

of selling the assets back to NHAI, undertaking revamp of the brownfield projects or terminating the toll contract, is to be dealt on case to case basis as per the provisions of the concession agreements as and when such situation arises.

(c) No such case has been reported in any of the existing concessions of NHAI.

Creation of employment opportunities under MSMEs

*27. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIHAH: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action taken by Government for creation of the employment opportunities under Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the country;

(b) whether any traditional industry has been supported by the Ministry; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) Employment generation in MSME sector cuts across different Ministries of the Government of India. Various Ministries are implementing Schemes leading to job creation in their respective verticals. Ministry of MSME is implementing the following Schemes for enterprise creation and job generation:—

- (i) **Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP):** This is a credit-linked subsidy programme aimed at generating self-employment opportunities through establishment of micro-enterprises in the non-farm sector by helping traditional artisans and unemployed youth. The Scheme was launched during 2008-09. A total of 5.45 lakh micro enterprises have been assisted with a margin money subsidy of ₹ 12074.04 crore, providing employment opportunities to an estimated 45.22 lakh persons since PMEGP's inception till 31.03.2019.
- (ii) **Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI):** It is a cluster-based scheme for development of khadi, village industries and coir clusters by providing them with improved equipments, common facilities centres, business development services, training, capacity building and design and marketing support, etc. SFURTI Scheme has been revamped in 2015. A total of 34,791 artisans have been benefited with an assistance of ₹ 143.15 crore during 2018-19.

- (iii) **A Scheme for Promotion of Innovation, Rural Industry and Entrepreneurship (ASPIRE):** It was launched on 18.3.2015 to set up a network of incubation centres to accelerate entrepreneurship and also to promote start-ups for innovation and entrepreneurship in agro-industry. Under ASPIRE, 74 Livelihood Business Incubation (LBI) centres and 11 Technology Business Incubators have been approved since inception of the scheme.
- (iv) **Coir Board:** Ministry of MSMEs, through Coir Board, is also implementing various Schemes/programmes to assist entrepreneurs to set up new Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in all coconut producing States. Under Coir Vikas Yojna, 36,30,653 employment opportunities have been created since 2014-15 till 2018-19 in the Coir Sector.
- (v) **Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE):** The scheme facilitates credit to the MSE units by covering collateral-free credit facility (term loan and/or working capital) extended by eligible lending institutions to new and existing micro and small enterprises. The Scheme has extended guarantee cover to over 35 lakh enterprises leading to approx. 1.34 crore employment generation. During F.Y. 2018-19, a total of 4,35,520 proposals have been approved providing guarantee to a tune of ₹ 30,168 crore.
- (vi) **Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS):** CLCSS facilitates technology upgradation of small scale industries, including agro and rural industrial units by providing 15% upfront capital subsidy (limited to maximum of ₹ 15.00 lakhs). Since inception of the scheme in 2000-01 till date, a total of 62,827 MSE units have been assisted utilizing subsidy of ₹ 3888.13 crore.
- During 2018-19 a total of 14,155 MSE units have been assisted utilizing subsidy of ₹ 980.44 crore.
- (vii) **Micro and Small Enterprises-Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP):** The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India (GoI) has adopted the Cluster Development approach as a key strategy for enhancing the productivity and competitiveness as well as capacity building of Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) and their collectives in the country. A cluster is a group of enterprises located

within an identifiable and as far as practicable, contiguous area and producing same/similar products/services. During 2018-19, 17 Common Facility Centres and 11 Infrastructure Development projects have been established.

(viii) **Technology Centre Systems Programme (TCSP):** Under TCSP programme, the Ministry of MSME is in the process of establishing 15 new technology centres (TCs) and upgrading/modernising the existing 18 TCs at an estimated cost of ₹ 2,200 crore including World Bank funding of USD 200 million. These Technology Centres are being established to assist MSMEs in their skilling and technological needs especially in high-end technologies. The 18 existing TCs have skilled 2.08 lakh people, creating job opportunities for them.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Traditional Industries like Khadi, Coir, Rural, agro based industries etc. are being supported by the Ministry through schemes like PMEGP, SFURTI on regular basis. Ministry of MSMEs also provides necessary handholding and guidance and encourages entrepreneurs to set up industries in the traditional sector.

Forest fires in the country

*28. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of forest fire that took place during the last three years and the current year, in the country, State-wise and forest-wise;

(b) the details of total loss of forest property and including number of wild animals killed during the same period; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) Forest Fires do occur every year during summer due to various natural and anthropogenic reasons including accumulation of inflammable materials such as dry leaves, twigs, pine needles etc. Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, disseminates the satellite based forest fire alerts to the State Forest Departments and other registered mobile users whenever forest fires are detected for control of fire. The details of forest fire alerts issued to all State/Union Territory Forest Departments during the last three years is given in Statement-I (*See* below).