

Promotion of products on the basis of geographical origin

47. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to launch a mega campaign for promoting products closely associated with their geographical origin;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Central Government is considering to involve all State Governments in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) Geographical Indications (GI) are registered as per the provisions of the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999. The Government has undertaken several steps as a part of the campaign for promotion of Indian products registered as GIs. These include, *inter alia*, participation in events to promote and create awareness on GIs, promotion of GIs through social media, involving State Governments, Union Territory Administration and other relevant organisations for facilitation of GI producers.

All State Governments have been requested to appoint nodal officers for promotion of Geographical Indications from their respective states, establish Facilitation Cells for each GI from the state, undertake steps for GI awareness in consumers, undertake training of GI producers, take effective action against manufacture and sale of counterfeit GI products etc.

Visakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor

48. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the status and progress of the Visakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC);
- (b) the details of the funds released so far;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Central Government is giving a step motherly treatment to Andhra Pradesh in release of funds by giving insufficient funds to