

Rajya Sabha

**List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS**

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, February 4, 2022/ 15 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

**Settlement of farmers' grievances**

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

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

- (a) whether Government has noted the grievances expressed by farmer organisations recently against the indifference of Government in fulfilling the promises made during withdrawal of the year long farmers' struggle against the disputed farm laws;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of Government to their ultimatum; and
- (c) whether Government would call the farmers' organisations for a fast settlement?

**Invasive pest attack on chili crop**

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

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

- (a) whether South East Asian Thrips pest outbreak has caused extensive damage to chili crop in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and other States;
- (b) if so, the extent of damage caused to Chilli crop in different States;
- (c) the reasons identified by the scientific team that visited Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;
- (d) the policy interventions and action plan recommended for mitigating future threat from the invasive pest;
- (e) the other crops which are susceptible to this pest;
- (f) whether there is a need to make plant quarantine measures more strict for imported planting materials; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Sustainable agricultural practices**

**323 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that sustainable practices in agriculture are currently adopted by only a very small fraction of farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

- (c) the percentage of total cropped area where organic farming is being practised in different States;
- (d) whether Government has adopted specific measures to educate farmers about sustainable agricultural practices;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether it is a fact that the budget outlay for National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture has been consistently very poor; and
- (g) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### **Reduction in farmers' income**

**324 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that income earned by farm households from agriculture has been reducing in the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether increased expenditure for various Central sector schemes such as PM-KISAN, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) etc., has resulted in a corresponding increase in farmers' income;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it is also a fact that the amount allocated for agricultural research has not seen a significant rise in the last five years; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### **Scheme to increase soil health and fertility in Rajasthan**

**325 # Shri Rajendra Gehlot:**

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study to assess the loss of soil fertility and nutrients at different locations in areas affected by drought, water scarcity, etc;
- (b) if so, the details of the said assessment in the State of Rajasthan;
- (c) the details of the districts facing challenges in terms of loss in soil fertility in the State of Rajasthan; and
- (d) whether Government is contemplating to implement any special scheme to increase soil health and fertility in Rajasthan, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Assistance to Kerala for loss of crops due to natural calamities**

**326 Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any schemes to provide relief for the losses in farming due to natural calamities;
- (b) if so, whether Government intend to provide relief for the losses in farming due to the heavy rainfall and floods in Kerala;
- (c) if so, by when such assistance would be provided to Kerala; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Coverage under drip and micro irrigation**

**327 Shri Sanjay Singh:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that 27 States have less than 30 per cent of their farmland irrigated by micro irrigation;
- (b) if so, details thereof and steps taken by Government to enhance the coverage of micro irrigation;
- (c) whether Government is aware that the cost of setting up a micro irrigation system is very high and it is difficult for small and marginal farmers to utilise the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with steps taken to support small and marginal farmers in enhancing the coverage of drip irrigation?

#### **Impact of reduction in Budgetary estimates on agricultural schemes**

**328 Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Budget Estimate for the Ministry has been reduced by ₹ 11,382 crores less than the proposed amount;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) its impact on implementation of various schemes like interest subvention for short term credit to farmers, Market Intervention Scheme (MIS)/Price Support Scheme (PSS), Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi etc.?

#### **Impact of import of edible oils**

**329 Shri S. Selvaganabathy:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the problems being faced by farmers due to import of edible oils;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to impose additional duty on edible oils to protect the interests of farmers; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Supply of quality seeds and fertilizers at reasonable price**

**330 Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to compensate the farmers who lost their farming due to natural calamities;
- (b) if so, the action plan formulated by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether it has come to the notice of Government that farming has become a loss-making occupation due to hike in prices of seeds and fertilizers;
- (d) if so, action taken by Government for ensuring the supply of good quality seeds and fertilizers to farmers at reasonable and subsidized rate; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Legalisation for MSP**

**331 Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

- (a) whether Government is considering to legalise Minimum Support Price (MSP) as farmers' right;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken thereon;

- (c) if not, the details of the steps taken to ensure farmers get price equivalent to MSP in open market; and
- (d) the MSP set by Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) for the crops under its ambit in the last five years, crop-wise, year-wise and amount increased each year compared to the preceding year?

### **Misuse of PM-KISAN portal**

**332 # Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha:**

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

- (a) whether the status of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme can be checked by entering the mobile number on the portal;
- (b) whether this process is being misused; and
- (c) if so, whether Government has made any plan to address its misuse?

### **Supply of irrigation equipment to farmers at subsidized rate**

**333 # Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha:**

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

- (a) whether there is any special scheme to provide irrigation equipment to the farmers on subsidy for irrigation purpose;
- (b) if so, the numbers of farmers benefited under this scheme in Uttar Pradesh so far; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Implementation of Dhaanya Lakshmi Scheme**

**334 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Dhaanya Lakshmi Scheme was announced in 2019-20 Budget to construct storage facilities for agriculture produce at village level;
- (b) if so, the reasons that even after two years of announcement the scheme has not been implemented so far; and
- (c) the details of constraints that Government is facing in implementing the Scheme?

### **Identification of beneficiaries under PM-KISAN scheme**

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

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

- (a) whether permission would be granted to avail the benefits of the scheme under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme in cases where ownership of cultivable land is transferred due to the death of owner of the land and due to succession;
- (b) the details of the cut-off date for determining the eligibility of beneficiaries under the PM-KISAN scheme;
- (c) the grounds on which beneficiaries would be identified for payment under this scheme; and
- (d) whether any individual/farmer, who does not have land in his name, is eligible to avail benefit under the scheme?

### **Integration of e-Mandis into e-NAM platform**

**336 Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

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

- (a) the number of new e-Mandis which were integrated into the e-NAM Mandi platform since 31st March, 2018;
- (b) whether Government has the capacity to cater to all 1.11 crore farmers that are registered on e-NAM platform, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is on track to achieve its target of linking 2200 mandis by 2022, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the budgetary outlay of this scheme; and
- (e) the number of districts currently utilising e-NAM platform, especially the districts in Karnataka?

### **Self sufficiency in production of edible oil and oil palm**

**337 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- (a) whether attention of Government is drawn to the Business Summit on National Mission on Edible Oils recently held in Hyderabad;
- (b) if so, the ideas exchanged between Government and participants to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of edible oils and oil palm in the country; and
- (c) the measures taken by Government in this regard?

### **Profit margin of farmers for horticulture produces**

**338 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the farmers on an average do not even get 20 per cent of the price of horticulture produce at which the same produce is sold in retail to the consumers and about 80 per cent of the cost is cornered by middlemen;
- (b) if so, the details thereof as per unbiased survey;
- (c) whether the price farmers get is hardly 10 per cent above their input cost which amounts to their acute level of discouragement and frustration; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of Government and remedial measures proposed to be taken by Government?

### **Settlement of farmers' claims in Tamil Nadu under Fasal Bima Yojana**

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

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

- (a) the number of farmers who have insured their crops in Tamil Nadu under Fasal Bima Yojana during the last three years;
- (b) the total number of farmers and amount of claims made or otherwise compensation paid to these farmers due to natural calamities and less-yield during the same period;
- (c) the quantum of amount released to these farmers against their claims, the details thereof;
- (d) the total claims pending till date during the said period; and
- (e) by when these claims are likely to be settled?

### Suicide by farmers

340 # **Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

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

- (a) whether Government has not been able to prevent the suicides of debt-ridden farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of suicides committed by debt-ridden farmers during the last three years;
- (c) whether Government is still not able to provide the required MSP to farmers; and
- (d) if so, the proposal of Government to provide assistance to farmers and prevent their suicides?

### Farmers' suicide, compensation and effect of farm laws repeal

341 **Shri P. Wilson:**

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

- (a) the data on farmers' suicide while protesting the three Farm Laws Act 20,21,22 of 2020 across the country and whether Government has any plans to pay compensation to the families of the deceased;
- (b) whether the Farm Law Repeal Act 2021, Act no. 40 of 2021 passed in the Parliament on 29th November, 2021 does not deal about the agreements entered/acts done after the three principle Acts, Act 20,21,22 of 2020 and before the passing of the repeal Act, the steps taken for the said period; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

### Promoting organic farming

342 # **Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

**Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

**Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to encourage farmers to produce organic manure and promote organic farming of foodgrains in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of schemes being run by Government in this direction and farmers assisted therein along with the details of funds allocated, released and utilized for the same during 2021-22 till date, State-wise and scheme-wise?

### Implementation of schemes for improvement in agriculture

343 # **Smt. Seema Dwivedi:**

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

**Smt. Mamata Mohanta:**

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

- (a) whether Government is implementing schemes to improve rural infrastructure, assist farmers in modern techniques, provide skill development training to youths and farmers, special training to women farmers, impart timely counselling to prevent farmer suicides and provide them with alternative sources of income when crops fail and develop entrepreneurship among highly educated youth to enable them to connect their villages and farm and become self employed; and
- (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof during the last five years and if not, the reasons

therefor?

#### **Including natural farming in agricultural education curriculum**

**344 # Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to implement natural farming method plan in agriculture, if so, whether Government has formulated any action plan to provide natural farming;
- (b) whether any time-bound action plan has been formulated to include natural farming in agricultural education curriculum; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Mandhan Yojana**

**345 Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

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

- (a) the number of registered farmers and number of farmers found eligible and ineligible for the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Mandhan Yojana and the number of farmers who were deprived of registration under the scheme since 2019, till date, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to include those farmers who were deprived of registration under the scheme; and
- (c) the number of farmers who have received the amount under the said scheme till date, instalment-wise, State-wise and district-wise ?

#### **Achievements under AIF**

**346 Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

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

- (a) the details of beneficiaries of Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF), State-wise;
- (b) whether the AIF has achieved its targeted aims and objectives;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether AIF also helps in community farming assets and infrastructure; and
- (f) if so, the details of farmer societies in the country, State-wise and amount that has been sanctioned to them so far, State-wise?

#### **Creation of National Agriculture Disaster Management scheme**

**347 Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

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

- (a) the steps Government has taken or planning to take in the field of climate smart agriculture;
- (b) whether Government has any proposal to upscale and refocus on dryland research;
- (c) whether Government has any proposal for creation of National Agriculture Disaster Management scheme to tackle the issues of sudden climatic changes and other issues which are becoming more frequent in recent years; and
- (d) if so, by when Government propose to bring forth the policy, and if not, the reasons therefor?

### Contribution of women in agriculture

348 **Smt. Mamata Mohanta:**

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

- (a) whether 80 per cent of economically active women are contributing to the agriculture sector which includes agriculture labour force and self-employed farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some special policy measures are being taken by Government to ensure the maximum participation of women in agricultural start-ups; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### Grant of pharmaceutical patents

349 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

**Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

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

- (a) the number of patents granted towards the pharmaceutical sector/industry, total number and as a percentage of total number of patents granted, for the last five years;
- (b) the details of the percentage of such patents granted to foreign entities, private entities and research institutions in India;
- (c) whether there is an estimate of India's global ranking in producing pharmaceutical patents, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of FDI inflows that have gone towards research and development (R&D) of the pharmaceutical industry; and
- (e) the measures that Government is taking to incentivise the R&D of such patents?

### Identification of industrially backward areas in Bihar

350 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

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

- (a) whether Government has identified industrially backward areas in Bihar, the details thereof, district-wise;
- (b) whether Government has any plan of conferring special tax rebates for incentivizing manufacturers for setting up their units in these areas; and
- (c) the status of efforts made by Government for the development of these areas?

### Trade with China

351 **Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a soaring rise in trade with China, especially in the last two years;
- (b) the total exports and imports (both merchandise and services) with China for the years 2018-2021;
- (c) the measures taken by Government to bridge the trade deficit with China; and
- (d) the total trade balance for the last two years and the current fiscal year?

### Illegal import of apples

352 **Shri Sanjay Raut:**

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



- (a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of apples from Iran are arriving in the country without paying import duty through Afghanistan and Dubai;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto;
- (c) whether Jammu-Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh's apple growers are raising this issue of illegal import of apples in the country and are seeking either ban on this illegal import or increasing import duty to protect the domestic producers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

#### **Foreign trade of India**

**353 Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

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

- (a) the foreign trade of India over the last five years, category-wise and year-wise details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for the increase or decrease in the foreign trade of India;
- (c) the names of Most Favored Nations (MFNs) with regard to India's foreign trade and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the criteria for providing MFN status to these countries?

#### **Foreign trade with China**

**354 Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

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

- (a) the total amount of foreign trade undertaken by India with China in the last five years, year-wise and category-wise details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for the increase or decrease, as the case maybe, of foreign trade of India with China; and
- (c) the steps being undertaken by India to improve its foreign trade with China?

#### **Export of tobacco and tobacco products**

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

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

- (a) the export of tobacco and tobacco products in volume and value terms in the last five years and the current year so far, year-wise, type-wise, i.e., FCV and other types, destination country-wise and region of export-wise;
- (b) the reasons for declining exports of tobacco and tobacco products;
- (c) the action, if any, taken by the Ministry to promote export of tobacco and tobacco products;
- (d) whether Ministry has received representations for inclusion of FCV tobacco export in RoDTEP scheme for tax relief; and
- (e) whether Ministry is considering RoDTEP tax benefits?

#### **Decline in agri exports**

**356 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the total agricultural exports have fallen significantly since 2013-14;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for this decline in export of agricultural produce;

- (d) whether Government has conducted any study to analyse whether there is any issue with the quality of agri produce in terms of international standards; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

### **Growth of export and import**

**357 Shri Ripun Bora:**

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

- (a) the details of year-wise data of import and exports from Financial Year 2015-16 to 2021-22;
- (b) the country-wise details of the import and export growth between 2015-2016 and 2019-2021 (till November) therein; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to increase exports therefor?

### **FDI in E-commerce**

**358 Shri Derek O' Brien:**

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

- (a) the mechanism for implementation of FDI policy in E-commerce, contained in Press Note 2 (2018 Series), the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the said policy is often violated by E-commerce companies, the details of the monitoring process for violation of the said policy;
- (c) if so, the details of the instances of violation in the last three years and action taken against this violation; and
- (d) whether Government is planning steps to ensure better implementation of FDI policy in E-commerce, the details thereof?

