

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, February 11, 2022/ 22 Magha, 1943 (Saka)

**(Ministries : Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Commerce and Industry;
Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Electronics and
Information Technology; Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; Food
Processing Industries; Heavy Industries; Railways; Textiles)**

Total number of questions -- 160

Decline in budget in agricultural education and research

1121 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the fund allocated, released and utilized by various States for promoting scientific research in agriculture and agricultural education during the last three years;
- (b) whether there is a steep decline of 57 per cent in budget allocation for the same during the last three years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reasons for steep decline in budget allocation for agricultural education and research?

MSP coverage for crops

1122 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of Minimum Support Price (MSP) coverage for all crops during the last three years;
- (b) whether there are crops for which MSP has been declared but not provided for the last three years, if so, the reasons therefor, crop-wise;
- (c) whether Government is taking steps to increase the coverage of MSP on all crops; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Achievements under PMKSY

1123 **Shri Jawhar Sircar:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the latest statistics of cropped area and percentage covered under different forms of irrigation, State wise;

- (b) the difference Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) has been able to achieve in irrigation, major gains, issues and problems outcome thereof, State-wise; and
 (c) the amount of Central assistance and expenditure for irrigation in the last three years under different irrigation schemes?

Making agriculture profitable

1124 **Shri N.R. Elango:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any initiatives to make agriculture profitable, economically viable and environmentally sustainable;
 (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Use of electronic media for educating farmers

1125 # **Shri Narhari Amin:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to educate the farmers through electronic media to make them aware of new techniques of agriculture and its related issues for their benefit;
 (b) whether Government proposes to impart training to farmers in view of the evolving methods of agriculture across the world and competition in agriculture sector; and
 (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Honey production in the country

1126 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is no accurate data on total honey production in the country;
 (b) if so, the details of the initiatives taken by Government in this regard; and
 (c) the details of bee farming beneficiaries for the last three years, State-wise?

Preservation of quality of native Indian seeds

1127 **Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any national level analysis of seed quality of native Indian crops and trees, if so, details thereof;
 (b) whether native seed supply to farmers features as part of India's biodiversity commitments under COP26, if so, details thereof;
 (c) amount sanctioned, disbursed, allotted and utilised for preserving and enhancing native seeds, State/UT-wise;
 (d) the steps taken to enhance availability of native seeds and improve their usage by farmers; and
 (e) whether enhancing indigenous species of trees is part of agroforestry and crop diversification efforts, if so, the amount disbursed and utilised for the same, State/UT/year-wise?

Identification of issues for increasing farmers income

1128 **Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are innumerable complicated issues identified by Government to increase the income of farmers from farming, if so, the core ten issues that may be easy to implement and bring in force for immediate relief to farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the high cost of labour, cost of diesel/petrol/electricity to operate farm equipment and water pumps, exploitation of farmers by wholesalers and mandi Samiti, high cost involved in cold storage of farm produce, transportation of farm produces, etc., are a few key issues of farmer's expenditure which require immediate relief from Government?

Spreading awareness on organic food

1129 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that food consumption behaviour and dietary habits among younger generation is changing and they want to eat right food and stay healthy;
- (b) whether this means that younger generation, if educated/made aware about organic food, will be inclined to have only organic food and thereby achieve twin objectives of increasing the farmers' income and keeping younger generation healthy and fit; and
- (c) if so, the efforts being made by Government in this direction?

Alternative sources of income for landless farmers

1130 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of landless farmers in the country, caste-wise;
- (b) the number of such farmers engaged in seasonal migration to industrial sector;
- (c) the measures taken to provide alternate sources of income support to these farmers;
- (d) whether Government is planning to provide a minimum landholding to all such farmers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether it is a fact that the number of land-owning farmers decreased significantly in the last five years; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Converting rural haats into mini APMCs

1131 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of rural haats converted to mini Agriculture Produce Market Committees (APMCs) or Gramin Agri Markets as per the declaration in 2018-19 union budget;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the delay in its implementation has been due to the faulty designing of this programme;
- (c) if so, the measures taken to rectify such errors;
- (d) the total number of APMCs in the country currently;
- (e) whether this number is sufficient to provide fair prices to all farmers according to the recommendations of MS Swaminathan Commission; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Assistance to floods affected farmers of Assam

1132 Ms. Sushmita Dev:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that farmers in Assam face huge loss of crops and livestock every year due to flooding of river Brahmaputra;
- (b) if so, whether Government has provided financial assistance to the affected farmers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of work being carried out under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) in Assam and West Bengal, district-wise?

Natural farming in Andhra Pradesh

1133 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is helping States for natural farming;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that almost 25 per cent of total natural farming in the country is being done in Andhra Pradesh alone;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which Government is planning to push natural farming in Andhra Pradesh in a big way;
- (d) the justification for giving just ₹ 7.5 crores when Andhra Pradesh has 25 per cent of total natural farming; and
- (e) the steps being taken to provide more funds for natural farming in Andhra Pradesh?

Adoption of modern technology to boost agricultural production

1134 Dr. C.M. Ramesh:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to promote modern agricultural technology amongst small and marginal farmers to boost agricultural production, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government also proposes to involve and use expertise of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to educate small and marginal farmers to leave old and out dated technology and adopt modern technology, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Implementation of schemes to boost farmers' income

1135 Dr. Anil Agrawal:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of schemes launched by Government to address the problems of farmers and boost their income;
- (b) the outcome of these schemes so far; and
- (c) the number of farmers benefitted by these schemes during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise, the details thereof?

Fair price for farmers' produces

1136 Dr. Anil Agrawal:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of proposed schemes to ensure that farmers get fair price for their produces; and

(b) the details of annual budget allocated for the welfare of farmers?

Legislation for guaranteed MSP

1137 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plans to bring in a legislation for guaranteed Minimum Support Price (MSP) in the country;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has any plan of re-introducing the three repealed farm laws in future;
- (d) whether Government has provided any compensation to the kin of deceased farmers who died during protests of the three farm laws; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Implementation of PM-KISAN yojana in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Punjab

1138 # Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Shri Brijlal:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of funds transferred by Government to farmer families, particularly small farmers through Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) yojana so far;
- (b) the number of instalments paid and the number of beneficiaries per instalment in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Punjab so far, district-wise and the number of farmers who are deprived of this scheme and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether complaints have been received regarding availing the benefits of the said scheme by ineligible persons in the country, especially from Uttar Pradesh; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Climate resilient agriculture in Bihar

1139 Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is implementing any scheme to promote climate resilient agriculture in Bihar, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether some districts of Bihar have been selected for climate-resilient agriculture, and if so, the parameters of such selection?

