GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 81 ANSWERED ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2021/ AGRAHAYANA 8, 1943 (SAKA)

CSR SPENT ON COVID CRISIS

QUESTION

81. DR. T. SUMATHY (a) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN: SHRI D.M. KATHIR ANAND: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of aggregate spending by the Public Sector Units and non-Public Sector Units on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR);

(b) whether the Government has received any contribution from PSUs and Non PSUs for the management of Covid crisis since March 2020

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount received from Public Limited and Private Limited Companies for Covid care and management and the details of the expenditure incurred thereon during the said period?

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): The Government provides the broad framework for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) through Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 ('Act'), Schedule VII of the Act and Companies (CSR Policy) Rules, 2014. The CSR architecture is disclosure based and CSR mandated companies are required to file details of CSR activities annually in MCA21 registry which is available in public domain at <u>www.csr.gov.in</u>. As per the filings made by the Companies in the MCA21 registry, the aggregate CSR spent by various public and private sector companies during the financial year 2014-15 to 2020-21 is given below:

Nature of Company	Total Amount Spent (Rs. in crores)
Public Sector Under-takings (PSUs)	23987.07
Non-PSUs	85705.17
Grand Total	109692.24

(Data upto 30.09.2021) [Source: National CSR Data Portal]

(b) to (d): Schedule VII of the Act indicates the eligible list of activities that can be undertaken by the companies as CSR. The Ministry vide General Circular No. 14/2021 dated 25th August, 2021 clarified that items mentioned in Schedule VII are broad based and can be interpreted liberally. Further, 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 under item no. (i) and (xii) promoting healthcare including preventive healthcare and sanitation, and disaster management respectively. Furthermore, vide General Circulars no. 05/2021, 09/2021 and 13/2021 dated 22.04.2021, 05.05.2021 & 30.07.2021 respectively, Ministry 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' and COVID-19 vaccination for persons other than the employees and their families, are eligible CSR activities.

Under the Act, CSR is a Board driven process and the Board of the company is empowered to plan, decide, execute and monitor CSR activities of the company based on the recommendation of its CSR Committee. The Government does not issue any directions in this regard.
