

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2287

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2010

STANDARD FOR TOYS

Ramasubbu Shri S., Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

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

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding manufacture /sale of toys containing harmful lead, paint and cadmium;
- (b) if so, whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has issued any specifications in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure compliance of the said norms by the manufacturers; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to formulate and enforce the said standards?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a): No Madam. However, a Writ Petition had been filed in the Bombay High Court by Consumer Welfare Association and another in which a prayer has been made which, inter-alia, includes formulation of standards for chemicals used in toy manufacturing to avoid any toxic threat to the health of children and banning sale of toxic toys that are imported or manufactured in India.

(b) to (d): (i) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has formulated an Indian Standard prescribing safety requirements for toys relating to migration of certain elements. Indian standards are voluntary in nature and no licence has been granted for this standard. Since BIS has not granted any Certification Licence for toys against this Indian Standard, it cannot enforce it against manufacturers of toys. (ii) Besides, a system of compulsory registration of toys and toy products has been found to be a possible mechanism for the purpose of regulating manufacture, sale of toys and enforcement of BIS standards at this stage (iii) Presently, the imports of toys from all sources is subject to the following conditions:

- (i) Certificate of Conformation to the standards prescribed in ASTM F963 or ISO 8124 (Part I-III) or IS 9873 (Parts I-III) or EN 71.
- (ii) Certificate of conformance from the manufacture that the toys being imported have been tested by an independent lab which is accredited under ILAC, MRA and found to meet the specifications indicated above.

Any consignments of toys, which are found not conforming to prescribed standards and specifications, are not permitted to be imported.