Legal guarantee for MSP

1140 Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prescribed any time limit for implementation of legal guarantee as assured to farm unions in December, 2021;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government would bring Bill for legal guarantee of Minimum Support Price (MSP) during the current budget session; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Pendency of claims under PMFBY

1141 **Shri Ripun Bora:**

Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount of premium collected in the country under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) during the last five years, especially in Maharashtra and Karnataka, year-wise;
- (b) the total value of claims made by farmers from the States, especially in Maharashtra and Karnataka and the total value of claims lying pending;
- (c) the average time taken in the settlement of such claims; and
- (d) steps being taken by Government to ensure payments of claims under PMFBY?

Contribution of agricultural universities in development of farm sector

1142 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of places where centrally-controlled/administered Agricultural Universities/colleges are located in the country, State-wise, along with the norms/criteria laid down for opening of new Agriculture University in the country; and
- (b) the contribution of Agriculture Universities in the development of agricultural sector and its research in the country during the last three years and the current year, year-wise?

Promoting agro forestry and horticulture

1143 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to promote agro forestry and horticulture in the country, particularly in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the steps taken by Government in this regard; and
- (d) the financial assistance provided for the purpose during the last five years and the current year, State-wise?

Drought in Odisha

1144 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has received any report from Government of Odisha regarding drought in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any expert team of the Central Government has visited the drought-affected districts of Odisha recently to take data of the crop damage;
- (d) whether the State Government has demanded any Central assistance to tackle this drought situation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of NAIS in Puducherry

1145 **Shri S. Selvaganabathy:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government of Puducherry is availing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) effectively;
- (b) if so, the number of farmers in Puducherry benefitted in the last five years;
- (c) the major crops for which the scheme is utilized by the farmers of Puducherry; and
- (d) the quantum of funds released in the last five years under the said scheme in Puducherry?

Implementation of MIDH scheme in Madhya Pradesh

1146 # **Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the requirements for new districts for inclusion in the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme;
- (b) the number of districts of Vindhya region in Madhya Pradesh which fulfill these requirements; and
- (c) the efforts made by Government to develop horticulture in Sidhi and Singrauli districts in Madhya Pradesh, the details thereof, district-wise?

Production of edible oil and oil palm

1147 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether oil palm is largely grown in tropical rainforests and it is precisely the reason why Indonesia and Malaysia have become leaders in oil palm production in the world;
- (b) whether it is a fact that average annual precipitation of water is more than 2,500 mm in Malaysia and Indonesia when compared to India's 1,000 mm;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that farmers are now shifting from oil palm cultivation to coconut; and
- (d) if so, the manner in which Government is going to make the National Mission on Edible Oil and Oil Palm a success?

Classification of big, medium and small farmers

1148 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any data and criteria are available to classify big, medium, small farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the criteria of segregating big, medium and small farmers; and
- (c) the number of benefits extended to such group of farmers?

Contract farming for tobacco growing farmers

1149 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed contract farming for tobacco growing farmers; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

Export and import of toys

1150 **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to increase the domestic production/ reduce imports of toys, as Indian toy industry is facing stiff competition from Chinese toys, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is planning to include toy industry under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme in the near future, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the value of exports and the percentage growth of this industry in the last three years, the details thereof?

Ease of Doing Business in India

1151 **Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reforms that the Centre and States have undertaken to improve the Ease of Doing Business in India in a State-wise manner;
- (b) the manner in which the Ease of Doing Business in India ranking is determined for the States; and
- (c) whether the Ease of Doing Business in India ranking for States need reforms, if so, why and how?

Schemes to help traditional coffee/tea growers and farmers

1152 **Shri Y. S. Chowdary:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government intends to bring any scheme to help the traditional coffee/tea growers and farmers to create additional revenue streams to make the growing process more sustainable and profitable;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of financial and technical assistance proposed to be extended to coffee growers for inter-cropping of pepper and cardamom, besides options such as planting exotic fruit bearing trees, dairy farming, beekeeping, etc.; and
- (d) if so, the details of States and districts where the focus is being paid and the amount spent so far?

Promotion of domestic business and international trade fairs by ITPO

1153 # **Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken by India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) to promote domestic business and international trade fairs;
- (b) the extent to which the management of physical infrastructure and services is being developed in business activities; and
- (c) the action plan of Economic Zone Units for the development of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) for creation of economic activities, promotion of exports and services and promotion of investment from domestic sources as well as to increase employment opportunities, the details thereof?

Contribution of agricultural export in GDP

1154 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the percentage of India's share in agricultural exports is very low and it contributes very less to the GDP, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether supply chain inefficiencies have hurt exports, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of total loss of agricultural produces due to wastage during the last five years?

Cement units in backward and rural areas

1155 # **Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of large, medium and small cement units presently located in backward and rural areas in the country, especially in Rajasthan;
- (b) the State-wise details of cement production during the last three years till date;
- (c) the total number of people employed in the said cement factories;
- (d) whether any proposal for setting up of a cement plant is under consideration of Government; and
- (e) if so, the State-wise details and the current status thereof?

Easing the process of filing patents

1156 **Shri Jose K. Mani:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any data regarding the patents filed in India over the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has noticed an increase in the patents filed by Indians in India over the last five years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has any plans/proposals to ease the process of filing patents in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details of the action taken in this regard?

Monitoring of major infrastructure projects by PMO

1157 **Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether PMO monitors major infrastructure projects on monthly basis to ensure that all such projects progress as per the timelines fixed;
- (b) if so, the major projects which are monitored by PMO and whether all projects are progressing as per the timelines fixed;
- (c) the projects which are running behind the schedule and the major reasons for the delay; and
- (d) whether PMO takes appropriate steps to ensure that such behind the schedule projects gain momentum?

Migration of foreign companies to India

1158 **Shri John Brittas:**

Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether global companies are closing their business in China and moving to other countries, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps including launching plans to bring those global business into the country and to take advantage of the said opportunity, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the number of companies which migrated from China to India during last year?

