Regularisation of cluster development officers

†1016. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has asked the Khadi and Village Industries Commission to submit the service related report of Cluster Development Officers;

(b) if so, the date of receiving the said report in the Ministry;

(c) the reasons for not taking the decision regarding service of these officers, so far by the Ministry;

(d) whether these officers were selected on temporary basis; and

(e) if not, the reasons for not regularising them even after working for such a long time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (e) Under the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI), Cluster Development Executives (CDEs) are appointed by the Implementing Agencies (IAs) on contract basis for specific clusters for specific periods. These CDEs are not employees of KVIC or Government of India. KVIC has been directed to frame and implement a suitable Exit Policy for developed clusters which *inter-alia* takes care of their sustainability and future growth and to implement it within 2012-13. KVIC has also been asked to take cluster-wise individual decisions regarding continuation of CDEs or otherwise, having regard to the need and justification therefor, with a stipulation that no CDE in any developed cluster may be continued beyond 31.03.2013.

Decline in profit of MSME

1017. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises sector is facing production losses and decline in profit margin due to severe power crises and they want an open access to power and easing of licencing norms to facilitate electricity in industrial clusters;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.