### **Priority nodes under VCIC**

**359 Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

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

- (a) whether Government has identified three priority nodes of Chittoor- Srikalahasti, Kadapa and Visakhapatnam under the Vizag Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the status of the progress of these priority nodes?

### **Empowering small businesses through E-commerce**

**360 Shri Sanjay Singh:**

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

- (a) whether Government has planned any initiative(s) to enhance the collaboration between small businesses and E-commerce platforms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government through collaboration can also ensure greater rural sector's participation in E-commerce space; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Revival package for Darjeeling tea industry**

**361 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry would state the status of the one time revival package for the industry amounting to ₹ 82.69 crores, which the Minister personally recommended on 23 July, 2018;
- (b) the time by which the much needed amount for the Darjeeling tea industry be released and the cause of delay; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Export target**

**362 Shri N.R. Elango:**

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

- (a) whether Government agrees with the view that it is important to evaluate Minimum Support Price (MSP) as a policy option as well as the Agriculture Export Policy (AEP)-2018, to achieve the target of decent farm income;
- (b) if so, the steps that are proposed to be taken by Government keeping in mind that India has to set a target to export at least 10 per cent share in the global market, which is currently at mere 2.2 per cent; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Foreign Trade Policy**

**363 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that validity of Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) was from 2015 to 2020;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the FTP has been extended till March, 2022 due to the pandemic;
- (c) if so, whether the Ministry is ready with the new FTP after March, 2022; and
- (d) if so, the salient features of the proposed policy?

### **Trade deficit with China**

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

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

- (a) the details of the difference in trade deficit between India and China;
- (b) if this deficit is averse to India, then the steps being taken by Government to reduce the dependency of Indian industries on Chinese imports; and
- (c) the details of the policies being drafted in order to protect and promote the Indian industries under the AtmaNirbhar Bharat campaign?

### **Signing of beneficial FTAs**

**365 Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

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

- (a) whether any changes are being made to the FTAs being signed subsequent to the suggestions being made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce in its report "Augmenting Infrastructure Facilities to Boost Exports";
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of how the subsequent FTAs are projected to be beneficial to domestic market, especially exporters; and
- (d) the details of any other changes being stipulated for improving foreign trade of the country under SEZs, State/ Union Territory-wise, especially for State of Karnataka?

### Increase in imports

366 # **Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been an increase in imports as against exports in the country; and
- (b) if not, the country-wise imports along with funds spent on the same during the Financial Year 2018-19, 2019-20 and till December 2021, the details thereof?

### New site to host International Trade Fair in New Delhi

367 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

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

- (a) whether Government has decided to construct a new site in New Delhi to host International Trade Fair, instead of Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, the details thereof;
- (b) the present status of construction at the new site and by when it would be ready to host International Trade Fair in New Delhi; and
- (c) the likely advantages of the new site to attract foreign pavillions, the details thereof?

### Criteria for selection of Towns of Export Excellence

368 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

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

- (a) the towns in the country which have excelled as Towns of Export Excellence (TEE) during the last three years, the details thereof ;
- (b) the details of financial benefits extended to these towns during the last three years; and
- (c) the manner in which these towns were identified in various States and the criteria adopted for selection thereof?

### Employment in firecracker industry

369 **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

- (a) whether Government maintains the data of persons employed in the firecracker industry, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the value of export and import in the previous three years alongwith the respective destination, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures that have been taken by Government to promote green crackers and the market value of green crackers, if so, the details thereof?

### Decrease in area under tobacco cultivation

370 **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the area under tobacco cultivation has decreased since 2014, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether Government has in place a mechanism to absorb and train employees who are looking to shift from the tobacco industry, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of Tobacco Cessation Centres across the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the revenue share of Central and State Governments from tobacco products, if so, the

details thereof, State-wise?

### **Development of Industrial Information System**

371 **Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu:**

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

- (a) whether the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has been entrusted to promote Indian Industry, Industrial Management, E-commerce and Startups and facilitating Ease of Doing Business, etc., in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether DPIIT is developing the Industrial Information System (IIS) which provides plot-level data and availability of updated land-related information in real time; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Tamil Nadu, and the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

### **Steps to boost Indian exports**

372 **Shri Prakash Javadekar:**

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

- (a) the comparative chart of sector-wise exports of 2014 and 2021; and
- (b) the decisions taken since 2014 to boost Indian exports?

### **Mobile internet connectivity in Chhattisgarh**

373 # **Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

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

- (a) the details of percentage of mobile internet reach in rural and urban areas of Chhattisgarh;
- (b) the total number of beneficiaries under the BharatNet project in Chhattisgarh;
- (c) whether it is a fact that even today, there is lack of internet facility in many far-flung areas of Chhattisgarh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and whether any steps are being taken by Government to start the facility of mobile internet connectivity in these areas; and
- (e) if so, whether any timeline has been fixed by Government in this regard?

### **Postal stamp on Jan Nayak Karpoori Thakur**

374 # **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a postal stamp was released in the name of Jan Nayak Karpoori Thakur;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that this stamp is currently not available; and
- (c) if so, whether Government proposes to re-introduce the postal stamp issued in the name of Jan Nayak Karpoori Thakur?

### **5G trials**

375 **Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla:**

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

- (a) the status of 5G trials in India and the details thereof;
- (b) the companies authorised to provide 5G services, as on date;

- (c) whether Government has conducted any study into the effects of 5G on aeronautical interference and the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Role of 5G for more efficiency**

**376 Shri N.R. Elango:**

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

- (a) whether Government agrees with the view that by enabling the deployment of sophisticated AI and IoT networks at scale, 5G would make electrical grids more efficient, drive significant reductions in greenhouse emissions as well as enable and optimise the integration of greater amounts of renewable energy;
- (b) if so, the initiatives that are proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Utilisation of Universal Service Obligation Fund**

**377 Shri John Brittas:**

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

- (a) the year-wise details of amount collected so far towards Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF);
- (b) whether there are instances of short transfer of Universal Access Levy to the USOF by retaining a substantial portion of the amount so collected in the Consolidated Fund of India for other purposes outside the ambit of USOF objectives;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of State-wise utilisation of the USOF during the last five years; and
- (e) the details of projects allocated to Kerala under USOF so far?

### **Increase in subscribers of BSNL and MTNL**

**378 # Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has registered an increase in the number of subscribers of MTNL and BSNL during the last month;
- (b) whether any plan has been formulated to make MTNL and BSNL more useful for the public rather than allowing private operators to charge more from the customers day by day, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Implementation of National Broadband Mission in Rajasthan**

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

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

- (a) the details of the funds allocated to the State of Rajasthan under the National Broadband Mission;
- (b) the details of progress made under the said Mission in respect of increasing the tower density and the number of villages in the State where broadband services have been provided and the length of optical fibre cables laid during the last three years; and
- (c) by when it is proposed to provide broadband to all the villages of Dausa, Karauli and Alwar districts of Rajasthan under the said Mission?