National Institute of Design at Jaipur

1159 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has plan to setup National Institute of Design at Jaipur;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons that due amount as per the terms of allocation of land has not been deposited in the account of Jaipur Development Authority; and
- (d) the action that has been taken in the previous one year in respect of establishment of National Institute of Design at Jaipur?

Subsidy on sugar exports

1160 **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India lost a disputed case in December, 2021 against a complaint filed by Brazil, Australia and Guatemala at World Trade Organisation (WTO) with regard to subsidies on sugar exports, wherein the latter alleged that India violated its obligations under Article 7.2(b) of the Agreement on Agriculture by providing export subsidies to sugarcane producers over the permitted amount, if so, Government's response thereon and the reasons for this allegation; and
- (b) whether it is a fact that WTO trade policy review of India in 2021 revealed a non-declaration of agri-export subsidies for over eight years, if so, the reasons therefor?

Predatory prices by E-commerce companies

1161 **Smt. Ambika Soni:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of E-commerce companies have been found to be indulging in predatory prices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken by Government to protect millions of small retailers from this illegal practice?

Operational SEZs

1162 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has given formal approval to 426 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the country but only 268 are operational till date;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is planning to allow units located in SEZs to sell their output in the domestic market without any additional custom duty; and
- (d) if so, how much time it would take to grant permission?

Export of IT industry services

1163 # **Smt. Geeta alias Chandrababha:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has a target to make the export of information technology industry services reach \$ 1000 billion in the next one decade; and
- (b) the scheme-wise details of the schemes run by Government to promote the information and technology industry?

Export of agri products through identified airports

1164 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is contemplating to export agri products including Geographical Indication (GI) products to foreign countries through airports across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government had identified such agri products including GI products in the State of Andhra Pradesh to be exported from any one of the airports located in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Salient features and benefits of 5G technology

1165 **Shri Y. S. Chowdary:**

Shri Vaiko:

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the indigenous 5G test bed project, funded by the Telecom Department, has reached the final stages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the salient features of 5G technology for the consumers and the extent to which it would be useful to the general public, both cost-wise and benefit-wise;
- (d) whether it would disturb the wireless communication used for air traffic, as some flights to USA were cancelled, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it would pave the way for setting up foundation for the development of '6G technology landscape' in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Mobile towers in Assam

1166 **Ms. Sushmita Dev:**

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) the district-wise details of the number of mobile towers in Assam;
- (b) whether there are plans for installation of new mobile towers in rural areas of Assam;

- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has allocated any funds from the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) towards improving infrastructure in any parts of Assam and West Bengal; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Filling up of vacancies in BSNL and MTNL

1167 **Shri P. Wilson:**

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any details of the number of employees of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) who have sought voluntary retirement during 2016-2021 in different posts across the country, especially in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to fill up the resultant vacancies in BSNL and MTNL with a definite time-frame from 2016-2021; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Partnership with foreign companies for 5G technology

1168 **Shri Ramkumar Verma:**

Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had approved extension of 5G trials for players, details on the update of the trials;
- (b) details of spectrum frequencies already allocated to communication companies for 5G testing and the GHz range in which Indian 5G is expected to operate;
- (c) whether telecom companies have to rely and partner with foreign companies for 5G technology, details thereof;
- (d) steps taken for promotion of 5G domestic indigenous technology, details of progress made; and
- (e) whether there is threat that 5G deployment in India could interfere with airline/ATC communication and the measures taken for its prevention?

Shareholding in Vodafone-Idea

1169 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government would hold 35.8 per cent and become the single largest shareholder in telephone company, Vodafone-Idea; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Market share of BSNL

1170 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total market share (mobile, internet, etc.) of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);
- (b) the number of towers it owns and comparison with the main players' ownership of towers;
- (c) the key reasons for its failure to compete with private players; and
- (d) the steps being taken to remove such hindrances?

Use of post offices for multi pronged activities of Government

1171 **Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu:**

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to use the existing post offices and postal employee population for multi pronged activities of Government schemes of various departments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the effective steps taken by Government to use the existing infrastructure and land belonging to Postal Department; and
- (d) the details of the total employees in Postal Department, State-wise, and the asset value?

Services rendered by Postal Department

1172 **Shri Prakash Javadekar:**

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of various services rendered by the Postal Department in 2014 and 2021;
- (b) how much growth in major services has been witnessed in the last five years; and
- (c) the plans for expansion and improvement of various postal services?

BSNL network in Assam

1173 **Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:**

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) network is still used by a large number of people across the country including Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reforms undertaken by the Ministry to update the service of BSNL in Assam; and
- (d) how many towers are newly sanctioned for Assam?

Implementation of ONORC scheme

1174 **Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) the States which have agreed to implement the One Nation One Card (ONOC) scheme;
- (b) the number of migrants estimated to be eligible for accessing the scheme, State-wise; and
- (c) the number of beneficiaries linked with the scheme, State-wise?

Incidents of black marketing during COVID-19 pandemic

1175 **Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of any incidents of black-marketing of essential commodities during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government took relevant measures to curb black-marketing during the Covid-19 pandemic;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Setting up of warehouses in Andhra Pradesh

1176 **Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of warehouses currently operating in Andhra Pradesh for storage of foodgrains, district-wise and the number of farmers benefitted from the said warehouses;
- (b) the capacity of these warehouses and whether it is adequate for the storage of foodgrains procured from farmers in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) whether Government plans to set up more warehouses in Andhra Pradesh?

Availability of food stocks

1177 **Shri Jawhar Sircar:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the annual position of food stocks of important crops in the country over the last five years;
- (b) the addition to and depletion from each stock in the same period;
- (c) the allocations and lifting of foodgrains under Public Distribution System (PDS) and special COVID-19 related schemes, State-wise; and
- (d) whether the food stocks available with States are adequate?

Alternatives to plastic packaging of food commodities

1178 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has planned alternatives to plastic packaging of food products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, along with the action plan for the same; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Revitalization of sugar industry in Karnataka

1179 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhara:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the sugar industry in the State of Karnataka is in pathetic condition today;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for its poor performance;
- (c) the details of dues sugar mills owe to farmers since the last five years till date; and
- (d) the measures taken by Government to revitalise the sugar industry in Karnataka?

