

Conditions diluting indian interests under RCEP

2132. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of conditions diluting the Indian interests under Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement; and

(b) whether Government has protected the interests of farmers, micro, small and medium enterprises, textiles industry, dairy, drugs and chemical industries by rejecting the said agreement, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) During the 3rd RCEP Leaders Summit which was held on 4 November, 2019 in Bangkok, India stated that the current structure of RCEP did not reflect the RCEP Guiding Principles or address the outstanding issues and concerns of India, in the light of which India did not join consensus. The Government has held regular stakeholders' consultations with and received inputs from the domestic industry, exporters, trade experts, concerned Ministries/Departments and State Governments. These inputs were taken into consideration while formulating India's position in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations, with a view to achieving balanced outcomes, balancing ambitions with addressing domestic sensitivities including that of farmers, micro, small and medium enterprises, textiles industry, dairy, drugs and chemical industries.

National e-Commerce Policy

2133. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to incorporate any changes to the draft National e-Commerce Policy, including, but not limited to, those proposed by various stakeholders in consultative discussions or otherwise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is planning to release the updated final National e-Commerce Policy by the year end; and

- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) A draft National e-Commerce Policy covering various areas of e-Commerce has been prepared and placed for comments in public domain. Comments from various stakeholders have been received. Meetings have been held under the chairmanship of Minister for Commerce and Industry and by officials with industry stakeholders, e-Commerce companies, associations of kirana stores, traders and retailers to discuss matters relating to e-commerce. They had been asked for their inputs/suggestions on the draft e-Commerce Policy. Views/suggestions received are under consideration.

(c) and (d) The formulation of National e-Commerce Policy is under consideration of the Government, for which no timeline has been fixed.

Impact of RCEP

2134. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made an assessment of the impact of proposed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken a decision not to sign the said agreement;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government's decision would protect the interests of small entrepreneurs in India; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (f) With a view to assessing the impact of the proposed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement, the Government also held regular stakeholders' consultations and received inputs from the domestic industry, exporters, trade experts and concerned Ministries/Departments. These inputs were taken into consideration while formulating India's position in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership