

Weeding out ghost directors

1615. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 21 lakh company directors have failed to register for eligibility;
- (b) whether the ID numbers are to be frozen for those missing the deadline;
- (c) whether non-compliance could be due to a large number of ghost directors;
- (d) whether drivers and domestic helps have been found to be registered directors; and
- (e) whether it is also a fact that weeding out ghost directors is part of the crackdown on shell companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As on 28.11.2019, 19,40,313 DINs have been deactivated due to non-filing of Know Your Client (KYC).

(c) to (e) The terms "Ghost Directors" and "Shell Companies" are not defined in the Companies Act, 2013. However, during the Financial Year 2017-18 and 2018-19, Registrar of Companies (ROCs) had struck off 3,38,963 companies u/s 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 for failing to file Financial Statements or Annual Returns and total number of 4,24,454 directors were disqualified under the provisions of section 164(2)(a) read with Section 167(1) of the Companies Act, 2013. The MCA 21 database does not contain information regarding employment details of directors/DIN holders.

Cases pending with Registrar of Companies and Regional Directorate

†1616. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many cases are pending with Registrar of companies and Regional Directorate eventually to be sent to Serious Fraud Investigation Office;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the zone-wise and Regional Director-wise number of pending cases at present;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.