

Poor technological competence of IRCTC website

3437. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether IRCTC website is a poor demonstration of India's technological competence and finesse;

(b) whether Architects of IRCTC system visited the website of private bus aggregators or public bus corporations such as KSRTC to learn a few simple tricks about online ticket management; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) E-ticketing website *www.irctc.co.in* has now become very popular and it now handles around 62% of total reserved tickets. In order to improve user experience, servers are augmented and software is modified from time to time. A new system with enhanced capacity and new features has been launched. The system has capacity to book about 15000 tickets per minute.

The scale and magnitude of Indian Railways is huge and its online ticket management cannot be compared to the system of bus corporations.

Development of food processing sector in North-East

3438. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions of National Mission for Food Processing; and

(b) the steps being taken for development of food processing sector in the North-East?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) The Ministry had launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) - National Mission for Food Processing (NMFP) for implementation through States/UTs w.e.f. 01.04.2012. Under the Mission, funds were shared on 75:25 basis by Government of India and States; 90:10 in North-Eastern States and 100% grants for UTs. The components of the NMFP were (i) Technology Up-gradation/Setting up/Modernization of Food Processing Units; (ii) Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure for Non-Horticulture Products;

(iii) Modernisation of Abattoirs; (iv) Human Resource Development; (v) Promotional Activities; (vi) Creating Primary Processing Centres/Collection Centres in Rural Areas; (vii) Modernisation of Meat Shops; (viii) Reefer Vehicles; and (ix) Food Parks (old scheme). However, CSS-NMFP has been delinked from Central Government support w.e.f. 1.4.2015 except for UTs (up to 31.03.2016). The State Governments may decide to continue the scheme w.e.f. 01.04.2015 and onwards out of their increased resources resulting from the recommendations of the Fourteenth Finance Commission.

(b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing various Central Sector Schemes for promotion and development of food processing sector in the country including North-East, like (i) Scheme for Mega food Park; (ii) Scheme for Modern Abattoirs; (iii) Schemes for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure; (iv) Scheme for Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Infrastructure; (v) Scheme for Quality Assurance; and (vi) Scheme for Human Resource and institutions. The detailed guidelines of these schemes, explaining the pattern of financial assistance, eligibility criteria, procedure for approval of projects, timelines and release of grant-in-aid etc. are available on the Ministry's website at www.mofpi.nic.in. For development of food processing sector in North-East, the Ministry is providing grants-in-aid at higher level as compared to general areas in all the schemes. Ministry is also organizing seminars/workshops every year in the North-East to create awareness about these schemes.

Budgetary allocation and expenditure in food processing sector

†3439. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total allocation under the Budget Estimate, Revised Estimate and Actual Expenditure (Plan and Non-Plan) for Food Processing Industry during five years of Twelfth Plan along with Plan and Non-Plan Budget Estimate for 2017-18;

(b) whether the total budgetary allocation (besides Non-Plan) for 2017-18 is ₹725 crore which is less than 50 per cent of the projected allocation (₹ 1606 crore) by the Ministry; and

(c) if so, the reasons for such huge difference between projected and actual allocation and its effect on implementation of schemes during the current financial year?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.