

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, April 7, 2022/ 17 Chaitra, 1944 (Saka)

(Ministries : Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Culture; Development of North Eastern Region; Earth Sciences; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; External Affairs; Information and Broadcasting; Labour and Employment; Law and Justice; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Science and Technology; Space; Tourism; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions -- 160

Status of ITER project

4001 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds that have been allocated towards the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) project during the last five years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that India has been reneging on the 'in-cash' contribution toward the project since 2017 and that the outstanding amount is pegged at more than rupees thousand crore, if so, reasons for the delay; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that India has deployed only 25 staff members for the project instead of deploying the sanctioned 100 people, thus, losing out on gaining vital experience, if so, reasons therefor?

Nuclear Plants in India

4002 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) funds allocated to secure nuclear plants and to address the difficulties faced in their operation during the last four years and the current year, year-wise;
- (b) details of the steps being taken to improve nuclear plants in India and to bring the reactor technology at par with the international standards along with the funds allocated and utilised for the same, year-wise in the said tenure; and
- (c) the details of measures taken/being taken to modernise the nuclear plants in the country along with the funds allocated and utilised for the same, year-wise in the said tenure?

Nuclear power plants based on natural Uranium

4003 **Smt. Ambika Soni:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of nuclear power plants based on natural Uranium;
- (b) whether the atomic power plants are facing any shortage for supply of natural Uranium

and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure regular and adequate supply of natural uranium for the nuclear power plants?

Efforts to increase Nuclear Energy

4004 **Shri Prakash Javadekar:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) the new invention to produce more nuclear energy;

(b) whether India is a part of this invention; and

(c) the efforts which India is making to increase Nuclear Energy?

Storage of spent nuclear fuel at Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant

4005 **Shri P. Wilson:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any response to the representation sent by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. M K Stalin raising concerns over storage of spent nuclear fuel at Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant as it could lead to disastrous impacts on the environment and the people residing in and around such plants;

(b) whether studies have been conducted and undertaken by Government with regards to environmental clearances and safety on the proposal to store spent nuclear fuel (SNF) at the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KNPP) site; and

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

Use of 3D digital format technology to preserve at-risk art and paintings

4006 **Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu:**

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the use of 3D digital format with interactive audio and visuals that can be effectively used to preserve at-risk art and paintings, monuments and antiquities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to make use of latest digital display technology in protecting and preserving the ancient arts, paintings, antiques and monuments?

Celebrating life of iconic personalities

4007 **Shri Jawhar Sircar:**

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

(a) iconic personalities whose landmark years of life were celebrated by Government in the last five years;

(b) if so, the total cost for such celebrations;

(c) whether there are any plans of similar magnitude to celebrate the 250th birth anniversary of the first great religious and social reformer of modern India, Raja Rammohan Roy; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not celebrating his life and achievements?

Indian Institute of Heritage

4008 Shri Sanjay Seth:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has established Indian Institute of Heritage;
- (b) if so, the functions and courses started by this Institute;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that there is shortage of human resources in the field of museology in the country; and
- (d) if so, the steps Government is taking to include an introductory course on museology in the curriculum at senior secondary level?

Preserving heritage arts and craft traditions of Maharashtra

4009 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

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

- (a) whether Government has identified heritage crafts and art traditions of the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to promote them;
- (c) whether there exists any Regional Centre dedicated to promote the same;
- (d) if so, details of programmes undertaken in the last two years, including amount sanctioned, disbursed and utilised for the same;
- (e) whether any steps were taken for protecting livelihoods of artisans/craftsmen during the pandemic, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether Government plans to dedicate any new centres for promotion of heritage crafts and art traditions of Maharashtra?

Cultural mapping of villages

4010 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has started cultural mapping of villages in the country;
- (b) if so, the aims and objective of such mapping;
- (c) villages selected from the State of Andhra Pradesh for cultural mapping;
- (d) whether Government has created data base and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) subsequent steps proposed to be taken to protect and promote identified cultures, traditions, art forms, etc., of identified villages?

