THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Corporate Affairs constituted a High Level Committee on 3rd February, 2015 to suggest measures for monitoring the progress of implementation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policies by companies. The terms of reference of the Committee being as follows:

(i) To recommend suitable methodologies for monitoring compliance of the provisions of Section 135 (Corporate Social Responsibility) of the Companies Act, 2013 by the companies covered thereunder.

(ii) To suggest measures to be recommended by the Government for adoption by the companies for systematic monitoring and evaluation of their own CSR initiatives.

(iii) To identify strategies for monitoring and evaluation of CSR initiatives through expert agencies and institutions to facilitate adequate feedback to the Government with regard to efficacy of CSR expenditure and quality of compliance by the companies.

(iv) To examine if a different monitoring mechanism is warranted for Government Companies undertaking CSR, and if so to make suitable recommendations in this behalf.

(v) Any other matter incidental to the above or connected thereto.

(c) and (d) The Committee has submitted its report alongwith its recommendations on 22nd September, 2015. The report including the recommendations of the committee has been placed in the public domain on the Ministry's website (*www.mca.gov.in*).

Deliberations between ICAI, ICSI and ICoAI on MDP firms

991. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress of deliberations between ICAI, ICSI and ICoAI on the issue of Multi-Disciplinary Partnership (MDP) firms are as per targets set in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor along with the steps being taken by the Government to expedite the matter;

(c) the time by which such deliberations are proposed to be finalised;

(d) what measures are taken to popularise the concept of MDP firms and Limited Liability Partnerships in India; and

(e) whether MDP firms initiatives are limited to three professional bodies (ICAI, ICSI and ICoAI) and whether the coverage is not being extended to MBAs, Engineers etc.?

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The modalities of setting up Multi-Disciplinary Partnership (MDPs) of their members are under discussion amongst the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) and the Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICAoI).

(c) and (d) The councils of the three professional institutes are yet to take a final decision in the matter.

(e) MDPs are, in principle, not limited to the three aforesaid institutes.

Indigenisation in defence sector

†992. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Ministry of Defence so far to promote indigenisation in defence production;

(b) the details of foreign and domestic companies which have shown interest in this regard; and

(c) the outcome of this campaign so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) 1. The Government has promulgated Defence Production Policy in 2011 in order to promote indigenisation in defence sector. The policy aims at achieving substantive self-reliance in the design, development and production of equipment, weapon systems, platforms required for defence in as early a time frame as possible; creating conditions conducive for the private industry to take an active role in this endeavour; enhancing potential of SMEs in indigenisation and broadening the defence R&D base of the country. In pursuance of the Policy, the Government has taken several steps to build strong defence industrial base which are given as below:-

(i) FDI policy has been revised in Nov 2015 under which Foreign Investment upto 49% is allowed through automatic route and above 49% under Government route on case-to-case basis, wherever it is likely to result in access to modern and 'state-of-art' technology in the country.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.