Scam in supply of free ration in Gujarat

1180 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of allegations of scam in free ration scheme in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the action being taken by Government against the perpetrators;
- (d) whether Government has given any instructions to the State Government to investigate the entire matter;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether any independent investigation into the matter is being planned; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Display of English language on description of packaged consumer products

1181 # **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the fact that a large number of consumers are not able to read the full description of the purchased product due to description of the product being displayed in English language and thus consumers are cheated in various ways;
- (b) if so, whether Government would propose to print product description in Hindi and other mother tongues of the country by changing the packaging policy for public interest; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Starvation deaths in the country

1182 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has been directed by the Supreme court to collect the data of starvation deaths in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government is currently collecting the data; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof for the last two years, State-wise?

Fortification of rice and its distribution under PDS

1183 **Shri John Brittas:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had launched a pilot project on fortification of rice and its distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS), and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether rice millers are incentivized under this project; and
- (c) if so, the details of the incentives provided to the millers, State-wise?

Distribution of free ration

1184 **Shri Anil Desai:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is providing free ration to BPL families during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the scale and number of people benefited from this scheme;
- (c) the manner in which Government procured these items for distribution under this scheme; and
- (d) whether Government had sufficient stock in its godown for this purpose?

Coverage under PDS

1185 **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the contributions of the UN World Food Programme in developing the Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) whether Government is considering issuing compensation to families of the deceased of starvation; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Fund to Rajasthan under NFSA

1186 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government intends to release funds of the Central Share to the State of Rajasthan under the National Food Security Act (NFSA); and
- (b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Implementation of AAY

1187 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the norms/guidelines adopted for identification of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in the country;
- (b) the number of targeted and actual beneficiaries under AAY during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise, including Tamil Nadu, as on date; and
- (c) whether Government has received any request from Government of Tamil Nadu for increasing the number of beneficiaries under AAY, if so, the steps taken by the Central Government in this regard?

Distribution of free ration under PMGKAY

1188 **Shri Syed Zafar Islam:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the targets fixed for distribution of free/subsidized ration under Pradhan Mantri Gareeb Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) and the steps taken thereon; and
- (b) the number of persons benefitted under the said scheme in Uttar Pradesh?

Operational warehouses in the country

1189 # **Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to increase the number of warehouses for agricultural products;
- (b) the number of agricultural warehouses in operation under the Food Corporation of India (FCI), State-wise; and

(c) the time-line fixed for increasing the number of agricultural warehouses?

Promotion of semiconductor manufacturing

1190 **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the financial incentives provided by Government under the Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS) since the inception of the scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) how much of new investment and employment has the scheme been able to generate till date, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the sectors which experienced losses because of chip shortage and the estimated losses, and the measures that have been taken to diversify sources from China, if so, the details thereof?

IT Rules, 2021

1191 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the 'authorized agencies' identified by Government that are permitted to send notifications regarding unlawful content to intermediaries under IT Rules, 2021;
- (b) whether the 'inter-departmental committee' under rule 14 has been appointed and met since its appointment; and
- (c) whether there are any penal consequences for non-compliance with Part-III of the Intermediary Guidelines?

Rural-urban digital literacy

1192 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

Shri Sujeet Kumar:

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise details of rural-urban digital literacy levels in the country;
- (b) the gender-wise details of digital literal literacy levels in the country;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the country continues to have very low levels of overall rural digital literacy; and
- (d) the details of the schemes launched by Government to improve the digital literacy rate, especially in rural India, in the last three years?

Ban on sending government documents through certain apps

1193 # **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Ram Nath Thakur:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a ban on sending government documents through WhatsApp, Zoom, Telegram or Google Meet;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of gadgets being emphasised to be used by government employees for communication?

Promotion of cloud computing, machine learning and Artificial Intelligence

1194 **Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has any special programmes or schemes to promote cloud computing, machine learning and Artificial Intelligence in the country, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the effective steps taken by Government to enhance and facilitate the use of cloud computing in Government services, the details thereof; and
- (d) the amount of funds allocated, utilized and disbursed from the year 2017 for the same?

Increase in manufacturing and export of electronics

1195 # **Shri Rajendra Gehlot:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been an increase in the manufacturing and export of electronics in the country during the last three years, if so, the year-wise details thereof;
- (b) whether Government proposes to promote the manufacturing of electronics in the country, if so, the year-wise details of the steps taken in this regard, and financial assistance provided for this purpose during the last three years; and
- (c) whether Government has prepared any action plan to involve unemployed youth in manufacturing of electronics, if so, the details thereof?

Increasing tariffs on electronics manufacturing inputs

1196 **Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) India's current share in global export of electronic products and percentage change since 2014;
- (b) whether it is a fact that new tariffs on imports have been introduced on electronics components in 2020 and 2021, making electronics manufacturing costlier, if so, reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is aware that India's tariffs on major electronic items are higher than that of major exporting countries like China, Vietnam, if so, reasons therefor;
- (d) whether stakeholders and electronics manufacturers have been consulted before tariff hikes in input components for electronics; and
- (e) steps taken to correct India's trade deficit in electronics?

Import of semiconductors

1197 **Smt. Roopa Ganguly:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of semiconductors that are being imported in India;
- (b) the details thereof;
- (c) the steps that have been taken by the Ministry to reduce import dependence; and
- (d) the details thereof?

Misleading information on social media by neighbouring countries

1198 **Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several neighbouring countries, their media and social media are indulging in misleading and incorrect propaganda about the policies and actions of our Government and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to provide reliable information on such policies and actions; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to prevent people from falling prey to the campaigns by several neighbouring countries under which misleading and false information is provided?

App based digital games

1199 # **Shri Vinay Dinu Tendulkar:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the app based digital games broadcast through different channels encourage students, youth and people from all sections of the society to play those games and money transactions in above games are done through digital wallet or from the respective bank account of the individual;
- (b) if so, the volume of the market size of such games available in India and whether there is any plan to discontinue these app based games;
- (c) whether Government has prepared any plan to bring such games under the category of gambling; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Manipulation of online ratings by certain apps

1200 # **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that apps such as "Tech Fog" are helping in manipulating online ratings in favour of certain policies and personalities by adopting fraudulent means; and
- (b) the details of steps taken by the Ministry on the apps involved in frauds in the last two years?

PMMSY in Andhra Pradesh

1201 **Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla:**

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of implementation of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) in the State of Andhra Pradesh, whether the fish production has increased under PMMSY, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the infrastructure in fisheries has been enhanced in Andhra Pradesh under the Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) and PMMSY, if so, the details thereof?

