GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2091 ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012 IMPORT OF PROCESSED FOOD PRODUCTS Nagar Shri Surendra Singh

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the import of processed food products is causing adverse effects on the country's Food Processing Industries (FPIs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of several Indian companies using the brand names of foreign companies for marketing their processed food products in violation of the norms;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against them; and
- (e) the remedial steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of Indian FPIs?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

- (a): This Ministry has not conducted any study on the impact of import of processed food products on the Country's Food Processing Industries.
- (b): Does not arise
- (c): Presently Indian companies are allowed to import technologies and use brand names of Foreign companies as per mutual agreement between the two companies. Import of technologies and using brand names of Foreign Companies help the Indian companies to improve the quality of their products and also consumer gets variety of choices, better quality and hygienic products.
- (d) & (e): Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) under the provisions of Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006 has been set up to lay down science based standards for articles of food and also regulate, inter-alia, its manufactures. The Food Authority is also mandated to promote consistency between International technical standards and domestic food standards while ensuring that the level of protection adopted in the country is not reduced. Moreover, to ensure compliance of the lay down standards by the food processing companies, inspection of such units at regular interval is done by the enforcement agencies under the Act. In case of any violations, penal/legal actions are taken against the defaulters as per relevant provisions of the Act.

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