

Legislation for online shopping

2258. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that according to the Google annual online shopping growth trends report, the country will have 100 million online shoppers by 2016;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to bring in a legislation to prevent online frauds and fraudulent activities in the name of online shopping;

(c) how many cases have come to the notice of Government for online fraud in the country during past three years; and

(d) how Government monitors online shopping activities and verify that the sellers are genuine and whether there is any system for registration of online sellers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) Government is aware of media reports regarding growth of online shopping in the country. However no official data on the sector is available.

(b) Presently there is no such proposal under consideration. However, keeping in view the increased number of online fraud/cheating cases, the Government has initiated steps for incorporating sufficient provisions for protection of consumers of online shopping/e-commerce under Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

(c) No such official data is available.

(d) At present there is no single set of law/regulations to govern E-commerce industry and therefore E-commerce activities including online shopping come under the purview of different laws like Information Technology Act, 2000, Contract Law and Indian Penal Code. E-commerce industry is also required to comply with other business laws like Company law, Labour law, Income Tax laws, Sales Tax law, etc.

Implementation of NFSA

2259. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has got clearance from PMO for implementing National Food Security Act (NFSA); and