GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2585 ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 22nd DECEMBER, 2015

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF CORPORATE HOUSES IN CSR ACTIVITIES OUESTION

2585. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has stressed the need for efficient implementation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities by corporate companies in the recently held CSR Compendium organised by India Incorporation, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to make corporate houses actively take part in their CSR activities for the benefit of society?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

- (a): The intention behind Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) provision in the Companies Act, 2013 is to 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. This intent of the law has been reiterated at various for a represented by Government.
- (b): 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).
