

Grassroots producers' benefits should be in consumer protection law.

(KPL) A new draft law on consumer protection will focus on the promotion of service sector but not concentrate on the production promotion of people in rural areas in the country, said a National Assembly member. National Assembly members debated the new draft law on consumer protection after Minister of Industry and Commerce, Dr Nam Viyaketh proposed the bill to the ongoing Ordinary Session of the National Assembly, last week.

Many kinds of products are produced by local people for market sale countrywide but some kinds of products of people will feel the pinch once the new law comes into force, said a National Assembly member from constituency one in Vientiane Capital, Dr Kikeo Khaykhamphithoune. He has commented that the significant law should take into account of the benefits of people in rural areas who rely on market-oriented production. Farmers who produce farm produces sell their produces with no proper sale licensee issued by Commerce authorities. That is the traditional simple way of life in the country.

However, we also will not able to evaluate the quality of their produces, said the NA member. Even though their produces are not of high quality, this does not mean that their produces would not reach standard or are not suitable for consumption, he said.

Given the current economic status in the country, consumers will be out of reach of high quality products meeting international standard, which is pricey for them. He said that the production and service issues should be considered since the problem is related to the economic development in the country. If the law protects consumers, it should also go well with the promotion of people's production, he added. He said that the law should promote the production movement countrywide and should consider the buying capacity of people against high quality products.