Impact on Manufacturers

I.   Large manufacturers have started feeling the competitive impact of organized retail through price and payment pressures.

II.   Small manufacturers did not report any significant impact of organized retail.

III. Entry of organized retail is transforming the logistics industry. This will create significant positive externalities across the economy.

Convicts languishing in jails

†*418. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a)   the number of convicts awarded capital punishment languishing in various jails due to pending mercy petitions before the President and for other reasons; and

(b)   the details of the steps taken by the Ministry to find out the modalities to reduce expenditure on their security and feeding these convicts and also the resources of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Presently, 20 mercy petition cases of 29 death convicts are pending under Article 72 of the Constitution.

(b)   "Prison" being a State subject under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, expenditure on security and feeding of prisoners on death row, is borne by the respective State Governments and such data is not maintained centrally.

Rectification of ILO Convention 98 and 87

*419. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state whether Central Government is thinking seriously to rectify the ILO Convention 98 and 87 to give trade unions Right to Assembly and collective bargaining to all workers in India?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): We are unable to ratify Convention No. 87 (Freedom of Association and the Right to Organize, 1948) and 98 (Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining, 1949) purely due to technical reasons. The main

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

reason for non-ratification of the above two Conventions is due to certain restrictions imposed on the Government servants. The ratification of these Conventions would involve granting of certain rights that are prohibited under the statutory rules, for the Government employees, namely, to strike work, to openly criticize Government policies, to freely accept financial contribution, to freely join foreign organizations, etc. Government servants in India are, however, treated as separate category and they have exceptionally high degree of job security flowing from Article 311 of the Constitution of India. They have the facility of negotiations machinery under Joint Consultative Machinery and Administrative Tribunals for the redressai of their grievances.

Workers in India are enjoying the rights and protection envisaged under these two Conventions. Freedom of expression, freedom of association and functional democracy are guaranteed by our Constitution. The Government has promoted and implemented the principles and rights envisaged under these two Conventions in India I and the workers are exercising these rights in a free and fair democratic society. A large number of labour laws have been enacted and implemented by the Centre and the States catering to different aspects of safeguarding the interest of labour.

Textile parks with world-class infrastructure

*420. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a)   whether Government has decided to set up 21 Textile Parks with world-class infrastructure in nine States at a total development cost of Rs.2100 crore;

(b)   if so, the details thereof;

(c)   whether these parks would attract an overall investment of Rs.9000 crore with employment generation of around four lakh people; and

(d)   if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The Government has sanctioned 21 new textile parks in 11 states. The project cost of these Parks would be Rs.2338.56 crores. These parks would attract an investment of Rs.8312.12 crores and employment of around 3,88,363 persons. A detailed statement is given in the statement.