Conservation of old Memorial Arches

4011 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

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

- (a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has taken up the conservation of a century-old World War I and II Memorial Arches, currently in a dilapidated condition; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof/progress made, State-wise and also the funds sanctioned/spent since 2017 onwards till date and if not, the reasons therefor?

Development of Centrally Protected Monuments

4012 Shri Abdul Wahab:

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

- (a) the names of centrally protected monuments in the country;
- (b) whether Government has any data on the tourist inflow and revenue generated from these monuments;
- (c) if so, the monument-wise, State-wise and year-wise data of income generated from the monuments during the last five years;
- (d) whether Government has any data on the funds allocated for the expansion, renovation and development of these centrally protected monuments in the last five years; and
- (e) if so, the year-wise data thereof?

Retrieval of antiquities from foreign countries

4013 Shri Abdul Wahab:

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

- (a) whether Government has any data on the historical artefacts, paintings or antiquities belonging to India which has been taken out from the country;
- (b) if so, the country-wise details thereof;
- (c) the details of such possessions retrieved in the last five years;
- (d) whether Government is willing to demand India's former colonisers, especially England to return antiquities belonging to India; and
- (e) if so, the details of actions that Government would take in this regard?

Modifying public library system

4014 Shri K.C. Venugopal:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that public libraries have been neglected for a long time in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of libraries operational under the Ministry, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps Government is taking to modify public library system keeping in mind the latest developments in the field of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in coordination with States?

Filling of posts at Nava Nalanda Mahavihara

4015 Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Shri Ram Nath Thakur:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) details of teaching and non-teaching vacancies filled in Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, a deemed University, during last two years, post-wise;
- (b) whether eligibility criteria has been fixed as per Government norms for appointment of non-teaching staff and UGC norms for teaching posts;
- (c) whether reservation roster policy has been followed in appointment, if so, whether advertisement reflects the post reserved for particular reserve category on which appointments have been made;
- (d) whether posts had been identified for physically challenged candidates according to provisions applicable in public employment; and
- (e) whether Government has approved appointments, if so, details in this regard?

Survey of monuments in Himachal Pradesh

4016 # **Ms. Indu Bala Goswami:**

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey of monuments, forts and other important buildings;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof including the State of Himachal Pradesh;
- (c) whether any fund has been allocated for the repair and maintenance of monuments/forts located in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Construction work in prohibited and regulated areas

4017 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

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

- (a) total number of protected monuments under Archaeological Survey of India, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has reclassified the prohibited areas and regulated areas, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of monuments out of the total protected monuments that have new construction work, including Government/public work going on under prohibited and regulated areas, State-wise details thereof?

Clean water in villages of NER

4018 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

Will the Minister of **Development of North Eastern Region** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether North-East Region possesses more than 33 per cent water of total water available in the country and whether many tribal villages in Khasi Hills of the State of Meghalaya face scarcity of water;
- (b) if so, the number of villages in Meghalaya which face water scarcity;
- (c) steps being taken to utilise huge water resources in the North-East Region;
- (d) the number of villages in the North-East in general and Meghalaya in particular having access to clean water supply; and
- (e) the holistic plan of Government to supply clean water to the villages in the North-East?

Mountain springs in NER

4019 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

Will the Minister of **Development of North Eastern Region** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that mountain springs are the good and major sources of water in the North-East Region;
- (b) the number of mountain springs in various states of the North-East Region;
- (c) whether it also a fact that large number of mountain springs have dried up;
- (d) the number of springs that dried up across the North-East Region;
- (e) the reasons for drying up of these mountain springs; and
- (f) impact on the people and land due to their drying up?

Geographical indicators

4020 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

Will the Minister of **Development of North Eastern Region** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government will recommend the Whistling Village (Kongthong) in the East Khasi Hills of Meghalaya to be geographical indicator;
- (b) the number of geographical indicators in the NER which have been identified to be recommended;
- (c) the number of places of North-East in general and the State of Meghalaya in particular which have geographical indicators; and
- (d) whether Government will form a committee to identify geographical indicators?

