

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Regulation of salaries of Directors/MDS of listed companies**

*166. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to reports that a number of publicly listed companies are not paying dividend to their shareholders while offering very high salaries to the promoter Directors and MDs even though the balance sheet is in the red;

(b) if so, whether Government will consider regulating the salaries of the promoter Directors/MDs by putting a cap on such outgo, and by limiting salary revision to the years in profit; and

(c) whether Government will consider making the companies pay minimum dividend to small shareholders for whom the dividend is main source of income?

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The total managerial remuneration payable by a public company, including a public listed company, to its directors, including managing director and whole time director, and its manager, is regulated under sections 197 to 200 read with Schedule V of the Companies Act, 2013 (the Act) and the rules made thereunder. In respect of any financial year, the overall remuneration payable by a company to all its directors, shall not exceed eleven per cent of the net profits of the company for that financial year. In case of losses or inadequacy of profits, the remuneration may be paid, without approval of Central Government, provided it is within the limits prescribed, and subject to conditions specified in the Act and the rules thereunder. If the company is not able to comply with such provisions, then it may be paid only with the previous approval of the Central Government.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of Government.

Investment of pension funds in stock market

*167. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering the proposal to raise investment limit of pension funds in stock market to 50%, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is in line with the recommendations of the Bajpai Committee to review investment guidelines for National Pension System;