CSR FUNDS FOR RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

QUESTION

3647. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:
Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make a law to ensure that the funds under corporate social responsibility (CSR) are used for rural infrastructure, housing, construction of hospital buildings and roads etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the heads on which funds are being spent under CSR at present and the present provisions regarding CSR?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS

(SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): No, Madam. However, section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 (‘The Act’) requires every company, above the specified threshold of turnover or net worth or net profit, to spend at least two per cent of the average net profits earned during three immediate preceding financial years, on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Schedule VII of the Act enlists the activities that can be undertaken by the companies under their CSR policies. Rural infrastructure, housing, construction of hospital buildings and roads can be taken up under the heads ‘rural development’ under item no. (x) of the Schedule VII of the Act.

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