GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 816 ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 27th JULY, 2021

CSR TOWARDS MITIGATION OF COVID-19 CRISIS IN THE COUNTRY

QUESTION

816. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been an increase in the expenditure from public sector and private sector companies from their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds towards mitigation of the COVID-19 crisis in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the activities carried out from the CSR funds during the last 15 months; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any special step to incentivise the companies to increase the utilisation of the CSR funds for the COVID-19 crisis?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

[RAO INDERJIT SINGH]

(a) to (c): As per the Companies Act, 2013 ('Act') companies are required to hold Annual General Meeting (AGM) within six months from the end of financial year. Thereafter, financial statements and board report containing disclosure about CSR, are to be filed in MCA21 within 30 days of the AGM. Thus, the CSR data for the Financial Year 2020-21 is not available and filings for Financial Year 2021-22 are required to be made only after the end of current financial year.

Ministry vide General Circular no.10/2020 dated 23.03.2020 had clarified that CSR funds may be spent by the companies for various activities related to COVID-19. Further, Ministry vide General Circulars no.05/2021 and 09/2021 dated 22.04.2021 & 05.05.2021 respectively, had also clarified that spending of CSR funds for setting up makeshift hospitals and temporary COVID care facilities and 'creating health infrastructure for COVID care', 'establishment of medical oxygen generation and storage plants', 'manufacturing and supply of Oxygen concentrators, ventilators, cylinders and other medical equipment for countering COVID-19' are eligible CSR activities.
