

Remaining 25 States/UTs have not completed all the preparatory measures required for implementation of the Act. Implementation of the Act is reviewed on a regular basis and necessary advisories are issued to States/UTs, wherever required. As Period of 365 days for identification of eligible households got over on 04.07.2014, an additional three months time was given to these States/UTs to complete the identification exercise and other preparatory measures, and start implementation of the Act, which has been further extended by another six months, *i.e.* till 04.04.2015.

Pendency of consumer cases

579. PROF. M.V. RAJEEVGOWDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is making any efforts towards filling up of vacancies in consumer courts;

(b) whether any measures is being taken by Government to reduce pendency of cases despite the legal limit for disposal of cases being 90 days, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is planning to establish more consumer courts in proportion to the population requirement, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE) : (a) As per the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, it is the responsibility of the State Governments/UTs to fill up the vacancies in the District Fora and State Consumer Redressal Commissions. However, the Government regularly advises the State Governments to take measure in this regard.

(b) The various steps taken to clear the pendency of cases in time bound manner are as under:

- (1) State Governments have been requested from time-to-time to take action well in advance for filling up of vacancies of President and Members and to maintain a panel of candidates for filling up of future vacancies also to avoid delay in appointments.
- (2) Circuit Benches from National Commission have been frequently visiting States.
- (3) Some State Commissions have constituted Additional Benches mainly to dispose off backlog of pending cases.

- (4) The National Commission and some of the State Commissions as well as District Fora are adopting the process of holding Lok Adalats for speedy disposal of the cases.
- (5) Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government to the States/UTs for strengthening of infrastructure of Consumer Fora including computerization and networking.
- (c) No, Sir.

Modern food processing centres

580. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified centres for modern food processing industries in various States, and whether the Saansad Adarsh Grama Yojana adopted villages, such as Maravamangalam in Sivaganga district, Tamil Nadu are included in such focused area centres so that the villagers and other investors get the quick funding and establishment; and

(b) if so, the financial institutions involved in it for creating food processing centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Targets achieved under Vision 2015: Strategy and Action Plan for FPIs

581. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state whether Government was able to achieve its targets fixed under Vision - 2015: Strategy and Action Plan for Food Processing Industries in India, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI) : In order to promote food processing industries, increase level of processing and exploit the potential of domestic and international market for processed food products, Vision Document 2015 was prepared by the Ministry, which envisaged trebling the size of investment in the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. To achieve these