

Cases of violation of quality control and pre-shipment Inspection

1761. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI JAGPAL SINGH:
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of cases involving violation of quality control and pre-shipment inspections were detected during 1980;

(b) whether in a number of cases the Officers of the Export Inspection Agencies were found to be involved;

(c) if so, the number of such cases detected during 1979 and 1980 stating the number of officers of the Export Inspection Agencies involved therein;

(d) the action taken by Government against the exporters/manufacturers and the Officers of the Export Inspection Agencies involved in these violations; and

(e) the steps taken to enforce stricter checks on the quality control violations and shipment of sub-standard consignments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). A statement is attached

Statement

Details of cases and action taken thereon, involving violations of quality control & pre-shipment inspection for the years 1979 and 1980.

	1979	1980
(1) Under investigation by C.B.I.	1	3
(2) Prosecution being launched	1	..
(3) Blacklisted	2	..
(4) Convicted by Court	3	2

	1979	1980
(5) Penalty imposed by Customs Department	23	8
(6) Pending before courts	..	5
(7) Under Departmental Inquiry for the purpose of launching prosecution	..	9
	30	27

Details of cases & action taken thereon involving officers of the Export Inspection Agencies

	1979	1980
(1) Under C.B.I. Investigation	1	4
(2) Regular Departmental action initiated/being initiated for imposition of major penalty	9	8
(3) Removed from service	..	1
(4) Prosecution launched	1	..
(5) Prosecution being launched	1	..
	12	13

Steps taken to enforce stricter checks on violation of quality control inter-alia are as under :-

- (1) Technical Audit cum-vigilance cells have been set up at the headquarters of the Export Inspection Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin, Delhi and Madras.
- (2) Test checks at the post of shipments have been arranged.

- (3) The system of inspection and minimum specifications below which goods are not allowed for export have been streamlined.
- (4) To re-inforce the Vigilance Wing of the Export Inspection Council a regular IPS Officer has been appointed on deputation as Chief Vigilance Officer in the Export Inspection Council to report directly to the Director (Inspection and quality Control), Export Inspection Council.

Irregularities by Fair Price Shop owners

1762. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food and Supplies Department of Delhi Administration has given kerosene oil, wheat, oil, Fair price Shops licences in the same premises in Circle 39 in particular and other Circles in general in different names inspite of the fact that the real tenants are different from the licensee;

(b) due to paucity of space in the shop, the oil drums have been stored near the main busy road thereby causing public fire hazard;

(c) vanaspati ghee is sold by fair price shops simultaneously when they have been given rapeseed and palm oil for sale at cheaper rates;

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to deal with such persons and by when the irregularities will be set right; and

(e) how many cases in all of the nature exists and details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY):

(a) to (e). It is a fact that in certain cases licences for fair price shops, kerosene oil or more than one licence has been granted in the premises bearing one municipal number but having separate apartments. While considering the grant of licence, the licensing authority has to see the problems of acute shortage of space available in the commercial areas as also the convenience of the consumers. It is not always possible to find suitable accommodation for running fair price shops/kerosene oil depot in all parts of Delhi, specially the crowded commercial areas. Moreover running of fair price shop or kerosene oil depot is not very lucrative and there was no great demand for licences at initial stage. Thus, li-

cences were earlier granted on the basis of requirement irrespective of the fact whether a licensee is already holding a licence. It would not be legally permissible to disturb the old licences. In fact, in the case of one such licensee, action was taken to cancel his licence for kerosene oil depot. The licensee obtained stay order from the High Court of Delhi. Notwithstanding the aforesaid position, the Food and Supplies Department of Delhi has taken an administrative decision not to grant licence to a person who is already holding a Licence under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to avoid monopoly but in certain cases when there is no other applicant and the demand from the area for opening a fair shop or kerosene oil depot is there, a licence has to be granted in relaxation of the said policy.

As regards Vanaspati Ghee, there is no restriction on the sale of Vanaspati Ghee by a fair price shop but a licensee is required for sale and storage of vanaspat oil and other edible oils in excess of 5 quintals.

It is not correct to say that oil drums are found stored on road side causing traffic/fire hazards. Action is being taken against the licensee where the business premises is run by a person other than the licensee as and when such instances come to notice.

Hardships to Civilians Working in Armed Forces Headquarters

1763. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the civilians working in the Armed Forces Headquarters suffer great hardships, inconveniences and difficulties in financial matters when they are transferred from one Service Headquarters to another as the Controller of Defence Accounts changes with such posting and the Controller of Defence Accounts for the Army, Air Force and Navy are located at Meerut, Dehradun and Bombay; and their General Provident Fund accounts etc. remain unsettled even after their retirement;

(b) if so, do Government propose considering and appointing a common Controller of Defence Accounts at New Delhi for civilians working in Armed Forces Headquarters and save them from the fury which they have to face at the time of their transfers; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SA-WAISINGH SISODIA) : (a) There have been a few complaints but the same were not substantiated.