GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 198 ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 1ST DECEMBER, 2015

JUDICIOUS USE OF CSR RESOURCES

QUESTION

198. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has urged the corporate in the recently held CSR Compendium to use their resources more efficiently for the larger good of the society by increasing their CSR activities in a judicious manner and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of the efforts being made by the Government to guide the corporate for their responsible participation in CSR activities?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

- (a): While no CSR Compendium for the Corporates has been organised by the Ministry, the CSR provisions under the Companies Act, 2013, exhort eligible corporates to function in a socially responsible manner with the underlying spirit being to ensure use of scarce resources in a judicious manner for the greater good of Society.
- (b): Implementation of CSR by companies above specified threshold is a mandatory provision of the Companies Act, 2013. In order to facilitate effective implementation of CSR by companies, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs has (i) amended Schedule VII of the Act to ensure that a wide range of activities are permissible CSR activities; (ii) issued a clarificatory circular dated 18.06.2014 suggesting, inter-alia, liberal interpretation of Schedule VII; and (iii) issued amendments to the Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Rules, 2014, to (a) include 'expenditure on administrative overheads' for CSR as permissible CSR expenditure and (b) facilitate pooling of resources by companies to undertake CSR activities. All the above are available on the Ministry's website (www.mca.gov.in).
