

(c) the extent to which the new definition would help the MSME sector in 'Ease of Doing Business', particularly in Assam and other North-Eastern States;

(d) whether Government feels that the sector can create job opportunities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) and (b) The Union Cabinet has approved a revised definition of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises based on annual turnover in place of the earlier definition based on investment in plant and machinery/equipments. In the changed criterion, a micro enterprise is defined as an enterprise where the annual turnover does not exceed five crore rupees, a small enterprise as an enterprise where the annual turnover is more than five crore rupees but does not exceed seventy five crore rupees and a medium enterprise as an enterprise where the annual turnover is more than seventy five crore rupees but does not exceed two hundred and fifty crore rupees.

(c) The new definition aims to promote the ease of doing business by putting in place a non-discretionary, transparent and objective criterion.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) As per the data received from the 73rd round of the National Sample Survey on "Unincorporated non-agricultural Enterprise (excluding Construction)", conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, during July, 2015 to June, 2016, the total number of MSMEs in the country was 633.88 lakh and the total employment in this sector was to the tune of 1109.89 lakh.

Credit inflow to entrepreneurs in MSME sector

3783. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that credit inflow to the entrepreneurs in MSME sector has been found to be inadequate;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the employment opportunities have been adversely affected due to inadequate inflow of funds in general in Assam and other North-Eastern States in particular; and

(d) if so, what remedial action has been taken by government to safeguard the MSME sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) and (b) The details of the outstanding credit to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) during the last three years furnished by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are as under:—

*Outstanding credit to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises by
Scheduled Commercial Banks*

As on	MSE (Amount O/s)	Medium (Amount O/s)
March 31, 2015	961174.17	209851.88
March 31, 2016	996424.94	219582.17
March 31, 2017	1070129.48	226269.34

Source: As reported by Reserve Bank of India.

(c) and (d) Efforts have been stepped up by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) to support generation of employment opportunities under the PMEGP (Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme) in the country including North Eastern Region. Other important initiatives of the Ministry of MSME to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are briefly indicated below:—

- (i) Enhancement of loan coverage under CGTMSE (Credit Guarantee Trust Fund for MSEs), from ₹ 1 crore to ₹ 2 crore.
- (ii) Infrastructure and technological support under Cluster Development Programme.
- (iii) SFURTI (Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries) and ASPIRE (A Scheme for Promotion of Innovation, Rural Industry and Entrepreneurship).
- (iv) Support for market access development under MDA Scheme and procurement policy.

Public procurement policy

3784. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Public Procurement Policy effective from 1st April, 2012, all the Central Ministries/PSUs or Government Departments must procure 20 per cent of their annual requirement from the MSMEs;

(b) if so, whether the said Departments are following this policy in letter and spirit; and