

Government has been trying to encourage more cultivation of crops of edible oilseeds by assigning appropriate Minimum Support Price (MSP) and also by undertaking the following schemes:

- (i) A centrally sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM).
- (ii) Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA).
- (iii) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

Protection of domestic retail traders

†2344. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of retail traders in India alongwith the number of persons getting employment therein;
- (b) whether the big foreign companies are being given permission to do business in retail trade;
- (c) if so, the number of companies permitted so far for retail trade as well as the volume of their capital investment and the employment generation as a result thereof;
- (d) whether the entry of big foreign companies would harm the retail traders in India, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) what measures would be taken by Government to save the Indian economy and the livelihood of retail traders who generate employment and their employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Retail traders register their shops/malls with concerned authorities in States/UT Governments. No data is centrally maintained regarding the number of retail traders in India and persons getting employment therein. However as per estimates made using National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) 64th Round data, retail trade employed 7.2% of total workers in 2007-08 and provided job opportunities to around 33 million persons.

(b) Government has approved a proposal to permit FDI, upto 51%, under the Government route, in Multi-Brand Retail Trading, subject to specified conditions. However, the decision has been suspended, in order to evolve a broader consensus among various stakeholders. The existing policy allows for 51% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), only in Single Brand Retail Trade (SBRT), subject to specified conditions.

(c) From February, 2006 to November, 2011, 60 SBRT proposals have been approved, with an aggregate investment of US \$ 137 million, against which actual

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

FDI equity inflows of US \$ 44.45 Million have been reported. No data is centrally maintained regarding the number of persons getting employment therein.

(d) and (e) The 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), which was submitted to Government in 2008. The study did not find any evidence of adverse impact of organized retail on intermediaries or of a decline in overall employment in the unorganized sector, as a result of the entry of organized retailers.

Denial of entry into Trade Fair

2345. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of people were denied entry into Pragati Maidan Trade Fair on 24 November, 2011 after 1.30 P.M.;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has widely publicised in the media that the Trade Fair would be open till 4 P.M. that day;

(c) what are the reasons for managerial and administrative failures and ineptness;

(d) whether tickets were being oversold to people;

(e) whether it is also a fact that a bigger ground away from the city should be built for trade fair; and

(f) the steps proposed to meet peoples' aspirations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. Only sale of ticket was closed after 1.30 P.M. on 24.11.2011 from the gates of India Trade Promotion Organisation and Delhi Metro Rail Corporation counters in the interest of public safety. However, the visitors holding valid ticket/passes were allowed entry till the entry timing as printed on the tickets/passes.

(b) No, Sir. However, it was brought out in the media that entry of visitors having valid tickets to Pragati Maidan would not be allowed later than 5.30 P.M.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, entry into any fair ground needs to be regulated for safety and security of the visitors.

(f) Does not arise.

Virginia tobacco produced in AP and Karnataka

2346. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state: