

procure through GeM. However, some State Government organizations are making procurement through GeM viz. Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Telangana, Odisha, Maharashtra, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tripura, Haryana and Uttarakhand.

(d) GeM, being a technology driven platform, has better functionality and capability to centrally drive and monitor compliance of various Government policies towards promotion of domestic manufacturers, in public procurement.

Decline in cement production

4500. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether cement production in the country has declined during 2016-17 because of weak demand as per data available till January, 2017 against the trend for the last 15 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and likely reasons for this phenomenon; and

(c) whether the demand for cement is likely to increase resulting in higher production in the next financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) No Sir, it has not declined.

(b) Doesn't arise.

(c) Yes Sir. Demand of cement is expected to increase in the next financial year on account of various flagship programmes of Government of India such as 'Housing for all by 2022', 'Smart Cities Mission', 'Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana', 'Freight and Industrial Corridors', 'National Highways Expansion including construction of cement concrete roads', etc.

Review of policy for setting up new industries

4501. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to review the policy regarding setting up new industries in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the responsibility of developing industries rests with the State Governments;