### Installation of telecom towers in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh

380 **Shri Syed Zafar Islam:**

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

- (a) the total number of villages in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh where telecom towers have been installed, telecom company-wise during each of the last two years and the current year; and
- (b) the number of such towers targeted for installation in rural areas in the coming financial year, State/UT-wise, including Uttar Pradesh?

### Competitiveness of BSNL

381 **Ms. Sushmita Dev:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is struggling to compete with private players in the telecom industry;
- (b) the profit or loss details of BSNL, yearly, since 2017 to 2021;
- (c) the details of the total number of new users of BSNL, yearly, since 2017 to 2021;
- (d) whether Government has taken any steps to improve the competitiveness of BSNL in the telecom industry;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

### Status of BharatNet project

382 **Shri P. Wilson:**

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

- (a) the status of implementation of Phase I, II of the BharatNet project, State/UT-wise along with details of Gram Panchayats covered so far thereunder, State/UT-wise, including Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether Government has fixed any time limit by which all Gram Panchayats would be provided with broadband connectivity, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Tamil Nadu;
- (c) the details of funds so far allocated, released and utilized under Phase I , Phase II separately, State/UT-wise, especially in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) whether Government approves BharatNet implementation through Public Private Partnership (PPP) model in States with optical connectivity fibre and reasons therefor?

### Revenue of postal department from non-traditional sectors

383 **Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu:**

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

- (a) whether India Post is progressively earning revenue from non-traditional sectors like E-commerce and payments bank;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the revenue earned by the postal department as a percentage from various value-added services/non-traditional sectors during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (d) the details of future expansion plans proposed by Government in the above sector/services in the State of Tamil Nadu; and
- (e) the Post Office-wise number of postal payment bank accounts in Tamil Nadu?

### **Mobile penetration across country**

**384 Shri Prakash Javadekar:**

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

- (a) a comparative status of mobile penetration in the country in the last five years;
- (b) a world comparison of data price; and
- (c) the benefits for the country of large scale mobile penetration?

### **Equity ownership in Vodafone**

**385 Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

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

- (a) the quantum of Vodafone's dues for which Government has acquired equity;
- (b) details of power/authority Government would have in Vodafone being its largest shareholder and whether Government would have presence in the company's operational board;
- (c) whether Government shall increase its ownership stake further if Vodafone fails to service its deferred AGR dues and spectrum liabilities after the moratorium, details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has an exit strategy from having ownership in Vodafone, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether Government plans to explore the merger of its holdings in telecom sector and avail of synergies, details thereof?

### **Review of privacy policy of Telecom Service Providers**

**386 Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Department has reviewed the privacy policy of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) in India due to concerns over the collection and protection of personal data;
- (b) whether the privacy policies of TSPs are compliant with the Information Technology Act, 2000 and the Information Technology (Reasonable security practices and procedures and sensitive personal data or information) Rules, 2011;
- (c) whether Department has imposed any fines on TSPs for violation of the aforementioned Act and Rules made thereunder; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Ghar Tak Fibre scheme in Odisha**

**387 Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Wi-Fi technology is used to provide the services in rural areas under the BharatNet project, if so, the plan for the deployment of Wi-Fi technology in rural areas in the State of Odisha;
- (b) the status of Ghar Tak Fibre scheme to connect all the inhabited villages of Odisha; and
- (c) the status of the sanction of DPR submitted by the State, date of commencement and target date of completion?

### **Spam and phishing calls**

**388 Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

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



- (a) the consumer complaints received in the preceding three years regarding spam and phishing calls;
- (b) whether Government has determined the States hardest hit by spam and phishing calls, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has formulated any guidelines to prevent such spam calls and phishing calls, if so, the details thereof and the implementation status of the same?

#### **Simplifying process for satellite networks**

**389 Shri Y. S. Chowdary:**

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

- (a) whether the Department of Telecom (DoT) is contemplating on simplifying the process for setting up satellite networks for expeditious roll out of services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it would allow supporting backhaul connectivity for telecom networks and reducing the clearance procedures; and
- (d) if so, the progress made so far and by what time, the final policy would be implemented?

#### **Broadband connectivity in Gram Panchayats of Odisha**

**390 Shri Prasanna Acharya:**

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

- (a) the number of Gram Panchayats (GPs) in Odisha which have been provided with high speed broadband connectivity and the plans to connect all the villages with internet connectivity; and
- (b) the number of villages in Odisha which have been provided with Wi-Fi facility and the plan for deployment of Wi-Fi technology in rural areas in Odisha?

#### **Creation of storage facility**

**391 Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

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

- (a) whether 2.35 LMT of storage facility for foodgrains has been created in the country during the last one year by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of cold storage facility created during the last one year till date in the country, State-wise?

#### **Storage facility in Maharashtra**

**392 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:**

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

- (a) the adequacy of foodgrains storage facilities in the State of Maharashtra, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Ministry has any data about the amount of foodgrains stored in the State of Maharashtra since 2019, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Ministry's regulatory bodies have any data about the foodgrains that have been wasted in storage in Maharashtra since 2019, if so, the details thereof and if not, the

reasons therefor?

### **Cancellation of ration cards**

393 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

**Shri John Brittas:**

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

- (a) whether more than three crore ration cards have been cancelled so far for not being linked with Aadhaar;
- (b) if so, details thereof and the reasons therefor during last three years, year-wise along with number of cancelled ration cards which belonged to Adivasi/marginalised communities;
- (c) whether there have been cases where finger-print/iris scanner for Aadhaar verification has not worked in remote/rural/tribal areas and that has led to the cancellation;
- (d) if so, Government plan to avoid such incorrect cancellations; and
- (e) the number of ration cards registered for migrant workers in each of four metro cities during the last three years?

### **Distribution of foodgrains under PMGKAY**

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

**Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

**Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

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

- (a) the number of beneficiaries provided with foodgrains under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), State-wise; and
- (b) whether it is a fact that number of beneficiaries of this scheme are increasing because Government schemes are not proving to be successful in improving financial condition of such beneficiaries?

### **Procurement of paddy at MSP**

395 # **Shri Brijlal:**

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

- (a) the quantum of paddy procurement made at MSP under the Kharif marketing season 2021-22 so far, and the number of farmers from whom the said procurement has been made; and
- (b) the number of farmers getting benefitted from it and the number of farmers to whom payment has been made through MSP mechanism, the details thereof?

### **Distribution of foodgrains and expenditure incurred under 5th phase of PMGKAY**

396 # **Shri Brijlal:**

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

- (a) the amount of foodgrains, in tonnes, which has been distributed so far in the 5th phase of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) introduced during the COVID-19 crisis; and
- (b) the number of poor families benefitted under this Yojana and the amount of expenditure

incurred thereon, so far, the details thereof?

### **Removal of medical profession from Consumer Protection Act**

**397 Dr. Subramanian Swamy:**

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

- (a) whether Government had amended the Consumer Protection Act to remove the medical profession from the purview of the Act;
- (b) if so, when this amendment was implemented; and
- (c) if not, whether Government is considering any proposal for removal of the same in future?

### **Irregularities in distribution of ration under PMGKAY in Madhya Pradesh**

**398 # Shri Digvijaya Singh:**

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

- (a) the number of complaints of corruption and irregularities in distribution of ration under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) received during 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 in Madhya Pradesh; and
- (b) the names and number of accused and the details of action taken on such complaints by the State and the current status thereof, district-wise?

