

Replacement of Mahatma Gandhi's picture in diaries and calendars

2337. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN:

SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mahatma Gandhi's picture has been replaced with the picture of Prime Minister in its diaries and calendars by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC);

(b) whether the move has approval of the Ministry and the PMO;

(c) if not, from where KVIC derived authority/power to replace Mahatma Gandhi's photograph with PM's photograph; and

(d) what action the Ministry has taken on the errant officials in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The picture of the Mahatma Gandhi has not been replaced by KVIC in its diaries and calendars. There is no policy for mandatory use of photos of Mahatma Gandhiji on calendars and diaries of KVIC. Design and creative are prepared every year based on the requirements and developments that took place in KVI Sector. The Hon'ble Prime Minister's photograph was used on the cover page of the KVIC Diary and Calendar for 2017, since he was kind enough to grace the Khadi event held at Ludhiana (Punjab) where he distributed 500 Charkhas to the Khadi artisans and the photograph of the event was carried on the Diary and Calendar as a source of encouragement to the KVI Sector. During the years (1996, 2002, 2005, 2011, 2013 and 2016), the cover page of the KVIC Diary did not carry the photograph of Mahatma Gandhiji.

(b) The guidelines of the Government with regard to publication of Hon'ble Prime Minister's photograph have been duly followed by KVIC.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Impact of demonetisation on MSMEs

2338. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any serious note on the difficulties faced by MSME units in the country in dealing with daily wage labourers after the demonetisation announcement;