

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:624

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013

. FDI NORMS IN SINGLE MULTI BRAND RETAIL

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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to relax guidelines/sourcing norms for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in single/multi-brand retail and telecom in order to attract more investment in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of concessions offered/likely to be given by the Government to the foreign retailers/companies along with the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of indian retailers/traders;
- (c) the details of FDI inflow in single/multi-brand retail after opening of the sector for FDI;
- (d) whether several countries/industrial houses have requested the Indian Government to simplify and further relax rules/norms of retail markets; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with names of such countries which have represented and follow-up action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN)

(a): No, Madam.

(b): The geographical spread of the FDI policy on multi-brand retail trading has been left to the discretion of the State Governments, such that they have the flexibility to allow or disallow the setting up of multi-brand retail stores depending upon their assessment of the impact on Indian retailers/traders. Further, a high-level group has been constituted under the Minister of Consumer Affairs to examine various issues concerning internal trade and to make recommendations as appropriate for internal trade reforms.

(c): The FDI inflow in single brand retail since April, 2006 to September, 2013 is US\$ 97.29 million. No proposal for multi-brand retail trade has been received so far.

(d) & (e): No request has been received from any particular country to simplify and further relax rules/norms for FDI in retail. However some requests for clarifications were received from investors. Government has provided the clarifications.