

Portfolio Investors (FPIs). This would benefit many global funds which intend to invest in the Indian capital markets as a FPI.

(b) and (c) With a view to attract foreign investments in various sectors of the country, meetings are held at various levels including at the level of Minister with domestic as well as foreign stakeholders on regular basis. No data regarding meeting is maintained.

Import of pulses

†2294. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and price of pulses imported by Government agencies during each of the last three years and the current year and whether these agencies have been provided subsidies for this purpose under this head; and

(b) the profits earned by the said agencies through such transactions during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Import of pulses by Government agencies like STC & MMTC during the last three years and the current year is as under:—

Year	Qty of Import in MT	Value in INR (crore approx.)
2015-16	24,500	182
2016-17	3,61,288	2309
2017-18	NIL	NIL
2018-19	NIL	NIL

(b) These agencies are entitled to service charge of 1.5% of CIF (Cost+Insurance+Frieght) value.

Report of task force on e-Commerce policy

2295. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Task Force set up to finalise the contours of the policy regarding 'e-Commerce' sector has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) A Think Tank on 'Framework for National Policy on e-Commerce' was established by Department of Commerce and a Task Force under the Think Tank was set up for preparing recommendations for India's National Policy on e-Commerce. The Task Force was further divided into 9 sub-groups. The first meeting of the Think Tank was held on 24th April, 2018; meeting of the subgroups was held during 20th-22nd June, 2018 and the first meeting of the Task Force was held on 6th July, 2018. Further, the second meeting of the Think Tank was held on 30th July, 2018. Subsequent to the consultations held, Department of Commerce formulated a Draft policy document titled "Electronic Commerce in India: Stakeholder Recommendations Received for a National Policy Framework". Consequent to the change in Allocation of Business Rules, "Matters related to e-Commerce" has been transferred to Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion. The formulation of e-Commerce policy is under consideration of the Government, for which no timeline has been fixed.

Industrialisation in rural, backward, hilly and remote areas

2296. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided/proposed to be provided by Government to promote industrialisation in rural/backward/hilly and remote areas in the country, State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether Government proposes to formulate any scheme for setting up of forest based industries in the country, State-wise details thereof including Jharkhand;

(c) whether Government proposes to conduct any study for identification and declare industrially backward regions/States/districts in the country; and

(d) if so, the details there of along with any State specific policy/scheme formulated in order to create favourable investment environment in the country, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The financial assistance provided to promote industrialisation in the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and the States of North Eastern Region including Sikkim is given in the Statement (*See below*).