

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Committee headed by Dr. C. Rangarajan, Chairman, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, has *inter-alia* recommended removal of levy obligation on sugar mills. The Committee has further recommended that the States which want to provide sugar under PDS may henceforth procure it from the market directly according to their requirement and may also fix the issue price. The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

(c) Some cane farmers have supported the proposal. The views of State Governments have been invited.

#### **Kelkar Committee's Recommendations to prune Subsidy Bill**

355. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has indicated that it will oppose Kelkar Committee's recommendations to prune the subsidy bill and has conveyed its opposition to the report to the Ministry of Finance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Kelkar panel painted a grim picture on fiscal front and recommended drastic cut in subsidy bill;

(d) whether the Ministry's opposition had forced Government to abandon a move to hike the price of PDS sugar for BPL families from Rs.13.50 to Rs.24; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Ministry of Finance *vide* Office Memorandum dated 25th October, 2012 has forwarded a copy of the actionable points of Kelkar Committee's Recommendations relating of Department of Food & Public Distribution and same is being examined.

(c) Kelkar Committee in its report has mainly emphasized on the need for adjusting price of petroleum products on regular basis as incremental steps towards eventual deregulation of diesel and on affordable level of subsidy on LPG and kerosene, increase in the Maximum Retail Price of urea, efficient system of foodgrains delivery and linking of Central Issue Price increases to Minimum Support Price increases.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

### **Expenditure on CSR**

356. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made it mandatory for corporate sector to spend two per cent of the companies' net profit under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the corporate sector has expressed their reservations/objections in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (d) Clause 135 of the Companies Bill, 2011, *inter-alia*, provides for the Boards of specified companies to spend atleast 2% of the average net profits (of last 3 years) in pursuance of the company's Corporate Social Responsibility(CSR) policy and in case of failure, to specify the reasons for not spending such amount in the Board's Report.

The provisions on CSR in the Companies Bill, 2011 were formulated also keeping in view the suggestions received from various stakeholders. The Hon'ble Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance which examined the Companies Bill, 2009 and the Companies Bill, 2011 has also recommended inclusion of these provisions in the Bill. The Ministry has not received any communication from any company expressing reservations/objections about the provision referred above.

### **Vanishing Companies**

357. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to make stringent provisions against those vanishing companies which were incorporated before the passing of Companies Bill, 2011 and are spread throughout the country, cheating the small investors by promising extremely high returns under various schemes;