooperative Organisation, registered under the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act and Rules and is governed by its bye-laws. The Management Committee of the Super Bazar is responsible for its proper functioning. Government, as a policy, does not interfere in the day to day working of the Store. The statutory auditors appointed by the Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Delhi, audit the accounts of the Store, as per the Delhi Cooperative Society Act.

(e) Super Bazar has reported that only one case of embezzlement at the Regional Distribution Centre, Patel Nagar was found during the last three years. The case was handed over to the Crime Branch of Delhi Police and after investigation, Crime Branch of Delhi Police has committed the case to the Trial Court. The official involved has since been suspended.

(f) A Vigilance Cell has been set up in Super Bazar headed by a Chief Vigilance Officer. This Vigilance Cell carried out surprise checks to ensure proper functioning of the Store.

AIDS Test of Students

2419. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have taken a decision that students will not be awarded degrees until they successfully undergo a course on prevention and control of AIDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to make this provision obligatory

throughout the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d). According to the information furnished by the UGC, the Commission is not aware of any such decision taken by the State Governments. However, the UGC has circulated to all Universities, an Action Plan which, inter-alia, contemplates introduction of a self-study course on AIDS. The syllabi and the courses of study followed in degree courses are decided upon by universities which are statutory autonomous bodies, and not by the Government.

[*Translation*]

Prawn Breeding

2420. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government has given approval of the Central Fishery Education Institute to launch a Pilot project on prawn breeding;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the launching of this project has been delayed inordinately;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have achieved the desired objectives from this project; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?