### **Silo capacity in the country**

**399 Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

**Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

**Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

**Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

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

- (a) the total quantum of foodgrains available in storage across the country as on date, State-wise;
- (b) the number of silo sites in development, including the current status of each site, respective estimated storage capacity and estimated date of completion; and
- (c) the progress made as on date towards the goal of doubling country's silo capacity to 15 lakh tonnes by 2019-29 under Public Private Partnership (PPP)?

### **Distribution of foodgrains for migrant workers**

**400 Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

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

- (a) the steps taken under Section 9 of National Food Security Act, 2013 to re-determine the total number of persons to be covered under rural and urban areas of the State, as directed by the Supreme Court;
- (b) details of foodgrains distributed to implement schemes for providing rations to migrant workers, State/UT-wise, including details of States which sought additional foodgrains and quantity of foodgrains provided to them;
- (c) details of implementation of One Nation, One Ration card scheme to encourage faster

uptake, State/UT-wise; and

(d) steps being taken to ensure distribution of foodgrains in absence of National Data Base for unorganised migrant workers?

### **Fake ration card holders in the country**

**401 # Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

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

(a) whether Government is aware that there are such ration card holders in large numbers in the country who are availing ration facility from two or more places;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government has taken any action against such fake ration card holders and Government officials responsible for issuing such fake ration cards, if so, the details thereof?

### **Construction of godowns**

**402 Shri Rajmani Patel:**

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

(a) whether central food godowns have been constructed by Government during the last five years;

(b) if so, the number of such godowns and their storage capacity; and

(c) the number of functional and non-functional godowns, State-wise?

### **Distribution of poor quality and contaminated items through PDS shops in Tamil Nadu**

**403 Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

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

(a) whether Government is aware that many complaints have been lodged in Tamil Nadu for distributing poor, substandard and contaminated items through Public Distribution System (PDS) shops as Pongal gift;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether Government would take action on Tamil Nadu Government for issuing of substandard and contaminated items; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Procurement of foodgrains**

**404 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

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

(a) the names and quantity of all types of foodgrains procured since 2019, till date, State-wise;

(b) the total number of farmers involved in procurement (non DCP) process since 2019 till date, State-wise;

(c) the percentage of foodgrains lifted by State Governments from FCI against allocation since 2019, till date, State-wise; and

(d) whether any changes were made for procurement during the COVID-19 pandemic and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Applications received under various schemes**

**405 Shri Ripun Bora:**

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

- (a) the number of applications received by the Central Government under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI), Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECs) and Modified Electronic Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) 2.0 schemes respectively along with the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has given approval to any of the applications received;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the amount disbursed thereunder, scheme-wise; and
- (d) the details of amount of investment expected to be brought in and employment expected to be generated because of these incentives in the electronics sector?

#### **Promotion of production of semiconductors**

**406 Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla:**

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Central Government to promote the production of semiconductors in India and the details thereof;
- (b) the amount of funds allocated, disbursed and utilised for the same;
- (c) whether any Indian or foreign companies have come forward to set up semiconductor designing and manufacturing plants in India and the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Launch of digital payment gateway**

**407 Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

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

- (a) whether the National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) has partnered with PayU and NSDL to offer the payment gateway services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the main reasons for selecting PayU as a partner in this initiative and the details of the partnership agreement?

#### **Web based apps targeting women**

**408 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that web based apps are being/ have been created targeting women and posting their doctored pictures and objectionable comments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any action against such app creators;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Policy for semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystem**

**409 Shri Sanjay Seth:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is severe supply crunch of semiconductor chips triggered by the prolonged impact of the Covid 19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has approved a policy for semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystem in the country as a global hub for hi-tech production; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Role of Tek Fog App in spreading misinformation**

**410 Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

**Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

**Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

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

- (a) whether Government has or intends to investigate the role of Tek Fog App in spreading misinformation during the anti-Citizenship (Amendment) Act protests, Delhi communal violence and COVID-19 pandemic in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ministry tracks and monitors apps designed to manipulate social media platforms with the intent to spread hate speech and misinformation;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether Government has or intends to investigate the Tek Fog App which has been used to hijack Twitter's trending section and to harass journalists online?

### **Electronics industry**

**411 Shri K.J. Alphons:**

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

- (a) the size of the electronics industry in India;
- (b) the percentage that is imported as finished products and as components; and
- (c) whether this percentage has improved in favour of domestic production in the last five years?

### **Data linkage between Aadhaar and Voter ID**

**412 Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

**Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

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

- (a) whether there are provisions to prevent the misuse of the linkage between Aadhaar and Voter ID;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether data within the Voter ID database can interact with data across databases linked to Aadhaar;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government has investigated potential misuse of Aadhaar data for election purposes, such as voter profiling; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof including measures to prevent the same and if not, the reasons therefor?

### Action against Tek Fog App

413 **Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

**Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

**Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

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

- (a) whether Government has or intends to take action against Tek Fog App which allows operatives to hack into and take over WhatsApp accounts of private citizens;
- (b) if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has or intends to investigate how personal information of targeted WhatsApp users has been phished by Tek Fog App and utilised as part of harassment campaigns;
- (d) if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor; and
- (e) details of how Government intends to protect citizens from the threats of identity theft and potential legal liability for criminal cases emanating from their hacked phone numbers?

### Assistance to fishermen under Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Package

414 # **Shri Rajendra Gehlot:**

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

- (a) the State-wise details of steps taken by Government to provide training and financial assistance to the fishermen under the Aatma Nirbhar Bharat campaign;
- (b) the details of schemes being run to increase fish production and enhance the income of fishermen in the State of Rajasthan; and
- (c) the district-wise details of the training camps organized during the last three years for training related to fish production in the districts of the State of Rajasthan?

### Schemes for animal feed producers

415 # **Shri Ramkumar Verma:**

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

- (a) whether Government has started any new scheme to provide guidance, training, encouragement and protection to packaged animal feed producers during the last three years, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is any system put in place by Government to check the quality of packaged feed and cattle food and also to monitor the expiry date printed on the packets;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, whether Government proposes to make available the packaged feed at lower prices to dairy producers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

### Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana

416 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

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

- (a) whether an estimated investment of Rs.20,050 crores for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) has been made in all the States/Union Territories including West Bengal over a period of five years from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25;
- (b) how much has been invested of the estimated investment and progress of the implementation year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Indigenous cow breeds**

**417 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated any plan/scheme to enhance the milk yield of indigenous cow breeds in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has conducted/undertaken any detailed research in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **20th Livestock Census**

**418 Shri Jawhar Sircar:**

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

- (a) whether the results of the 20th Livestock Census of 2019 reveal that the total number of cattle in the country has increased over the previous Census;
- (b) whether it further reveals the cow population has increased substantially in the last two decades;
- (c) Government's analysis of this development;
- (d) how does Government view the economics of the cow dairy industry, especially for small farmers; and
- (e) whether Government assist small farmers in the healthier maintenance of their cows?

