

Technology centre network

2905. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding development of technology centre network proposed in the Budget for the year 2014-15; and

(b) the details with regard to the scheme of providing equity, quasi-equity, soft loans and other risk capital for start up companies by setting up a ₹ 10,000 cr. fund ?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA): (a) Government of India in the Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) have established 18 Technology Centres (earlier known as Tool Rooms and Technology Development Centres) to provide technological support to MSMEs. These Technology Centres (except one) have been established in collaboration with UNIDO, Government of Germany and Government of Denmark.

The Technology Centres provide support to MSMEs towards design and manufacturing of precision tools, dies, moulds, components and products etc. and technical consultancy for process and product development. These Centres also conduct technical training programmes to meet skilled manpower need of industries.

Considering the valuable services being rendered by the existing Technology Centres, Government have approved the “Technology Centre Systems Programme” under which the Technology Centres’ network is to be expanded and upgraded by establishing 15 new Technology Centres (TCs) in the country and upgrading the existing TCs with World Bank assistance. The total estimated cost of the programme is ₹ 2200 crores (including World Bank’s assistance of USD 200 million). The programme is to be implemented over a period of 6 years.

(b) In General Budget 2014-15, Government has proposed to establish a ₹ 10,000 crore Fund to act as a catalyst to attract private Capital by way of providing equity, quasi equity, soft loans and other risk capital for start-up companies and create a conducive eco-system for the venture capital in the MSME sector.

The scheme is yet to be prepared in consultation with the stakeholders, therefore, the question of furnishing the details does not arise.