

and services sector and amend the provisions of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act to do away with the current system of classifying units based on the capital deployed in plant and machinery and to make turnover of units as basis for classification; and

(b) if so, the reasons for replacement of investment based system and amendment of current system of classification and the details of the new proposed system of classification of units and provisions to end the difference between the manufacturing and the services sector?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) A bill to seek amendment to the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006, for change in the criterion of classification of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises from 'investment in plant and machinery/equipments' to 'turnover' was introduced in the Parliament. The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (Amendment) Bill, 2018, is deemed to have lapsed on dissolution of the Sixteenth Lok Sabha on 25.05.2019.

Launching of Bharat craft

1551. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to launch Bharat Craft, an e-commerce portal, on the lines of Alibaba and Amazon, if so, details and objective thereof behind the move;

(b) whether this e-commerce portal will provide a platform for MSMEs to market and sell their products and boost sector, if so, details thereof;

(c) details regarding potential of this portal in terms of revenue generation in coming years;

(d) number of days likely to be cut down after usage of portal for orders to be delivered; and

(e) other steps proposed by Government to make this portal competitive with three big players?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) National Small Industries Corporation, a PSU under the

Ministry of MSME already has a B2B MSME Global Mart Portal and efforts have been made to further strengthen activities under it. The salient features of the portal include online registration, web store management, multiple payment options, customer support through Call Centre and enhanced security features.

(d) and (e) The revenue generation from the portal will depend on membership of the portal.

Competitive advantage of SMEs in global market

1552. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) engaged in developing countries, normally produce traditional items of inferior quality accompanied with low productivity and they mainly cater to the small local markets and that an accelerated technical change for making the SMEs to establish a competitive advantage in the global market is difficult; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) MSMEs contribute 29.7% of GDP and 49.66% of Indian Exports. Government has taken various initiatives to enhance the competitiveness of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through schemes such as Credit Linked Capital Subsidy and Technology Upgradation Scheme (CLCS-TUS), Micro and Small Enterprises - Cluster Development Programme, Procurement and Marketing Support and support for MSMEs to participate in international exhibitions / trade fairs, conferences / summits/ workshops.

MSME units associated with auto industry

†1553. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) units associated with auto industry are going through a period of great crisis;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that a substantial number of labourers working in these industries are on the brink of starvation;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.