### **Development of fisheries sector in Gujarat**

**419 # Shri Narhari Amin:**

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

- (a) the scheme-wise details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized for development of fisheries sector in the State of Gujarat during the last three years and the current financial year; and
- (b) whether Government has received the utilization report from the State Government during this period, if so, the details thereof?

### **Aquatic Quarantine Facility**

**420 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

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

- (a) whether Ministry has planned to set up world-class Aquatic Quarantine Facility (AQF) and Broodstock Multiplication Centre (BMC) with an estimated cost of Rs. 168 crores at Nakkapalli in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the present status of the project;
- (d) by when the project planned will be completed;
- (e) whether there is time and cost overrun in the project; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?



### **Breeding policy for cattle**

**421 Shri K.J. Alphons:**

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

- (a) the breeding policy for cattle in the country;
- (b) the average milk production of local cattle in the country;
- (c) whether animal husbandry is sustainable with the current level of milk production by local cattle; and
- (d) if so, provide the economics of it?

### **Blue revolution : Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries scheme**

**422 Ms. Sushmita Dev:**

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

- (a) the State-wise details of total amount of money sanctioned and utilized under the Blue revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries Scheme;
- (b) the district-wise details of the amount of funds sanctioned and spent under this scheme in Assam and West Bengal;
- (c) the year-wise details of the number of fish/prawn hatchery established under this scheme in West Bengal and Assam from 2017 to 2021;
- (d) how many fishermen houses have been approved and constructed under this scheme in Assam and West Bengal; and
- (e) how many post harvest infrastructure facilities have been sanctioned and built under this scheme in West Bengal and Assam?

### **Setting up of RDDDL at Bhubaneswar**

**423 Shri Muzibulla Khan:**

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

- (a) whether Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has considered setting up a Regional Disease Diagnosis Laboratory (RDDDL) at Bhubaneswar having BSL-III lab facility; and
- (b) if so, by when it can be established?

### **Fishermen and their organisations**

**424 Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

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

- (a) the total number of people employed in fisheries activities;
- (b) the definition of fisherman and how they are methodologically different from non fishermen engaged in fisheries;
- (c) the number of fishermen in the country and whether they are registered;
- (d) Government schemes to strengthen fishermen individually who fish in seas and their cooperative groups; and
- (e) the comparative facilities provided to fishermen that fish in sea and those in rivers and ponds?

### **FMD vaccine**

**425 Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

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

- (a) the details of districts that have achieved 100 percent Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) vaccination of the bovine population;
- (b) the details of cattle deaths registered due to FMD vaccine, district-wise;
- (c) whether Government is aware of the non-supply of FMD vaccine under the National Animal Disease Control Programme (NADCP) Phase-II to the State of Odisha; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken for timely release?

#### **Wastage due to want of processing facilities**

**426 # Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the wastage of huge quantity of food grains, fruits and vegetables due to lack of adequate processing facilities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the scheme rolled out for food processing along with the progress made therein; and
- (c) the details of the funds allocated under such scheme?

#### **Low yields of food processing hubs**

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

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that India's ambitious attempt to develop large food processing hubs across the country has not yielded the desired results due to non-implementation of policies and poor basic infrastructure;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the status of Nandipet Food Park in Nizamabad district of Telangana?

#### **Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Package for micro enterprises**

**428 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

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

- (a) how Ministry is planning to utilize the PM's Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Package of Rs. 10,000 crores to help 2 lakh micro enterprises to build their own brand;
- (b) how Ministry help them with technology, standards, marketing, branding and export of their produce in line with PM's appeal 'make local brands as global brands'; and
- (c) the details of blueprint prepared by the Ministry for this purpose?

#### **Setting up of new Mega Food Parks**

**429 Shri Jose K. Mani:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any plans to set up new Mega Food Parks (MFPs) across different States/UT's;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to set up a new Mega Food Park in the State of Kerala which can strengthen the agriculture sector and food processing industry in the State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### Price volatility of TOP crops

430 **Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the erratic weather conditions like rains and hailstorms witnessed recently are likely to hit the yield of key vegetables such as potato, onion and tomato thus pushing up their prices in the coming weeks;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry has done any study in this regard; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that prices of these common vegetables don't increase alarmingly?

### Manufacturing and usage of electric vehicles

431 # **Shri Ram Chander Jangra:**

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

- (a) the details of effective steps taken for manufacturing and usage of electric vehicles during the last five years;
- (b) the number of companies which have obtained permission for manufacturing electric vehicles at present; and
- (c) the details of schemes under consideration for manufacturing and usage of electric vehicles in the coming five years?

### Industries set up in Maharashtra

432 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

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

- (a) the number of major industries set up in Maharashtra during the last five years along with locations thereof;
- (b) the details of the overall performance from the specific point of view of profit;
- (c) whether Government has any plan for setting up any major industry in the Marathwada region of the State with a view to developing the same and also for providing employment; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the provisions made in this regard?

### Success of NEMMP

433 **Shri Syed Zafar Islam:**

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

- (a) the extent to which the National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP) has been successful in upgrading technology, enhancing competitiveness and generating employment therefrom ;
- (b) the kind of investments Government has received with respect to the plan; and
- (c) the manner in which the implementation of the Mission plan has benefited the country in the global trade?

### Redevelopment and overhaul of stations

434 **Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

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

- (a) whether Government has completed the redevelopment and complete overhaul of 400 stations as announced in 2017 by the then Union Railway Minister;

- (b) if so, the number of stations developed so far in each zone with the details of facilities provided so far; and
- (c) if not, the cause of delay in the implementation and the action taken by Government thereon?

### **Indian Railways and K- Rail joint project**

**435 Shri Sanjay Raut:**

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

- (a) whether the Indian Railways and Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (K-Rail) have signed any 529.45 KM railway line project between Kochuveli, near Thiruvananthapuram airport and Kasaragod district of Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details and salient features thereof; and
- (c) whether any objections have been raised to this project, if so, the details thereof?

### **Expansion of railway lines**

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

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

- (a) whether Government has any proposal regarding expansion of new railway lines and new trains in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total fund allocated to Kerala for the new railway projects during the last five years and the current year, project-wise?

### **Financial condition of Konkan Railways**

**437 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe:**

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

- (a) the details of major capital expenditure done by the Konkan Railways in last five years for activities such as part doubling, electrification etc;
- (b) the details of total amount of financial losses incurred by the Konkan Railways due to COVID-19 and reduction in ridership; and
- (c) the details of financial assistance provided by the Ministry to Konkan Railways to recover these losses?

### **Rail connectivity to tribal areas**

**438 # Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

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

- (a) the details of such tribal dominated district headquarters in the country particularly in Chhattisgarh which are yet to be connected by rail network;
- (b) whether any steps have been taken/proposed to be taken by the Central Government to connect these tribal dominated district headquarters with railway network; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Bikaner Express Train accident**

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

**Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

**Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

**Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

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

- (a) the reasons responsible for the accident of Bikaner Express Train at Jalpaiguri in West Bengal;
- (b) whether it is a fact that despite a frequent hike in fares, Railways is proving itself incapable of providing a reliable train travel to its passengers; and
- (c) whether the Railways would fix the responsibility for this accident?

