Fourteenth Loksabha

Session: 9
Date: 28-11-2006

Participants: Acharia Shri Basudeb

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Title: Situation arising out of recent agreement with Wal-Mart.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, the agreement between Wal-mart and Bharti Enterprises is in effect a backdoor entry of FDI in retail trade. FDI in retail trade is not permissible under the existing policy of foreign investment in India. This agreement is an attempt to circumvent the existing policy regulation to gain a foothold in the Indian market. It will definitely displace the retailers on a massive scale. This will also squeeze the domestic manufacturers and farmers because of the massive buying power of those companies.[r35]

This will definitely displace the retailers and also result in unemployment, particularly when we have massive unemployment problem in our country. This is nothing but a big backdoor entry. Only one brand is allowed in retail trade but what has happened yesterday is, FDI is allowed in the retail market. This would adversely affect lakhs and lakhs of our retail traders. Hence, I demand that the Government should intervene and to see that there is not backdoor entry of FDI in retail trade. Whatever has been done is to be prevented. I demand that the Government should take effective measures to prevent backdoor entry of FDI in the retail trade.

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : Thank you means that you should end your statement.यह इशारा है कि आप अपनी बात जल्दी समाप्त करें।