

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Modalities adopted by private companies in escaping CSR**

*26. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether private companies are adopting clandestine modalities to escape Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has identified such operations/modalities adopted by companies and whether any action has been taken against them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) The provisions of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) under Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rules made thereunder have come into force only recently, *i.e.*, 01.04.2014. Companies are thus generally at a preliminary stage of undertaking CSR activities like setting up of CSR Committees and formulation of their respective CSR Policies by such Committees and their approval by the Board. Further, so far no such incident has come to the notice of the Government.

Veterans Commission

*27. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the timeline and terms of reference of the Veterans Commission to be set up by Government?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : President of India in his Address to the joint session of Parliament on 9.6.2014, *inter alia* mentioned that Government will appoint a Veterans Commission to address their grievances. The matter regarding setting up of the Commission is under consideration of the Government.

Privatisation of Air India

*28. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has any plan to privatise Air India;

(b) if so, the details of the policy, procedure and time-frame; and

(c) if not, how the Ministry proposes to clear the financial liabilities of Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU PUSAPATI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The Government has approved Air India's Turnaround Plan (TAP) and Financial Restructuring Plan (FRP) on 12.04.2012, that provides for infusion of additional equity by the Government, cost reduction and improved operational performance. The financial support approved under TAP from the Government is as under :

- (i) Induction of upfront equity of ₹ 6,750 crores.
- (ii) Equity for Cash deficit support of ₹ 4,552 crores from FY 2012-13 to FY 2017-18.
- (iii) Equity for already guaranteed aircraft loan of ₹ 18,929 crores till FY 2021.
- (iv) Government of India (GOI) Guarantee for repayment of Principal amount and payment of Interest on the Non-Convertible Debentures (NCDs) of ₹ 7400 crores proposed to be issued by Air India to the financial institutions, Banks, LIC and EPFO.

Till date, an amount of ₹ 15033 crores has been released as equity support to Air India. Further, as part of the TAP/FRP, Government has laid down performance milestones of Air India and constituted an inter Ministerial Oversight Committee to monitor the performance of Air India *vis-à-vis* milestones set in the TAP.

Rise in inflation rate

*29. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been unexpected rise in inflation rate during May and June 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would take concrete steps to bring down inflation and ease the life of common people; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The average annual inflation measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) moderated gradually