

- (iii) Instructions have also been issued to the Registrar of Companies to scrutinize the Balance Sheet and other records of the company who raise money through public issue and monitor the utilization of such funds.
- (iv) The Ministry has also undertaken preemptive measures aimed at sensitizing people through investors awareness programmes. These programmes are organized regularly in association with the three professional institutes—Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICAI) and Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) in various cities. Since 2012-2013, MCA has also started organizing such programmes in rural areas through CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd. an entity under Department of Electronics and Information Technology. 2897 such programmes were conducted during 2013-2014.

Legal backing for CSR compliance

1742. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Company Law does not have any provision for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) defaulters;
- (b) whether there are any plans to bring an amendment to the Bill to give CSR compliance a legal backing;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the estimated money that companies are likely to spend in 2014-15, public and private, sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 mandates every company above the given threshold levels to comply with Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) provisions of the Act, and to disclose contents of its CSR policy in its Board's Report. The penalty provision for non-compliance in this regard is prescribed under Section 134 (8) of the Act.

(b) and (c) Provisions for CSR compliance by companies, as prescribed under Section 135 of the Act, have the force of law.

(d) This is the first year of CSR implementation by companies under the Act. The likely amount of CSR expenditure for the year 2014-15 would be known only after the Annual Financial Statements are filed by companies due after September, 2015. It may be prudent to not speculate on the quantum of CSR expenditure at this stage.