

**Lack of Technology in MSME Sector**

2360. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lack of access and investment in technology hinders the ability of MSMEs to compete in global markets; and

(b) 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 ability of an enterprise to compete in the global market depends on various factors which include access to finance, technology and markets. The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) implements various schemes to promote access of MSMEs to finance, technology and markets. These schemes include the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme, Interest Subvention Scheme, Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme, Micro and Small Enterprises-Cluster Development Programme and Marketing Development Assistance Scheme.

**Revival of MSME sector**

2361. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) which were shut down during the years 2017 and 2018, till date after demonetisation; and;

(b) the steps taken by Government to revive the MSME sector which was worst hit by demonetisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) As per the information received from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), stressed accounts referred to the Corrective Action Plan Committees during the half-year ended March 31, 2017 and September 30, 2017 are 1,00,803 and 87,062, respectively and the number of sick MSMEs as on March 31, 2016 was 4,86,291.

(b) As per the preliminary assessment of the impact of demonetisation brought out by the RBI, the adverse impact had been only transient. The Ministry of MSME has taken following steps for promotion and development of MSMEs:

— Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).

- Cluster Development Programme.
- Interventions for Aspirational Communities and Areas: SC-ST Hub, Scheme for Promotion of MSMEs in N.E. Region and Sikkim etc.
- Tool Rooms and Technology Centres.
- Mission Solar Charkha (MSC).
- Launch of MSME-Sambandh, a new portal to monitor the implementation of Public Procurement from MSEs.
- MSME Samadhaan portal to enable micro and small entrepreneurs to directly register their cases relating to delayed payments.
- SFURTI scheme of the Ministry of MSME to provide support to the artisans.
- Procurement and Marketing Support Scheme to enhance the marketability of products and services in the MSME sector.
- Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programme (ESDP) to upgrade skills of prospective entrepreneurs, existing workforce and also develop skills of new workers and technicians of MSEs.
- Credit Guarantee Scheme for enhance the collateral free loan to MSEs.

**Reduction of sales, production and job opportunities in Khadi sector**

2362. SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sales, production and the job opportunities has been reduced in Khadi sector during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) what steps Government has taken to modernise the Khadi sector; and

(d) how many new institutes have been set up under Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in last three years including in the State of Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Sales, production and job opportunities in Khadi sector during the last three years are as follows, which shows an increasing trend of Khadi and Village Industries Sector:—