

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4464
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2012
OPERATIONAL AUTONOMY TO PSUS
Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether top Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have asked for an 'Empowered Group of Secretaries' under the PMO to be constituted for each sector so that the respective PSUs can approach on important strategic decisions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether PSUs have sought more operational freedom; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b) : The Chief Executives of more than 20 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), under the aegis of Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE), met Prime Minister on 23rd October, 2012 along with senior Ministers and Government officials. In the presentation made during the meeting on behalf of all CPSEs, it was presented that as CPSEs are answerable to multiple bodies, no single point ownership is identifiable and it was suggested that an 'Empowered Group of Secretaries' under the aegis of PMO may be constituted for every sector.

(c) and (d) ; The other suggestions made on behalf of CPSEs include,

- (i) treating CPSEs as a commercial entity and not as a Government department,
- (ii) implementation of existing guidelines regarding vigilance clearance to CPSE executives in letter and spirit,
- (iii) exclusion of CPSEs from ambit of Article 12 of the constitution,
- (iv) constitution of Committee of Secretaries to resolve issues related to Coal, Power and Environment & Forests,
- (v) simpler and shorter procedure for selection to Board level posts in CPSEs and
- (vi) greater autonomy to Boards of CPSEs in employee related issues, etc. It has been decided to take up all personnel and operational issues of the CPSEs to ensure that these are resolved.