

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) No Sir, no proposal for setting up of any new Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Andhra Pradesh, in addition to the existing 47 SEZs, has been received in this Ministry. SEZs being set up under the SEZs Act, 2005 and SEZ Rule^2006 are primarily private investment driven.

Procurement of goods through GeM portal

331. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made procurement of goods compulsory for Ministries and departments from Government-e-Market place (GeM) only;
- (b) if so, the details of mechanism to ensure its sustained transparency;
- (c) whether goods available on GeM are of higher price than normal market rate of the same goods;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the State-wise details of amounts of transactions made through GeM during 2017-18?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) As per Rule 149 of General Finance Rules (GFR), the Procurement of Goods and Services by Ministries or Departments will be mandatory for Goods or Services available on Government e-Marketplace (GeM).

(b) In order to have transparent and efficient technology driven national public procurement system, GeM has been set up as a 100 per cent Government owned Section 8 company under Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India which is an end-to-end online Marketplace for Central and State Government Ministries/ Departments, Central and State Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs and SPSUs), Autonomous institutions and Local bodies, for procurement of common use goods and services.

(c) and (d) Price on GeM, as in a marketplace, is dynamic and tools for establishing price reasonability are made available to buyers for their procurement purposes.

(e) State-wise details of amount of transactions made through GeM during 2017-18 is given in the Statement.

Statement*State-wise details of transactions made through GeM during 2017-18*

State/UT	Number of Transactions	Value (INR)
Uttar Pradesh	14085	55842,85,186
Madhya Pradesh	8381	46074,39,496
Chhattisgarh	5557	22217,43,754
Maharashtra	2233	18296,16,539
Delhi	33659	16899,04,650
Rajasthan	1515	13794,97,897
Jharkhand	5608	13731,75,624
Karnataka	761	8951,47,969
Gujarat	1627	8206,97,565
Haryana	2547	7405,27,133
Jammu and Kashmir	1185	5500,24,742
Kerala	478	4240,75,751
Punjab	738	3888,33,684
Arunachal Pradesh	293	2748,76,202
Tamil Nadu	676	2559,06,828
Telangana	128	2173,18,024
Assam	51	1993,63,857
Uttarakhand	410	1972,89,700
Chandigarh	608	1740,94,509
Tripura	202	1219,44,486
Himachal Pradesh	224	1212,39,958
Lakshadweep	126	746,13,703
Bihar	41	731,45,117
Daman and Diu	456	596,25,505
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	660	499,21,057

State/UT	Number of Transactions	Value (INR)
Odisha	285	442,18,419
Goa	28	417,12,456
Nagaland	6	280,09,942
Puducherry	193	249,19,041
Manipur	26	232,99,514
Meghalaya	7	127,07,254
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	63	96,04,941
Andhra Pradesh	17	47,01,280
Sikkim	4	27,01,061

Issues with Australia over subsidy on sugar

332. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Australia dragged India to the WTO citing that India has increased its subsidy on sugar by ten fold in the last six months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) to what extent will this have implications on prices and also trade in the global market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) In November 2018, Australia submitted a communication under provisions of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture (AoA) claiming that the Market Price Support provided by India to sugarcane for the years 2011-12 to 2016-17 was significantly in excess of the allowable limit of 10% of the total value of production of sugarcane. Australia circulated the counter notification, with calculations on support to sugarcane by India stating that these were based on information available in the public domain and claimed that India was in breach of its WTO commitments.

(c) In the meeting of WTO Committee on Agriculture held on 26-27 November 2018, India refuted the claims made by Australia. It was emphatically stated that India does not provide any trade distorting support. The measures taken by India aim to