Funds released under various schemes

1202 **Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) the list of various Central Sector/ Centrally Sponsored Schemes under which central funds are released by the Ministry;
- (b) the objectives, annual budget, contribution share of States, eligibility of beneficiaries under such schemes;
- (c) whether any study has been undertaken or proposed, to assess the impact of above schemes;
- (d) the financial assistance provided to Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh in the last three years, scheme-wise and year-wise;
- (e) the financial assistance provided to different districts of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (f) the status of major or mega fishing harbour proposed in Visakhapatnam, funds sanctioned, released, utilised, likely date of completion?

Cattle insurance

1203 **Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudde:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) the basis on which the Ministry has fixed the interest rates of cattle insurance, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Ministry has sought feedback from farmers regarding the affordability and interest rates of the cattle insurance, if so, the details of action taken against them, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken any action to digitize the overall cattle insurance procedure on the lines of m-Kisan or Atmanirbhar Krishi, if so, the details of the portal/app developed, if not, the reasons therefor?

National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen

1204 **Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the Centrally Sponsored 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen';
- (b) the amount spent under the scheme from 2017, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of beneficiaries who are registered in the Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen and amount disbursed so far; and
- (d) the number of beneficiaries who are registered in the Saving-cum-Relief scheme?

Decreasing marine wealth

1205 **Shri K. Somaprasad:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has noticed that India's marine wealth is gradually decreasing in the coastal region including Kerala, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons noted and identified for such decrease;
- (c) whether any assistance to the fishermen community is likely to be announced to meet the needs of the situation, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government is planning to conduct a scientific study on the decrease in marine wealth with reference to climate change, if so, the details thereof?

Plans to strengthen dairy sector

1206 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of *Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has drawn any new plans in the last two years for strengthening the country's dairy sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government consider giving special financial assistance to the largest milk-producing States in the country; and
- (d) the measures being taken to encourage those States which are lagging behind in dairy sector?

Health checks on imported livestock

1207 # Shri Ram Chander Jangra:

Will the Minister of *Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any provision for the health check-up of livestock at the time of import by various Government or non-Government institutes, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any provision to take action if the imported animals are found to be suffering from any disease; and
- (c) the country-wise details of the livestock imported during the last three years?

Bapudham Milk Producer Company

1208 Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:

Will the Minister of *Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has specifically conveyed its approval to National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) for waiver of eligibility criteria for providing grant-in-aid under National Dairy Plan (Phase-I) (NDP-I) to Bapudham Milk Producer Company incorporated on 12 April 2017, if so, details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (b) if not, how did NDDB sanction the project with an outlay of ₹ 3263.49 lakh and what action is proposed by Government to recover the grant-in-aid and fix responsibility on NDDB?

CAG audit of National Dairy Plan and NDDB

1209 Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:

Will the Minister of *Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying* be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount and details of wasteful expenditure pointed out by CAG in its audit of the National Dairy Plan (NDP) implemented by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB);
- (b) the point-wise clarification provided by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) to (a) above; and
- (c) the reasons why Department of Economic Affairs is yet to act on the request of DAHD sent on 13.03.2020 to audit the accounts of NDDB under section 14(2) of the CAG Act 1971?

Blue Revolution in Andhra Pradesh

1210 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

Will the Minister of *Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying* be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of projects sanctioned in Andhra Pradesh for promotion, productivity, post-

harvest infrastructure and address the critical gaps in fish production;
 (b) the details of funds sanctioned, released and utilized so far in the State;
 (c) the special attention being paid to this State and its fishermen, since Andhra Pradesh is the leading State in aqua exports; and
 (d) the welfare measures being provided to fishermen in Andhra Pradesh under Blue Revolution?

Ambulance network for veterinary needs

1211 Shri Subhas Chandra Bose Pilli:

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government seeks to formulate a Central Government run ambulance network for veterinary needs as present in many States like Andhra Pradesh; and
- (b) if so, what would be the procedure for infrastructure set up and allocation of funds?

Implementation of National Dairy Plan

1212 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of Government is drawn to the implementation of National Dairy Plan (NDP) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the initiatives taken by Government to help increase productivity of milch animals and provide rural milk producers access to the organized milk-processing sector?

Cold water fisheries

1213 Smt. Ambika Soni:

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for promotion of cold water fisheries by scientific methods;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government for developing post harvest, transport, promotion and branding facilities for species like Rainbow Trout in cold water areas of the country?

Entrepreneurs supported under PM FME in Maharashtra

1214 Shri Sanjay Raut:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) how many entrepreneurs have been supported under Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PM FME) scheme in Maharashtra since its inception;
- (b) how much fund has been allocated so far by the Central Government under this scheme;
- (c) the number of proposals currently pending with Government and by when they will be sanctioned; and
- (d) whether any target has been fixed by the Ministry under PM FME scheme for the State of Maharashtra for the next two years, if so, the details thereof?

Allocation of funds under PM FME to Tamil Nadu

1215 Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of funds allocated, disbursed and utilised under Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PM FME) scheme for the State of Tamil Nadu for the year 2021-22;
- (b) whether the Central Government has any plans for the formalisation of cold storages and sea food processing industries under PM FME scheme across the coastal area of Tamil Nadu; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Testing labs for food products

1216 # Shri Ram Chander Jangra:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of the testing laboratories for food products in the country and the number of laboratories which are operational;
- (b) whether all these laboratories have been established according to the international standards;
- (c) if not, whether any scheme is under consideration for upgradation of these laboratories, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the number of laboratories proposed to be established in various States including Haryana in the coming five years?

Developing Tamil Nadu into a food processing hub

1217 Shri P. Wilson:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to develop Tamil Nadu as a food processing hub, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has details of the food processing projects being set up across the country especially in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) the quantum of funds allocated and the amount sanctioned by Government as on date and the progress of the industry in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds allocated to Andhra Pradesh under PM FME

1218 Shri Subhas Chandra Bose Pilli:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds allocated to States, in particular Andhra Pradesh, under the Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro food processing Enterprises (PM FME) scheme for the year 2021-22;
- (b) the amount of credit extended to individual micro food processing enterprises for the year 2021-22; and
- (c) whether additional credit has been allocated to women entrepreneurs under the PM FME scheme, if so, the details thereof, if not, whether Government plan to do so?

Production Linked Incentive scheme

1219 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an outlay of ₹ 10,900 crores to support creation of global food manufacturing champions and support Indian brands of food products in international market has been planned by the Ministry under Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) how much of the outlay has been invested and progress of implementation year-wise and State-wise?

