GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5147 TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2018

Appointment of Women Board of Directors in BHEL

5147. SHRI GANESH SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to review corporate governance rules for listed companies in the country to increase the representation of women at the level of Board of Directors in Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures being taken to groom them to reach the level of Board of Directors in BHEL; and
- (d) the details of women members who are involved in decision making process?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a) and (b): Section 149 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the corresponding Rules, and Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015 stipulates that the Board of Directors of every listed company of prescribed class to have at least one woman Director in its Board. Accordingly, BHEL being a listed entity on the BSE Ltd. and National Stock Exchange of India Ltd., is currently having a woman Independent Director on its Board.

Presently, there is no such proposal to review the corporate governance rules so as to increase the representation of women at the level of Board of Directors in BHEL.

- (c): BHEL nominates its women Executives for attending various workshops, seminars and training programs for honing their skills in leadership, behavioural and technical aspects. This also facilitates them in sharing experiences, confidence building and gearing up for taking responsibilities at higher levels.
- (d): There are presently 239 regular women employees in BHEL who have risen to the higher level of Deputy General Manager and above which are generally decision making levels in the Company. In some cases, such women employees hold positions as Sectional Heads/ Department Heads and Function Heads in their respective areas.
