

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I had given notice saying that on the 7th of December, 2011, the Government had given an assurance for suspending FDI in retail. Now, they are bringing it ...(Interruptions)... This is contempt of Parliament ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is Question Hour. Only questions would be taken up during this time. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Venkaiah Naidu, this is Question Hour. Please ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, this is a very important matter and the House needs to discuss it. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is Question Hour, please. Question No. 41. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Sir, this is a very important issue. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is Question Hour please. ...(Interruptions)... Nothing is going on record. ...(Interruptions)...

The House is adjourned till 1200 hours.

The House then adjourned at four minutes
past eleven of the clock.

The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) in the Chair.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Rangarajan Committee report on sugar industry

*41. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee headed by Dr. C. Rangarajan on sugar industry has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Committee and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

The Committee headed by Dr. C. Rangarajan on Sugar Industry has submitted its report to the Government on 5th October, 2012. The Committee has, *inter-alia*, recommended removal of the levy sugar obligation and dispensing with the regulated release mechanism on non-levy sugar; Rationalisation of sugarcane pricing; Abolition of cane area reservation system and bonding; Doing away with the minimum distance norms as States discontinue cane area reservation; liberalisation of sugar trade; market determination of prices of by-products with no earmarked end use allocations; and taking out sugar from the purview of Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987. The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

Community Radio Projects

*42. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has stopped giving clearances for Community Radio Projects (CRPs);
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of applications for CRPs pending with the Wireless Planning and Coordination Department for clearance at present, State-wise;
- (d) the existing number of CRPs in operation, State-wise; and
- (e) the remedial steps taken by Government for saving this nascent industry which is already struggling for stable financial resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has been issuing permissions to Community Radio Stations (CRS) in accordance with the Policy Guidelines for setting up Community radio Stations in India. Ministry has so far issued 386 Letters of Intent to set up Community Radio Stations. Eligible Institutions can apply at any time to set up community radio stations. Permissions are granted to eligible organisations/institutions subject to the fulfillment of eligibility criteria and clearances received from concerned Ministries.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present 165 applications for setting up Community Radio Stations are pending with the Wireless Planning and Coordination Wing, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology for clearance. State-wise details are given in Statement-I (See below).