

Indian and foreign e-commerce companies

1430. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian e-commerce companies are faltering at the hands of intense competition from foreign e-commerce companies which are able to deploy cash and technology from US to India and thus, threatening India's Digital India and Start-up India programmes, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) in such a situation, whether Government has any plan to implement policies that enable and nurture local digital talent to have a level playing field with global companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) No, Sir, as per NASSCOM Strategic Review, 2016 Indian e-Commerce market is nearly USD 16.7 Billion and is growing at a Compound Annual Growth rate of more than 25% since last 5 years. The entry of global e-commerce players has definitely brought competition in the Indian e-commerce marketplace however domestic players are also growing.

(b) Government has notified FDI policy guidelines for e-commerce on 29th March, 2016. As per these guidelines, 100% FDI in Business to Business e-commerce and 100% FDI in market place model of e-commerce through automatic route is allowed. Through these FDI norms, many foreign investors/foreign e-commerce companies have invested in Indian e-commerce companies. Also, NIELIT an autonomous society of Ministry of Electronics and IT has introduced beginners, intermediate and advanced courses on Digital Marketing using e-commerce. They have also signed a non-exclusive MoU with Snapdeal as Knowledge Partner in this regard.

Cold storage facilities

1431. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cold storage facilities that have been built in the country during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the number of cold storage facilities built for storing vegetables such as tomato, which have shorter shelf life?