Renewable energy in North Eastern Region

4021 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

Will the Minister of **Development of North Eastern Region** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 99.51 per cent of the North-East's 66,682 MegaWatt renewable energy capacity is yet to be utilized;
- (b) if so, the details of Government's plan to utilize this potential by 2030; and
- (c) if not, reasons therefor?

Land obtained for IMD

4022 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Earth Sciences** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government had obtained certain piece/parcel of land from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for setting up Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) in the year 2018;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the terms and conditions on which the above piece/parcel of land was received;
- (c) whether the Ministry has utilized the piece/parcel of land that had been allotted by the State Government for the purpose for which the same was sought; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Exploration of deep sea to determine origin of life on Earth

4023 **Shri Vaiko:**

Will the Minister of **Earth Sciences** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to do investigation/exploration in the deep sea up to 20,000 feet to do research on how life originated on Earth;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any funds have been allotted for this purpose, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time period of research and whether foreign scientists would also be involved in the study, the details thereof?

Rise of sea level in coastal Odisha

4024 **Dr. Prashanta Nanda:**

Will the Minister of **Earth Sciences** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study on the rise of sea level and increasing tidal waves on the Odisha coast over the years;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether Government would consider the same in future?

Deaths due to extreme weather events

4025 Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Will the Minister of **Earth Sciences** be pleased to state:

- (a) actions that are being taken to build resilience against extreme weather given that data from the Indian Meteorological Department reveals that the highest number of extreme weather events were recorded in the last five years;
- (b) reasons for central Indian States accounting for the most number of extreme weather related deaths in 2021;
- (c) number of deaths due to extreme weather events, State-wise and year-wise from 2017 till date;
- (d) whether Government plans to implement immediate and long term policy changes to address the impact of climate change on weather, especially in central Indian States; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Cyclones in Maharashtra

4026 Dr. Vikas Mahatme:

Will the Minister of **Earth Sciences** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cyclones that have affected the State of Maharashtra in the past five years;
- (b) the economic loss, property damage as well as loss of life that occurred in the past five years due to cyclones in Maharashtra;
- (c) the details of victims identified, compensation given till date and rehabilitated by Government in Maharashtra; and
- (d) steps that have been taken by Government to mitigate the impact of cyclones and initiatives taken to reduce the loss of life and property to minimal, the details thereof?

Glasgow Declaration on Climate Change

4027 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has refused to endorse the recent Glasgow Declaration on Climate Change which aims to halt and reverse deforestation and land degradation by 2030;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has finalised changes to the existing Forest Conservation Act, 1980;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether changes in the existing law will allow more window for deforestation to accommodate key infrastructure projects?

Awareness on environmental issues in hill stations

4028 Dr. C.M. Ramesh:

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to promote awareness amongst the people in various hill stations regarding various environmental issues, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has made any study about damage caused due to infrastructure development work in various hill stations and taken remedial steps in this regard by taking action against erring officials, builders etc., the details thereof?

Land for National Biodiversity Museum

4029 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry had obtained certain piece/parcel of land from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for setting up of National Biodiversity Museum and Zoological Survey India in years 2017 and 2019 respectively;
- (b) if so, details thereof and the terms and conditions on which the piece/parcel of land was received from the State Government;
- (c) whether the Ministry has utilized the piece/parcel of land allotted by the State Government for the purpose for which the same was sought; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Ecological issues affecting coastal regions

4030 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any studies recently to understand the consequences of unsustainable urbanisation in coastal areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that coastal lands previously designated as “No-development zones” have been reduced;
- (d) area of coastal land that has been lost through erosion in the last ten years;
- (e) whether Government has any data on climate change-induced migration in coastal regions in the last ten years; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Concerns regarding Draft NCR Regional Plan 2041

4031 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the recently released draft NCR Regional Plan 2041 will ecologically damage the Aravallis;
- (b) if so, the reasons for going ahead with the plan;
- (c) whether Government is aware that a recent study has shown that large tracts of land in Aravalli ranges have been converted to barren lands in the last 30 years;
- (d) if so, the details and reasons thereof ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that one-fifth of Aravalli's lands will be lost due to ecological damage by 2059; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Industrial effluent samples checking in Punjab

