GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1756 ANSWERED ON MONDAY, THE 13TH FEBRUARY, 2023 [MAGHA 24, 1944 (SAKA)]

STATUTORY AUDITORS

QUESTION

1756. SHRI VELUSAMY P.:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is having any proposal to ban statutory auditors from taking up non-audit work on public interested companies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is having any proposal to implement joint-audit for all companies;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has invited comments/opinions from Institute of Chartered Accountants in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE 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 (e): Pursuant to the Section 144 of the Companies Act, 2013 (Act) [Auditor not to render certain services], auditors are not allowed to provide certain non-audit services to the company or its holding company or subsidiary company. Section 139(3) of the Act allows the members of a company to resolve to provide that the audit shall be conducted by more than one auditor.

The Company Law Committee in its Report (2022) has given certain recommendations on these issues, on which public comments were invited. The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India has provided comments on the recommendations.