### **Train connectivity between Sitamarhi and Ayodhya**

440 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to run a special train from Sitamarhi, the birth place of mother Sita to Ayodhya, via Raxaul, Sikta, Narkatiaganj and Bagaha;
- (b) whether any demand has been made in this regard by any public representative; and
- (c) if so, by when this train is likely to be introduced?

### **Re-starting train operations from Narkatiaganj**

441 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to re-start the operations of trains which used to run from Narkatiaganj Junction to Jaynagar-Darbhanga via Sikta, Raxaul; and
- (b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Vacancies in Railways**

442 **Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

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

- (a) the number of vacant posts in the Indian Railways as of now, zone-wise data thereof;
- (b) whether the Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) conducts timely recruitments to fill the vacant posts, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the number of recruitments done by the RRB in the last five years, year-wise details, thereof?

### **Stations under Sonpur Division**

443 # **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Khudiram Bose, Karpurigram and Ujiarpur railway stations fall under Sonpur Division, which are quite adjacent to Samastipur Division;
- (b) if so, whether Government proposes to include the above three railway stations under Samastipur Division; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

### **ROB construction near Ghatkopar station**

**444 Dr. Subramanian Swamy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that on the existing Road Over Bridge (ROB) North of Ghatkopar railway station in Mumbai, there is a new proposal for expansion and construction of a new ROB; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and by when this project is expected to start and complete?

### **Extra fare on tatkal tickets during COVID period**

**445 Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways charged extra fare on tatkal tickets and put a huge burden particularly on those passengers who are financially weak and forced to travel in urgency during financial stress during COVID period;
- (b) if so, the details of extra amount charged from tatkal ticket, premium tatkal tickets and dynamic fares during 2020-21;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that tickets of around 32 lakhs passengers out of 52 lakh people were auto-cancelled; and
- (d) if so, the amount collected due to cancellation of these waitlisted tickets?

### **Nemom satellite terminal**

**446 Shri John Brittas:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Nemom satellite terminal in Trivandrum is pending with Government for approval;
- (b) if so, the response thereto;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the project was announced in 2008 Railway Budget; and
- (d) if so, the reason for the delay?

### **Vacancies in Railways**

**447 Shri Elamaram Kareem:**

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

- (a) the number of vacancies in Indian Railways at present in each category;
- (b) whether Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) is conducting recruitment process for filling these vacancies;
- (c) whether there is any other way through which the Railways recruit people other than through RRB, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the number of permanent and contractual workers or employees in Railways at present in each category?

### **Private trains in the country**

**448 Shri Elamaram Kareem:**

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

- (a) how many private trains are operating or have been granted permission to operate in India till date;
- (b) whether Government is planning to give permission for operating private trains in the

coming days;

(c) whether such operation of private trains will affect the normal train operations; and

(d) in what way the general public will be benefitted if private trains are operated?

### **Railway projects in Maharashtra**

**449 Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

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

(a) the current progress of the doubling and electrification of railway projects in Maharashtra;

(b) the details of the allocation and utilization of funds under these projects since 2016-17 till date year-wise; and

(c) whether steps have been taken to reduce further delay in these projects and if so, details thereof?

### **Non stoppage of trains at stations after COVID-19 restrictions**

**450 Shri Jawhar Sircar:**

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

(a) whether Ministry has ordered that trains on several routes should not stop at many railway stations after COVID-19 restrictions began;

(b) how many such stations are involved as on 1st January 2022 and has this measure proved to be more economical to the Ministry;

(c) how long does the Ministry propose to continue such measures or non-stopping of trains at smaller stations is being considered as a long-time measure; and

(d) whether cutting down of halts on so many routes has shortened train travel time and have these faster timings been officially notified?

### **Railway connectivity to migration and cultural sectors**

**451 # Shri Narhari Amin:**

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

(a) whether any project has been approved to connect the migration and cultural sectors in the country with railway connectivity, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any project has been identified for any migration and cultural sectors in Gujarat in this context, if so, the details thereof?

### **Issuing railway reservation tickets at post offices**

**452 Shri Sanjay Seth:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of passengers in rural areas have to travel long distance to collect train tickets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has launched a new scheme for issuing railway reservation ticket from post offices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Proposal to collect station development fee**

453 # **Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

**Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

**Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

**Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is planning to collect a fee from the passengers in the name of railway station development, besides passenger fare;
- (b) if so, how much amount Railways has planned to charge as station development fee; and
- (c) whether this policy aggravates the ill effects of the pandemic on the common man?

### **Delay in completion of railway projects**

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

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

- (a) whether there has been a delay in completion of the ongoing rail projects and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any study to find out the reasons behind these delay;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government is aware of the fact that Railways incur heavy losses due to delay in execution of projects; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the response of Government in this regard?

### **Concession to railway passengers**

455 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has repealed the concession given to the railway passengers;
- (b) if so, the details therefore and the reason for such actions;
- (c) whether Government is considering to reinstate the concession given to railway passengers in all the categories;
- (d) if not, the reason for the same; and
- (e) whether Government will consider giving concession to railway passengers belonging to Below Poverty Line category?

### **Concern regarding the Kerala silver line project**

456 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

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

- (a) the Central Government's role in Kerala's SilverLine project;
- (b) whether Central Government has any apprehensions or concerns on the Detail Project Report published by the Kerala Government on this project;
- (c) if so, the details of the same and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Central Government is considering to conduct any separate techno-economic viability study, social impact, ecological study in this project?



### **Data on vacant Railway land**

**457 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

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

- (a) whether Indian Railways have accurate data in digital format on land parcel owned throughout the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether Indian Railways have any plan to prepare digital data regarding the land under encroachment, to avoid further encroachments, eviction of encroachments and better management of the land owned as has been done for the land owned by the Defence; and
- (d) whether Indian Railways have any plan to evict encroachments from its land and put them for commercial use?

### **Cancelling of train stoppages due to COVID-19 outbreak**

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

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that the stoppages of trains passing through Namakkal and Rasipuram stations in Tamil Nadu during night time were cancelled due to COVID-19 outbreak;
- (b) if so, the details of the cancelled train stoppages during the pandemic situation, train-wise;
- (c) whether there is a genuine demand to restore the stoppages of these trains;
- (d) if so, by when the cancelled stoppages are likely to be restored; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Freedom fighters stories**

**459 Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

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

- (a) the Railways plan to contribute to Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav;
- (b) whether the Railways have constituted a committee to realise the objective in this regard;
- (c) how many railway stations have started light and sound shows to enlighten people about local events and freedom fighters of their respective localities/regions;
- (d) whether Begusarai and Lakhminia in Sonpur Division are rich as far as people's role in freedom movement is concerned; and
- (e) whether these stations enlighten the people about local freedom fighters and events through light and sound shows or other means?

### **Giving up of railway subsidy**

**460 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

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

- (a) whether Ministry has appealed to people to give up railway subsidy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry has fixed ceiling on income limit to avail subsidy; and
- (d) the amount Railways have lost by way of subsidies during the last five years and the current year, year-wise and zone-wise?

