

Incentives to develop ease of doing business

1451. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has committed to give a helping hand to the developing States which are striding on ease of doing business, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government of Jharkhand has requested the Central Government to extend all the necessary help to the State for its development, the details thereof; and

(c) the incentives and the opportunities being given to Jharkhand for its development, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Government is committed to give a helping hand to States, so that India's business regulatory environment can be further improved.

Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion organized a Brain Storming Session on 16th November 2016 to discuss "Assessment of State Implementation of Business Reforms, 2017" on the following issues:

- (i) Suggestions on next set of reforms-Addition, Deletion and Modification
- (ii) Evaluation methodology for the ranking
- (iii) Incorporation of private sector feedback on the implemented reforms

Further, States with more than 90% implementation of reforms have been requested to handhold and guide the reform process in States/UTs with less than 40% implementation of reforms as detailed below:—

Sl. No.	Partner States (with more than 90% implementation score)	States (with less than 40% implementation score)
1	2	3
1.	Telangana	Tripura
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Kerala and Puducherry
3.	Gujarat	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Andaman and Nicobar Island
4.	Chhattisgarh	Mizoram
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Daman and Diu

1	2	3
6.	Haryana	Meghalaya
7.	Jharkhand	Sikkim
8.	Rajasthan	Lakshadweep
9.	Uttarakhand	Assam
10.	West Bengal	Nagaland
11.	Odisha	Manipur
12.	Bihar	Arunachal Pradesh
13.	Punjab	Jammu and Kashmir and Chandigarh
14.	Maharashtra	Goa

These States have been requested to provide technical guidance and arrange workshops to ensure the implementation of reforms. This handholding will not only has ten business reform implementation across the country, it will also help States to learn from each other.

(b) and (c) Central Government has been assisting all States/UTs through many ways, which include organizing workshops and video conferences for better understanding of reform measures, facilitate learning from each other as well as sharing of good practices. Jharkhand has been participating in such interactions and necessary assistance and way forward has been provided by the Central Government for implementation of reforms and improving the regulatory environment of the State.

Squeeze on H1-B Visa by the US

1452. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) has made a plea to the Central Government to take up the issue of squeeze on H1-B Visas with the Trump administration of the US; and

(b) if so, the response of the Ministry to NASSCOM's plea and the details regarding protection of the interest of India's IT sector in the US?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India is actively pursuing with United States (U.S.) and India's concern on Visa issues were articulated during Strategic and Commercial Dialogue 2016 as well as Trade Policy Forum 2016 held with U.S. During Trade Policy Forum held in