MFPs that are in operation

1220 Dr. Santanu Sen:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Mega Food Parks (MFPs) operationalized since 2014, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the funds spent since 2014 to provide assistance to set up MFPs, park-wise;
- (c) whether the State Governments have provided any grant for MFPs since 2014; and
- (d) if so, the State-wise and year-wise details thereof?

Scheme for formalisation of micro food processing enterprises

1221 Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has proposed/launched any scheme for formalisation of micro food processing enterprises with an outlay of Rs.10,000 crore for providing credit linked subsidy to 2 lakh micro food processing units across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has fixed any target for strengthening infrastructure of the industry across the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the financial support to the State Governments in this regard?

FDI in FPI sector

1222 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) how much Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been received in the Food Processing Industry (FPI) sector since 100 percent FDI was allowed in the sector in India;
- (b) the big giants which invested in food processing in India; and
- (c) the share of food processing sector in total credit to industry since 1990?

Assistance to FPIs in Karnataka

1223 Shri Iranna Kadadi:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has provided assistance to Food Processing Industries (FPIs) in Karnataka during the last two years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, industry and location-wise;
- (c) whether Government has fixed any time limit for accepting the proposals and providing

assistance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government has taken any steps to reduce the prescribed time limit and if so, the details thereof?

Selling of TOP crops at lower price

1224 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that farmers of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, particularly the districts of Ballia and Ghazipur produce Tomato, Onion and Potatoes (TOP) on large scale but they are compelled to sell it every year at price lower than the cost of production;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps Government would take to provide remunerative price to these tomato, onion and potato growing farmers of Eastern Uttar Pradesh during the current crop season?

Vegetable production in Jaunpur

1225 # **Smt. Seema Dwivedi:**

Will the Minister of **Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Jaunpur district of Uttar Pradesh holds a leading position in vegetable production;

(b) if so, whether Government has any scheme for processing of vegetables for consumption and export of their surplus production, so that the youth of this district can adopt it as an industry and move forward on the path of self-employment and increase the income of the farmers around; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether Government is considering such a scheme?

Adoption of hybrid and electric vehicles

1226 **Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to promote adoption of hybrid and electric vehicles in the country; and

(b) the details of personal vehicles which are hybrid or electric, currently in use in the country, State-wise including the State of Kerala?

Electric vehicle policy of States

1227 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is cognizant of the schemes/policies of States which have a dedicated electric vehicle (EV) policy in place;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are any avenues for convergence with policies of such States and the FAME scheme; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government towards convergence for faster adoption of EVs?

Mechanism for disposal of batteries

1228 Shri G.C. Chandrashekhkar:

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken/proposes to take steps to promote manufacturing and usage of electric and battery eco-friendly vehicles in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) how does Government plan to tackle need of batteries and disposal of batteries, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Ensuring Ease of Doing Business

1229 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

- (a) the various initiatives undertaken by the Ministry and its constituent bodies towards ensuring Ease of Doing Business for the industries relevant to the mandate of Ministry, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Ministry has documented the extent of ease brought to the industries in doing business through these initiatives, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the Ministry and its constituent bodies consult with relevant stakeholders for improving the efforts towards increasing Ease of Doing Business, if so, how and if not, the reasons therefor?

Manufacturing of electric vehicles

1230 # Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps for the manufacturing of electric vehicles;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of electric vehicles sold during the last two years; and
- (d) whether Government is giving any subsidy to the customers for buying electric vehicles in the country, if so, the details thereof?

Eligibility for subsidy under FAME India Scheme

1231 Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures Government is taking to facilitate the development of supply chains and further localisation in manufacturing so that more vehicles can be eligible for the subsidy under phase-II of Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid and) Electric Vehicles in India (FAME India Scheme) which requires 50 per cent localisation in manufacturing for electric vehicle producers;
- (b) the percentage of total electric two wheeler vehicles with a minimum range lesser than 80 kilometres per charge and thus excluded from the scheme; and
- (c) the total number and amount of subsidies availed under FAME-II in the last two years?

Construction of overbridge in Narsinghpur

1232 # **Shri Kailash Soni:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any agreement for the construction of an overbridge over the railway line passing through Narsinghpur Tilak Ward in Narsinghpur city and also on Chichli Road near Gadarwara and Gotegaon in Narsinghpur district;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when the work is likely to be started and the details thereof?

Withdrawal of facility of meals in Rajdhani Express

1233 **Dr. Subramanian Swamy:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the facility of providing cooked meals has been withdrawn in the Mumbai-New Delhi Rajdhani Express;
- (b) whether in this sector the facility of clean washed linen for sleeping has also been withdrawn;
- (c) whether such is the case in all sectors where Rajdhani type trains operate; and
- (d) if so, the reasons thereof?

Train services affected in Gujarat due to Corona pandemic

1234 # **Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the passenger trains which used to run daily before the outbreak of Corona pandemic in Gujarat;
- (b) the details of the trains which have stopped operating due to Corona pandemic; and
- (c) by when the trains cancelled in Gujarat due to Corona pandemic would be fully operational?

High Speed Rail project

1235 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for delay in the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (HSR) corridor;
- (b) whether Government has successfully acquired the land for construction of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad HSR corridor;
- (c) if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;
- (d) whether it is a fact that many Gram Sabhas have passed resolutions opposing the takeover of land for the HSR project; and
- (e) if so, details thereof?

Construction of shopping mall on railway land

1236 # **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that it has been decided to construct shopping mall and residential complex on railway colony land near Patna Junction;
- (b) the area of vacant land in square meters, given to Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) for this work;

- (c) the area of land in square meters, demarcated for housing purpose and shopping mall;
- (d) the conditions on which land would be given to builders; and
- (e) the number of railway quarters that would be redeveloped, the details thereof?

Tanakpur-Ghat-Bageshwar railway line

1237 # Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the survey of the Tanakpur-Ghat-Bageshwar railway line has been completed which has been sanctioned in Uttarakhand;
- (b) if not, by when the survey is likely to be completed;
- (c) whether there has been any deficiencies in the surveys conducted by Railways earlier; and
- (d) if so, whether this survey is being conducted on a new route?

