

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the efforts made by Government to run the schemes on time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

New policy on FDI in multi-brand retail sector

182. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has decided to introduce a new policy on Foreign Direct Investment in the multibrand retail sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is wide resentment and protest on FDI in the multi-brand retail sector;

(d) if so, whether the views of domestic manufacturers would be considered before bringing in any new policy on FDI in the multi-brand retail sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (e) The existing policy allows for 51% FDI in only single brand retail subject to specified conditions. The further liberalization of this policy has been under consideration of the Government. Towards this end, the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has released a Discussion Paper on the subject of 'Foreign Direct Investment in Multi-Brand Retail Trading', with the aim of generating informed discussion on the subject and obtaining the views and comments of various stakeholders. The impact on small traders, the possible strategy to protect interests of small traders in the unorganized sector and the likely impact on the capacity building of storage of food grains, fruits and vegetables etc. have also been examined in the discussion paper. The discussion paper is available in the public domain. The comments received

thereon are presently being examined by an Inter-Ministerial Committee in the Department of Consumer Affairs. The committee will examine and analyze the responses and provide necessary inputs for proposed policy action. Government has yet to take a final view.

Export Promotion Councils

183. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of various export promotion councils under his Ministry;
- (b) the names of their heads and places of their headquarters;
- (c) the role being played by each such Council in export promotion; and
- (d) the performance of each such Council during the last year and the plans for the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) A list of the Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) under the administrative control of the Department of Commerce is given in the Statement (*See below*). The basic role of the EPCs is to promote and develop Indian exports. Each council is responsible for promotion of a particular group of products, projects and services. To achieve these objectives, they undertake a number of activities which include participation in major international trade fairs/exhibitions, buyer sellers meets abroad and in India, trade awareness programmes, market development and product development programmes etc. More details on these EPCs can be accessed through Department of Commerce website <http://www.commerce.nic.in>

Statement

List of the Export Promotion Council under the administrative control of the Department of Commerce.

1. Engineering Export Promotion Council of India (EEPC) - Kolkata
2. Project Exports Promotion Council of India (PEPC) - New Delhi
3. Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council (Chemexcil) - Mumbai
4. Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL) - Kolkata