3793. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:
Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
(a) whether the Government had set up any high level panel to suggest measures for improved monitoring of implementation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policies by companies;
(b) if so, the details thereof along with composition of panel;
(c) whether the said panel has submitted its report;
(d) if so, the details of the salient features of the recommendations; and
(e) if not, the time by which the panel is likely to submit its report along with the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government on such recommendations?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (e): A High Level Committee (HLC), was constituted on 3rd February, 2015 by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs under the Chairmanship of Shri Anil Baijal, former Union Secretary, to suggest measures for improved monitoring of implementation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policies by companies. The Committee had submitted its report on 22nd September, 2015. The constitution of the Committee and its report, including the recommendations, have been placed in the public domain on the Ministry's website (www.mca.gov.in). The Committee had recommended certain changes in the provisions of the Act and Rules, in addition to recommendations for monitoring of implementation of CSR initiatives. While the Committee's recommendations that the Board and the CSR Committee should be managing the monitoring of their own CSR at their level, and that Government should have no role to play in engaging external experts in monitoring the quality and efficiency of CSR expenditure of Companies does not envisage any specific action on the part of the Ministry, the Ministry has included amendments of
Section 135 in the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2016, issued a set of FAQs and instituted the Annual ‘National CSR Award’.

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