

units procure raw nuts from farmers directly allowing remunerative prices. Therefore, the question of cashew farmers facing any difficulty in marketing of their produce does not arise.

(c) and (d) Assistance is provided under National Horticulture Mission and Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States for development of infrastructure for post harvest management such as cold storages, terminal markets, wholesale markets, rural primary market, apni mandies etc. to ensure adequate supply of horticulture produce including cashew to the consumers at reasonable prices and also to provide remunerative returns to the farmers.

Foreign investors facing problems in retail sector

1732. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign investors are facing problems in retail sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has banned them from selling several products; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Economic relief to small shopkeepers

†1733. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after permitting the entry of big corporate houses and multi-national companies into the retail sector of the country, the small shopkeepers working in this sector needed economic relief in order to compete with them;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government has implemented any economic relief for this year, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) and (b) In formulating the policy for FDI in multi-brand retail trading, the Government was conscious of the livelihood concerns of the millions of small retailers. Informed studies of global experience have revealed that even in developing economies like China, Brazil, Argentina, Singapore, Indonesia and Thailand, where FDI is permitted up to 100%, local retailers have found innovative ways to co-exist along with organized retail and are integral to the organized retail chain. In Indonesia, even after several years of emergence of supermarkets, 99% of the fresh food retail and 70% of all food retail continues to be controlled by traditional retailers. Organized retail through Indian corporate entities is already allowed in India. The experience of the last one decade has shown that the small retailers have flourished alongside the large retail outlets. As per a report by Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) on the subject of 'Impact of Organized Retailing on the Unorganized Sector', submitted to Government in 2008, there was no evidence of a decline in overall employment in the unorganized sector as a result of the entry of organized retailers. Further, there was competitive response from traditional retailers through improved business practices and technology upgradation. A majority of unorganized retailers were keen to stay in the business and compete, while also wanting the next generation to continue likewise and most unorganized retailers were committed to remaining independent.

(c) No economic relief, in this regard, has been implemented this year.

National monuments in Bengaluru

1734. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the National Monuments in Bengaluru protected by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI);

(b) whether there have been any reports of encroachments or danger to any of these monuments;