Terms of Reference of the Committee *inter-alia* include issues relating to legal bankruptcy of MSMEs.

The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has also decided to amend the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006 by introducing a new chapter in the Act for providing a framework that will enable MSMEs to seek standard as well as customised relief and concession to revive and tide over difficult financial times, and also for providing an easier and expeditious exit procedure for the benefit of promoters and guarantors through liquidation and change in management.

## Central taxes on petroleum products

2593. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of central taxes imposed on petrol, diesel and LPG per litre/unit at present;
- (b) whether Government has increased duty on petrol and diesel by ₹1.50 per litre during second week of November, 2014;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government would review and withdraw the increase in central duties imposed recently in view of dipping international crude prices which would not benefit the common people if additional duties are imposed by the Central Government;
  - (e) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) The current rates of Basic Customs Duty and Central Excise Duties on petrol, diesel, and LPG are as under:

S1.	Product	Basic	Central Excise Duty
No.		Customs Duty	
1	2	3	4
1.	Petrol (unbranded)	2.5%	₹12.95 per litre [4.95 BED + 6 SAED + 2 AED]

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1	2	3	4
2.	Petrol (branded)	2.5%	₹14.10 per litre [6.10 BED + 6 SAED + 2 AED]
3.	HSD (unbranded)	2.5%	₹5.96 per litre [3.96 BED + 2 AED]
4.	HSD (branded)	2.5%	₹8.25 per litre [6.25 BED + 2 AED]
5.	LPG	5%	8% [BED]

BED: Basic Excise Duty
AED: Additional Excise Duty
SAED: Special Additional Excise Duty

Written Answers to

In addition, Education Cess @ 2% and Secondary and Higher Education Cess @ 1%, by way of surcharge, are also applicable both on imported and domestic petrol, diesel and LPG.

However, LPG for supply to household domestic consumers or Non-Domestic Exempted Category (NDEC) customers by IOCL, HPCL or BPCL is exempt both from Basic Customs Duty and Basic Excise Duty.

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) Notification No.22/2014-Central Excise, dated 12th November 2014 was issued so as to increase the Basic Excise Duty (BED) on:
  - (i) Unbranded petrol from ₹1.20 per litre to ₹2.70 per litre;
  - (ii) Branded petrol from ₹2.35 per litre to ₹3.85 per litre;
  - (iii) Unbranded diesel from ₹1.46 per litre to ₹2.96 per litre; and
  - (iv) Branded diesel from ₹3.75 per litre to ₹5.25 per litre.

The increase in excise duty on petrol and diesel has been effected, *inter alia*, taking into consideration the continued fall in international prices of crude and thereby petrol and diesel.

- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Do not arise in view of reply to part (d) above.
- (f) The present circumstances do not warrant a change in the excise duty structure on petrol and diesel.

## Cut in expenditure on social sector

2594. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has cut the expenditure on social sectors in revised estimates;