Status of Vistadome Trains

1238 Shri Sujeet Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the zone-wise details of Vistadome Trains currently operational and the details of such trains/routes currently undergoing development;
- (b) whether there has been any expression of interest from the East Coast Railway (ECR) or the Government of Odisha to develop such a route in the State of Odisha, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the criteria for selecting routes under the Vistadome project?

Plans of Indian Railways

1239 Dr. Sasmit Patra:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the future plans that the Indian Railways has for itself;
- (b) how will it benefit the citizens; and
- (c) the reforms that the Indian Railways is proposing to bring in the coming days to further streamline and develop itself?

Joint projects of G-RIDE and Railways

1240 # Shri Narhari Amin:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of projects jointly approved by the Gujarat Railway Infrastructure Development Corporation (G-RIDE) and Railways, the details thereof; and
- (b) the timeline for completion of sanctioned projects?

Loss incurred during lockdown

1241 # Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total loss incurred by Railways in the last two years due to lockdown imposed during COVID pandemic;
- (b) whether Government is making any efforts to compensate for the same, if so, the details of steps taken by Government;

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Ministry is taking new concrete steps regarding rail travel in view of new Corona variant 'Omicron', which is spreading continuously across the country, so that it can be stopped from spreading; and
- (e) if so, the steps being taken, if not, the reasons therefor?

Train services at Jodhpur station

1242 # Shri Rajendra Gehlot:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a proposal pertaining to passenger train number 22481/22482, a super fast express running between Jodhpur and Delhi has been approved by Railway Board to extend its route upto Haridwar, if so, by when it would be started;
- (b) whether a proposal to run a passenger train from Jodhpur to Dwarka is under consideration with Government, if so, the details thereof and by when it would get into operation; and
- (c) whether any proposal to run intercity passenger train from Jodhpur to Ahmedabad is under consideration with Government, if so, the details thereof and by when its operation would start?

Railway land

1243 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total land/area of land owned by Railways in the country;
- (b) the total area of land being used and the reasons for remaining area left unused;
- (c) the market value of the area owned by Railways;
- (d) the total area of railway land which is occupied illegally; and
- (e) the steps taken to vacate the railway land from illegal occupation?

Railway Recruitment Board Thiruvananthapuram

1244 Dr. V. Sivadasan:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for Railways shutting down the Thiruvananthapuram Railway Recruitment Board (RRB);
- (b) whether Government has received requests for the withdrawal of the move;
- (c) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and
- (d) if not, the reason for not taking into consideration the opinion of the local stakeholders?

Redirecting Bengaluru-Mangaluru daily night trains

1245 Shri Narayana Koragappa:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any plan to redirect the daily night trains operating between Bengaluru and Mangaluru via both routes of Mysuru and Nelamangala in place of existing alternate days; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Mysuru-Kushalnagar railway line

1246 Shri Narayana Koragappa:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the location survey is awarded for Mysuru-Kushalnagar railway line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the timeline for completion of the project?

KRDCL's Semi or High Speed Rail project

1247 Shri K. Somaprasad:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL) has submitted the Detailed Project Report (DPR) on Semi or High Speed Rail Project, if so, the details of action taken on that;
- (b) whether any objection and complaint has been received from any political party/organization or from any individual so far against the project, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the techno-economic viability of the Semi or High Speed Rail Project has been finalized, if so, the details thereof and; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Additional Visatadome coaches on Visakhapatnam-Araku route

1248 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to add five additional Vistadome coaches on the Visakhapatnam-Araku route which is a prime tourist destination;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any additional Vistadome coaches have been provided on any other tourist circuit route in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

High Speed Rail corridors in the country

1249 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government is going to start High Speed Rail (HSR) corridors in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount of expenditure likely to be incurred on these corridors and by when it is likely to be completed?

Germany's High Speed Train proposal

1250 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has approved the proposal from Germany to run High-Speed Train between Mysore and Chennai with an estimated cost of ₹ 1 lakh crores;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposal submitted to the Railway Board by Government of Germany; and
- (c) by when the project is expected to be completed?

Setting up of healthcare infrastructure on railway land

1251 Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 91 locations have been identified, which include New Bongaigaon and Rangapara for a pilot project of setting up territory level multi speciality hospital under North East Frontier Railway (NFR);
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating location-wise present status as well as recommendation made, if any, by the Transaction Advisor for this project; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Short/medium distance passenger trains in Assam

1252 Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) how many short/medium distance passengers trains were in operation within the State of Assam prior to COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) the services of how many of those short/medium distance passenger trains in Assam have been restored till now, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal to start new short/medium distance passenger trains connecting new places in Assam and its neighbouring States?

Progress of double track work in NFR

1253 Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of progress of double track work from New Bongaigaon to Kamakhya under North East Frontier Railway (NFR);
- (b) the estimated cost for this project and how much amount has been expended till now; and
- (c) the target date of completion of this project and by when it is expected to be completed?

Introduction of express train from Nagercoil to Hyderabad

1254 Shri Vaiko:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has received requests and demands from various quarters for introduction of express train from Nagercoil to Hyderabad;
- (b) if so, the details and the present position thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry considers re-scheduling and re-mapping one express train from Nagercoil to Hyderabad, out of the three trains from Chennai to Hyderabad; and
- (d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

New train from Palani to Mysuru

1255 Shri Vaiko:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Ministry has received requests from public and public representatives for introducing a new train from Palani to Mysuru via Tharapuram, Erode, Sathyamangalam;
- (b) if so, the present position; and

(c) by when this train would be introduced fulfilling the long pending demand of the travelling public, industry associations and chambers of commerce?

Trains for promoting cultural and pilgrimage tourism

1256 **Dr. Ameer Yajnik:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of trains started in the last three years in view of cultural tourism and pilgrimage to promote our cultural heritage;
- (b) whether Government has launched any sales promotion scheme to encourage booking in these trains; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Religious rail tourist circuit

1257 **Shri Anil Desai:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that recently Government has introduced new religious rail travel circuit for the common people;
- (b) the details of fare structure and other facilities available for them; and
- (c) the number of passengers who availed this facility in the last two years?

Gadag-Wadi railway line

1258 **Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Budget Estimate (BE) outlay of ₹ 156 Crores had been approved for the Gadag-Wadi new railway line project in Karnataka;
- (b) whether the project has been delayed beyond schedule resulting in cost overrun;
- (c) if so, the reasons for delay; and
- (d) if not, the current status of the project?

