

(c) India does not have enough manufacturing capacity currently for cells and modules to match with the entire domestic requirements. Government of India has provided a number of schemes for the purpose of extending support to the domestic manufacture. Some of them are related to extension of concessional excise and custom duties, provision of capital subsidies for setting up of manufacturing units for solar cells and modules and the entire value chain under Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS) programme etc.

New licensing policy for tobacco

2422. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMACHU:

SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a licensing policy for tobacco in a bid to control consumption and bring the largely unregulated business of products such as gutkha and pan masala under some sort of Government watch and the details thereof;

(b) whether the matter has been discussed with the stakeholders and the details thereof;

(c) whether the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has started internal discussions on the policy implication of licensing for the sector that has been mired in strong political interests; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Proposal for bringing manufacture of "Other Tobacco Products" such as Khaini, Tobacco blended Pan Masala, Hookah or Gooduku tobacco, Zarda, Bidis and other chewable/eatable tobacco related items under the ambit of compulsory licensing is under consideration with a view to address public health issues.

Initial stakeholder consultations were held with Central Board of Excise and Customs, Planning Commission, Department of Commerce, Tobacco Board, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and office of Development Commissioner, Micro Small and Medium Enterprises.

Comments on the proposal have been sought from concerned Central Ministries/ Departments, State Governments and Union Territories. In addition, information of

existing production capacity in respect of these items has also been sought for from the State Governments and Union Territories.

Action plan for development of cultural centres

2423. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action plan for development of cultural centres in the country, State/UT-wise including Haryana;

(b) the details of financial assistance given to these cultural centres, State/UT-wise including Haryana; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government for development of more such centres in the country especially Haryana for promotion of traditional art, craft and culture in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) To protect, preserve and promote various forms of art and culture throughout the country including Haryana, the Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur. The State of Haryana comes under the jurisdiction of Zonal Cultural Centre at Patiala and Allahabad.

(b) Ministry of Culture does not release State/UT-wise funds for organizing various cultural activities and programmes throughout the country including Haryana. However, annual grant-in-aid is provided to these ZCCs for this purpose with details as under:—

				(₹ in lakh)
Sl. No.	Name of ZCC	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1.	NZCC, Patiala	612.35	433.39	1412.50
2.	WZCC, Udaipur	429.35	652.39	885.15
3.	SZCC, Thanjavur	830.66	336.10	560.56
4.	EZCC, Kolkata	537.36	456.54	813.659
5.	SCZCC, Nagpur	544.19	319.61	1115.00
6.	NCZCC, Allahabad	520.37	345.07	517.37
7.	NEZCC, Dimapur	771.94	1431.78	1530.10
TOTAL		4246.22	3974.88	6834.330