### Railway rake shortage

461 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

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

- (a) the details of the on-going railway rake projects in the State of Odisha;
- (b) the number of railway rakes that are used by non-power sectors in areas of Rourkela, Kalinga Nagar, Jamshedpur and Angul;
- (c) whether Government is aware of railway rake shortage being faced by steel producers in Odisha;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has any proposal to increase railway rakes for the non-power sector in Odisha; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

### Fare concession schemes in Railways

462 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

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

- (a) the details of various fare concession schemes offered to various categories of people by the Railways at present;
- (b) the various categories of people for whom concessions have been withdrawn due to COVID-19;
- (c) whether Government is planning to resume the concessions that were withdrawn due to COVID-19; and
- (d) whether any alternative scheme/proposal to reduce the number of travelers on Railways is being implemented?

### Chartered Trains

463 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

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

- (a) the number of Chartered Trains and coaches booked region-wise during the last three years;
- (b) the number of persons accommodated in each SC/AC coach on coach booking;
- (c) whether there is any pantry car facility provided on Charter Train and allowing preparation on food or pantry car by charter train booking persons/organisation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### Bihta-Aurangabad railway line

464 # **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that foundation stone of Bihta-Aurangabad railway line of East Central Railway was laid in the year 2007 at Paliganj in Patna;
- (b) the cost of this project and the number and names of the stations provided between Bihta-Aurangabad;
- (c) the year-wise details of budgetary provision made and expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years; and
- (d) the reasons for the delay in this project and by when the work will be started?

### **Compensation to Bikaner Express accident victims**

465 # **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

**Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

**Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

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

- (a) whether compensation amount announced by Government to the passengers killed in the Bikaner-Guwahati Express at Jalpaiguri of West Bengal is in addition to railway passenger insurance;
- (b) the amount which is being charged per passenger as railway passenger insurance at present and in lieu of that the compensation which is being given to the dependents of the passengers killed in the accident; and
- (c) the compensation amount which has been provided by insurance companies to the dependents of the passengers killed in the Bikaner-Guwahati Express at Jalpaiguri, West Bengal?

### **Train connectivity between Jagannath Puri and Vaishno Devi**

466 **Shri Prashanta Nanda:**

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

- (a) whether the Railways is planning to introduce direct train connectivity between Jagannath Puri and Mata Vaishno Devi, Jammu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways is planning to extend Sambalpur-Jammu Tawi Express to Puri via Cuttack city; and
- (d) if so, the details of such extension announcement?

### **Construction of Khurda Road-Balangir new railway project**

467 **Shri Prashanta Nanda:**

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

- (a) the present status of construction of Khurda Road-Balangir new railway line project;
- (b) the details of land transferred to Railways for construction of this project;
- (c) the details of land to be acquired/pending at State Government level; and
- (d) the Railway's target to complete land acquisition process and project construction?

### **High speed trains**

468 **Dr. Amee Yajnik:**

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

- (a) the number of high speed trains started by Government during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government has taken any initiative to reduce journey time by enhancing speed of few trains; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

### **New railway projects in Assam and NER**

469 **Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya:**

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

- (a) whether Ministry decided to go for new railway projects in Assam and North Eastern Region (NER);

- (b) the current status of ongoing railway projects in NER with special reference to Assam;
- (c) the total budget allotted by the Ministry for Assam and NER; and
- (d) whether there is any plan of Ministry for completing all the pending projects of Assam and NER in a time bound manner?

### **Late running of trains due to fog**

**470 Dr. Anil Agrawal:**

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

- (a) whether Railways has taken cognizance of the late running and cancellation of trains due to fog;
- (b) if so, the measures taken by Government to deal with this problem;
- (c) whether Government has started installing anti-fog devices in some trains; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Fund allocation to schemes under NHDP**

**471 # Shri Ram Chander Jangra:**

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

- (a) the State-wise details of the funds allocated to various States for implementation of all the schemes under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) during the last three years;
- (b) the details of the percentage of the allocated funds which has been utilised for the beneficiaries during the last three years;
- (c) the State-wise details of the number of beneficiaries who have benefitted from these schemes; and
- (d) whether there are also any new schemes under consideration under this programme, if so, the details thereof?

### **Incentives to domestic manufacturers of textiles**

**472 Shri Derek O' Brien:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken cognizance of the challenges faced by textile manufacturers on account of increased cost of yarn and rising cotton prices, the details thereof;
- (b) whether this shall impact the competitiveness of domestic manufacturers in the international market for textiles, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry is planning to provide any incentives to domestic manufacturers including export incentives; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons thereof?

### **Reopening of closed textile mills**

**473 Shri S. Selvaganabathy:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that three Government owned textile corporation mills in Puducherry are under closure for a long period;
- (b) if so, whether Government plans to extend financial aid to open the mills; and
- (c) whether Government has initiated action to settle the retirement benefits of the employees of the closed textile mills of Puducherry?

### **Losses to weavers during COVID-19**

**474 Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

- (a) whether Government has analysed the losses to weavers due to the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has announced a revival package or scheme under the Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan or 'vocal for local' for the weavers in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the losses suffered by the textile industry, from March 2020 to October 2021, State/UT- wise?

### **Establishment of handloom clusters in Andhra Pradesh**

**475 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether Government has proposed to establish a handloom cluster in Ponduru in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to secure Geographical Indication (GI) tag for the famous Ponduru Khadi which will ensure its international recognition and premium prices; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SAMARTH)**

**476 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- (a) whether Government has received any proposals under Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SAMARTH);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the quantum of funds allocated and sanctioned under the scheme in the last two years; and
- (d) the status of those proposals as on date?

### **Lack of institutional support to craftsmen**

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

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

- (a) whether there are at least 16 million craftsmen in India, whose works are not showcased in museums and in the absence of institutional support, bank credit and Government financial packages, these artists and craftsmen find no space or sympathy from any quarter;
- (b) whether export orders have dried up and domestic demand crumbled thus large-scale unemployment has increased in the country;
- (c) if so, steps taken by Government in this regard; and
- (d) the status of Nirmal Paintings industry in Telangana, the support from Government extended to help the local artisans?

### Textile parks in Karnataka

478 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

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

- (a) the number of apparel parks, weaving parks and high-tech weaving parks for infrastructure development proposed to be set up, separately in Karnataka;
- (b) whether State Governments have sought financial assistance for the purpose;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard; and
- (d) the reason for cancelling textile park at Kalburgi region?

### Promotion of jute industry

479 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

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

- (a) whether steps have been taken to promote the jute industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### PM-MITRA Parks

480 **Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla:**

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

- (a) whether Government has issued notification for setting up seven mega textile parks under PM-MITRA scheme at total outlay of Rs 4,445 crore, with an intention to generate about one lakh direct and two lakh indirect jobs per park;
- (b) whether the seven PM-MITRA parks will be set up at greenfield/brownfield sites in different States;
- (c) the status of implementation of these MITRA Parks; and
- (d) the status of implementation of the recently Amended Technology Up-gradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) for technology up-gradation of the textile industry to incentivize production with an outlay of Rs.17,822 crore during 2016-2022?

New Delhi  
The 28th January, 2022  
08 Magha, 1943 (Saka)

P. C. Mody,  
Secretary-General.

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