

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. However, no final decision has been taken yet. The subject matter is under consultation with all stake-holders.

Regulation of e-commerce industry

1855. SHRI D. RAJA :

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a panel of Secretaries is being set up to consider a proposal for potentially extensive regulation of country's e-commerce industry which is growing very rapidly; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) No. Sir. There is at present no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Potential of FPI in NE region

1856. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey to assess the potential of Food Processing Industry in NE Region based on the different produces/raw materials cultivated and grown there in plenty;

(b) if so, the specialities of the respective States and plan ahead of the Government to optimally utilise the potential; and

(c) the status of Mega Food Park coming up in Tripura under finance by the Ministry in terms of infrastructure building, expenditure incurred and private investment received till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries conducted a study through North-Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd. (NERAMAC) based at Guwahati to assess the scope and potential

of food processing industries in the States of Assam, Mizoram and Tripura. The study revealed that the production volumes of various crops in these States currently do not provide the economics of scale for setting up of large food processing industries, except for pineapple. As far as vegetables are concerned, the crops like carrots, peas, tomatoes and ginger offer good scope for processing and value addition, subject to promoting commercial production in these crops.

MoFPI has been implementing central sector schemes in the country including North-East for providing modern infrastructure for food processing industries. The schemes are Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure, Modernization of Abattoirs and Quality Assurance, Codex, R&D and Other Promotional Activities during Twelfth Plan. In addition, Ministry had also launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme – National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) in the country including in NE during the Twelfth Five Year Plan. Under the Mission, all the State/UT Governments have been empowered to receive the applications, sanction and release the grant-in-aid to the eligible beneficiaries. States also have flexibility in selection of location of projects as well as beneficiaries. This initiative is meant to augment the capacity of the food processors for up-scaling their operations by adoption of new technologies.

(c) Mega Food Park at Agartala, Tripura was approved at a total project cost of ₹ 87.45 Crore, which is implemented by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely -M/s Sikaria Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. Mega Food Park scheme provides a grant-in-aid of ₹ 50 Crore, out of which, ₹ 20.79 Crore has been released to SPV till date. As per the information furnished by SPV, the expenditure incurred in the project till date is ₹ 28.77 Crore (including ₹ 24.05 Crore on creation of project infrastructure, ₹ 1.92 Crore cost of land and ₹ 2.80 Crore towards pre-operative expenses). The Core infrastructure of the project includes Dry warehouse for storing raw material, pulping line, packing facility, hi-tech cold storage, quality control laboratory and also internal Roads, Drainage, Water Supply, EPT, STP and Solid Waste. The Non-core facilities of the project are Staff Quarters, Working Sheds, Insurance office, Fire Station and Garage for fire brigade, Canteen and Standard Design Factory for SME Sheds etc. The Park has not attracted any private investments till date.

Setting up of FPIS

1857. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the States which are deficient in Food Processing Industries (FPIS);