Government of India Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1473 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2017

MOBILE APP FOR PACKAGED PRODUCTS

1473. SHRI R. PARTHIPAN

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to launch a mobile app which includes details of packed products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has carried out any pilot studies/projects in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government is planning to increase the size of letters printed on small packaged items and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) & (b): Yes, in the interest of consumers, the Government, in cooperation with GS-1 India, has launched a new Mobile App "Smart Consumer" in December, 2016. Using the App, the consumers can scan the bar code on the package and read the product related information including the labelling information of a packaged commodity.
- (c) & (d): No pilot study/project was carried out in this regard.
- (e) : Yes, the size of the letters printed on pre-packaged commodities have been increased through an amendment in the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 vide GSR 629€ dated 23rd June, 2017. The said amendment will come into force w.e.f. 1st January, 2018 to enhance consumer protection.
