

(a) the proposal under consideration of Government for allowing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in retail sector;

(b) whether any assessment or study has been conducted by Government about its impact on the local small shopkeepers; and

(c) the basis of the Ministry's contention that allowing FDI in retail sector would generate more jobs and reduce food inflation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) The Government released a discussion paper on 'Foreign Direct Investment in Multi-Brand Retail Trading', with the objective of obtaining the views and comments of various stakeholders, for informed policy making. Comments were received from stakeholders, including trade/industry/retailers' associations; farmers' associations; prominent retailers; consumers; small industries etc. A Committee of Secretaries (CoS) subsequently considered the matter. The views of the CoS have been received and are under consideration.

(b) Government had instituted a study on the subject of "Impact of Organized Retailing on the Unorganized Sector", through the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER). Stakeholders' views, in response to the discussion paper, have also been considered.

(c) The ICRIER study has projected that both organized and unorganized retail will not only co-exist but also achieve rapid and sustained growth in the coming years. The study also indicates that the growth of organized retail will enhance the employment potential of the Indian economy. Further, it is said that organized retail leads to creation of high-quality, productive jobs, while generating a number of jobs for unskilled labour. As such, organized retail may be expected to lead to an enhancement in the quality of employment, through skill development. FDI in Multi Brand Retail Trading could also be leveraged for investments in back-end infrastructure. This would improve supply chain efficiencies; reduce transit losses and improve storage capabilities for controlling supply/demand imbalances. This would, in turn, help in stabilizing prices.

Equipping Indian Navy with 'Kawach'

*144. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to equip Indian Navy with 'Kawach' which has target hitting range of 45 km.;

(b) whether test fires for 'Kawach' have already taken place;

(c) if so, by when it is likely to be inducted in Indian Navy; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) Yes, Sir. The 'Kawach' equipment, however, is not designed to have any target hitting capability. It is a device for firing chaff rockets to decoy incoming anti ship missiles.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The first two variants of 'Kawach' have already been inducted in the Indian Navy.

Pakistani nationals jailed for terrorist activities

* 145. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Pakistani nationals who have been jailed for terrorist activities across the country;

(b) the details of expenditure incurred on their security or otherwise;

(c) the details of Pakistani nationals awarded capital punishment; and

(d) the number of persons hanged/awarded death penalty till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) As per the available inputs, 130 Pakistani Nationals are currently lodged in various Indian jails for their involvement in terrorist and terrorism related activities across the country.

(b) 'Prison' is a State subject as per the VII Schedule of the Constitution of India. Expenditure on prisons and prisoners is therefore incurred by the State Governments. Central Government thus does not maintain any account of the expenditure incurred on security and other heads on prisoners lodged in various jails across the country.

(c) At present, the following three Pakistan nationals currently lodged in Indian jails have been sentenced to death for their involvement in terrorist activities:—

Sl. No.	Name and Parentage	Jail where lodged
1.	Mohd. Arif @ Abu Hamid @ Ashfa s/o Mohd. Akram	CJ Tihar, Delhi
2.	Mohd. Husain @ Abu Husain s/o Nazir Husain	CJ Tihar, Delhi
3.	Mohd. Ajmal Mohd. Amir Kasab @ Abu Mujahil Prison	Mumbai Central