

(b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard;

(c) whether, as per this announcement, foreign big retail dealers would invariably be bound to purchase 30 per cent from small and medium enterprises; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

The decision on permitting foreign direct investment in multi brand retail trading has been suspended.

#### **Proposal for helping SMEs**

2859. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any proposal for helping SMEs to go for cloud computing by encouraging them with subsidy; and

(b) if so, the scale of subsidy demarcated to tiny, micro, small and medium enterprises so that all are helped in various levels and percentage?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Ministry of MSME has launched a scheme "Promotion of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in MSME sector" as part of National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP). The scheme provides financial assistance to encourage MSMEs towards adopting ICT tools and applications in their business processes. Inclusion of "Cloud Computing" under the above scheme and suitable subsidy is proposed. This can be an effective and affordable option to help ICT penetration among MSMEs.

#### **Procurement from SMEs**

2860. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are in a position to make use of the opportunity consequent on Government's decision to source at least 20 per cent of all Central Government procurement from SMEs;

(b) the details of selection procedures expected to be made and the enterprises which are likely to gain the most; and

(c) how Government would assure that the target of 20 per cent sourcing from SMEs is adhered to?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) will be applicable to the MSEs registered with District Industries Centres (DICs)/ Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) / Khadi & Village Industries Board (KVIB)/ Coir Board/ National Small Industries Corporation / Directorates of Handicrafts and Handloom or any other body specified by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. All such MSEs will gain from this policy.

(c) Every Central Ministry/ Department/ Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) shall set an annual goal for procurement from MSEs at the beginning of every financial year, with the objective of achieving an overall procurement of minimum 20 per cent of total annual purchases of products or services, produced or rendered by MSEs. Ministries/Departments/PSUs have to report the goals set with respect to procurement from MSEs and achievement made thereto in their respective Annual Reports. Those Ministries/Departments/ PSUs which do not meet the mandatory goal of Public Procurement Policy for MSE would be required to provide reasons thereof to the Review Committee which is headed by Secretary (Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises).

#### **Illegal mining**

2861. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking steps to deal with illegal mining in the country, with special emphasis on Goa and Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is looking to compensate or rehabilitate the locals effected by the activities of the illegal miners;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) The Central Government is responsible for ensuring the proper regulation and development of mineral resources in the country and to this extent the Parliament has enacted the Mines and Minerals