

Markets still flooded with Chinese toys

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NEW DELHI, Feb 5: Chinese toys, the import of which was banned two weeks ago for their toxicity, are being sold at all major and minor toy markets across the Capital.

These toys are easily available at Sadar Bazaar, Karol Bagh, Kamla Nagar, Palika Bazaar, Lajpat Nagar and many other markets. "We don't approve of banning of only Chinese toys in the market as there are many other things which are hazardous to the health of people and are still being sold. We the traders believe that it is not at all harmful for the health of kids. But we will abide by the law. At present shops have a backlog of Chinese toys worth around Rs 1.5 to Rs 2.5 lakh. Once the stock is cleared, we will start selling other toys. Within a month these stocks will be cleared. At present there are about 125 toy shops in Delhi," said Mr Gagan Gulshan, Sadar Bazaar



Chinese toys being sold in Indian market. ■ SNS

wholesale toy shop owner.

The Delhi government is undecided and wants the Central government's advice. "Not a single element which can have a hazardous effect on the health of people will be allowed in the

market. But before banning Chinese toys the Union health ministry should recheck the quality of goods as Chinese are known for maintaining high standards for goods," said Mrs Kiran Walia, Delhi health minister.

Doctors claim that the toys are not good for children and can cause chronic liver damage, kidney damage and hypertension. Therefore, it would be wise to ban these goods from the market. "Chinese toys contain polystyrene which leads to dermatitis, skin allergies, redness, conjunctivitis. The colouring agents can damage liver, kidney and brain of a child. As these goods are produced in bulk, safety guidelines are followed and can have a hazardous effect on health. The batteries of electronic goods lead to eye and flashy lights with lasers cause retinal damage in children," said Dr Saroj Jeev Bagai, head of the department and director, paediatrics, Rockland Hospital.

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