Disbursement of funds under PM-KISAN

1259 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of funds disbursed, the number of beneficiaries identified under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN) and the number of the beneficiaries being benefited under the same till date;
- (b) whether any payments to farmers are pending, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government intends to provide additional income support to farmers, if so, the details thereof?

Policy for completing pending projects

1260 # **Shri Om Prakash Mathur:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has formulated any policy to complete all the pending projects lagging behind the deadline, by the year 2022 in a time bound manner;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of major projects pending for five or more years in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh,

Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Punjab?

Plans to utilise vacant land of railway for commercial purposes

1261 **Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has plans to utilise the vacant railway land for commercial purposes to provide livelihood for unemployed educated youths and wife or kith and kin of deceased employees of Railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to support the families of the deceased employees of Railways and unemployed youth?

ROBs, RUBs and FOBs under construction

1262 **Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the project-wise details of the under construction Road Over Bridges (ROBs), Road Under-Bridges (RUBs) and Foot Over-Bridges (FOBs) in various States as on date on cost sharing basis, project-wise;
- (b) the location-wise details of the proposals sent by various State Governments including Karnataka for constructing ROBs, RUBs and FOBs at level crossings along with the action taken on each of such proposals; and
- (c) the zone-wise details of under construction and new projects identified for constructing ROBs/RUBs/ FOBs during the last three years and the current year along with the details of the funds allocated?

Kisan Rail project

1263 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the quarterly distribution of total expenditure incurred for the functioning of Kisan Rail, the quantity of food products transported and the descending order of the list of popularity of routes till October 2021, State-wise list;
- (b) the steps being taken to expand the current network of Kisan Rail routes to cover North and North-Eastern India; and
- (c) the steps being taken to reduce handling of the farmers' crates in the process of transportation to reduce spillage and wastage?

Kisan Rails in remote areas

1264 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise list of the total number of routes with their names, along with a map of India showing the network and connectivity through Kisan Rails;
- (b) the total number of destination stations of Kisan Rail and the number of stations which have cold storage facilities, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps being taken to increase awareness of benefits of the Kisan Rail to small and marginalized farmers in remote areas, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to increase the accessibility of Kisan Rail in the remotest part of the country?

Steady increase in railway passengers

1265 **Shri Syed Zafar Islam:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of passengers travelling between Delhi and Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Junction has been steadily increasing and if so, the details in this regard; and
- (b) whether Government proposes to run more new trains or DMUs keeping in view the said increase, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Odisha Rail Infrastructure Development Limited

1266 **Dr. Prashanta Nanda:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of railway projects identified by Odisha Rail Infrastructure Development Limited in the State of Odisha and its status;
- (b) whether the Railways have granted in-principle approval for undertaking pre-investment activities for any proposed project; and
- (c) if so, the details of present status of such projects?

New Bullet Train corridors

1267 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to add four new Bullet Train corridors that will connect nine more cities to the High Speed Rail (HSR) network under the National Rail Plan (NRP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) how much time it will take to start these routes?

Railway works in Rajasthan

1268 # **Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the works of doubling and electrification of railway lines undertaken in Rajasthan by the Central Government;
- (b) if so, the details of the funds allocated for doubling and electrification of railway lines in Rajasthan during the last three years; and
- (c) by when the said work is likely to be completed?

Accidents in PSUs

1269 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of accidents which occurred in the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in the last three years, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any compensation was paid to the nearest kith of workers died, grievously injured, including providing employment, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken to fix responsibility against officers for the negligence of the safety measures; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure that such accidents do not recur in future?

Karaikkudi-Kanyakumari railway line project

1270 Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to revive the shelved Karaikkudi-Kanyakumari East Coast Railway (ECR) line project in the future; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Post independence electrification of railway lines

1271 # Shri Brijlal:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the length of electrification of Indian Railways in terms of kilometres in the country after independence till the year 2014; and
- (b) the growth registered in electrification of railway lines in terms of kilometres so far, of Indian Railways after the year 2014 and the details of the changes taking place in Railways as a result thereof?

Samstipur Junction

1272 # Shri Ram Nath Thakur:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of tracks at Samastipur Junction under Samastipur Division remains inadequate;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that due to inadequate number of tracks the trains coming from Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Rosra and Barauni are made to wait for hours at Karpurigram, Muktapur, Dasuya and Ujarpur respectively; and
- (c) if so, whether Government is considering to develop this station as a terminal by utilizing the land lying vacant on either sides of Karpurigram railway station?

Government schemes in textile sector

1273 Shri P. Bhattacharya:

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) the schemes being run by Government for textiles industry in the country; and
- (b) whether any special scheme is being run for textiles sector along with the details of schemes for textiles industry in the country?

Promoting organic cotton production

1274 Shri Sanjay Raut:

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that production of organic cotton is coming down over the years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and details of production of organic cotton in the country during the last five years, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken to push production of organic cotton by giving incentives, etc., to organic cotton producers in the country?

Setting up of PM MITRA park in Kerala

1275 **Shri Jose K. Mani:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding Government's plan to set up Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) parks in the country;
- (b) whether Government has any plans/proposals to set up a PM MITRA park in the State of Kerala; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

High cotton prices

1276 **Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that high cotton prices this season has become a subject of concern to the domestic textile industry;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the raw material prices are not only increasing but there is also a shortage in availability; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by the Ministry to address these issues facing the textile industry?

Closure of foreign manufacturing units

1277 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the value of imported textiles in the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) the details of the value of textiles exported in the last five years, year-wise;
- (c) the details of the number of foreign companies which have closed their manufacturing unit in India in the last five years; and
- (d) the details of number of the workers involved in the companies which have closed their manufacturing units in India in the last five years, manufacturing unit-wise?

Steps to promote handloom industry

1278 **Dr. Ameer Yajnik:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken by Government to promote handloom industry in the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government has made any policy to support small weavers during pandemic; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Establishment of textile parks in Andhra Pradesh

1279 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any proposals from Andhra Pradesh Government requesting for establishment of textile parks in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government on such requests?

Support for technology upgradation in textile sector

1280 **Shri K.J. Alphons:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) the support being provided for technology upgradation in the textiles sector;
- (b) the support being provided for preservation of skills in tribal communities in textile manufacturing; and
- (c) how many tribal children have been trained in traditional tribal textile manufacturing with assistance from the Ministry?

New Delhi
The 4th February, 2022
15 Magha, 1943 (Saka)

P. C. Mody,
Secretary-General.

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