4032 # Shri Rajendra Gehlot:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether surprise checks are being carried out after collecting samples from the effluent exit points of industrial units Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) and Sewage

Treatment Plant (STP) in the country;

(b) if so, the number of samples of chemicals-laden waste taken from industrial units of leather, foundry, electroplating and hosiery located at Ludhiana and Jalandhar in Punjab during the last three years along with the outcomes thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to take action against industrial units of Punjab under the Environment Protection Rules, 1986 and the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Identification and notification of inviolate forest areas

4033 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

Shri Binoy Viswam:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) current status and plans for identification and notification of “inviolate” forest areas in the country;

(b) whether parameters for the identification of “inviolate” forest areas have been finalized;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor despite nearly a decade in the making;

(d) the details of the envisaged plan and expected timelines for the identification and notification of “inviolate” forest areas; and

(e) whether Government is considering placing and recommending a moratorium on the allocation of mining blocks and/or issuing clearances to such mines located in the “inviolate” as per the current policy drafts or erstwhile “No-Go” regions?

Projects rejected by environmental clearance machinery

4034 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of projects rejected by the environmental clearance machinery since last five years;

(b) the rationale for introducing a series of changes in the country’s laws related to wildlife protection and biodiversity protection through office orders without public consultation; and

(c) the meaning of “exceptional circumstance” for forest clearance to residential projects up to one hectare on forest lands in the notification dated 24th January 2022?

Projects pending for environmental clearance

4035 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether various developmental projects/proposals for roads, railways, small, medium and big hydel power/power projects are pending with Government for environmental/forest clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, Category/State/UT-wise;

(c) whether Government has conducted any study to assess the losses caused due to delay in granting clearance for the said projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Rules to contain environmental damage due to e-waste generation

4036 **Shri Vaiko:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of e-wastes generated in the country, and portion that is recycled, State-wise in the last three years;
- (b) whether Government published any E-Waste Management Rules for effective disposal of e-wastes;
- (c) whether Government is aware that due to informal e-waste processing units functioning without proper guidelines, precautions or norms, serious environmental risk occurred to the surrounding areas; and
- (d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to contain environmental damage from e-waste, the details thereof?

Assistance to States to tackle incidents of forest fire

4037 Shri Vaiko:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that incidents of forest fire have increased in recent years, especially in Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats;
- (b) if so, whether any study has been made to find out the reasons and to suggest remedial measures, the details thereof;
- (c) whether forest fires in parts of Western Ghat bordering the State of Tamil Nadu like Kothagiri, Sathyamangalam have recently occurred; and
- (d) if so, the help and assistance provided by Government to the State Government of Tamil Nadu in extinguishing the fire, the details thereof?

Case Clearance Rate in High Courts

4038 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

Will the Minister of ***Law and Justice*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Case Clearance Rate (CCR) calculated on the basis of the number of cases disposed of in a year compared to the number of cases filed in that year, has been impressive in some of the High Courts and the Trial Courts in the States, if so, the details thereof during pre and post Covid-19 situation till date; and
- (b) the number of cases disposed of in each court from lower courts to higher court online and offline since 2017 onwards to till date?

Disposal of bio-medical wastes

4039 Shri Neeraj Shekhar:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has issued any instruction to hospitals under the Central Government and to various State Governments for proper disposal of bio-medical wastes in view of huge waste being generated by hospitals due to COVID-19;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has made any assessment of bio-medical waste generated during 2020-21 and 2021-22 till date; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Diversion of forest land

4040 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the conditions under which de-reservation of forest land is done and whether it is applied uniformly to all applicants;
- (b) whether in any instance, activities on forest land began before the clearance for forest land diversion by competent authorities;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government initiated any action against the said party for non-compliance in the above mentioned case;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether it is a fact that in some instances the compensatory afforestation is of poor quality and on subprime land, if so, the details thereof?

NGO participation in environmental projects

4041 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes to encourage Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for participating in environmental projects across the country;
- (b) the details of terms, conditions and qualification fixed for NGOs to be eligible;
- (c) the funds made available to the NGOs for the same during each of the last five years and the current financial year; and
- (d) the details of environment and afforestation projects in the State of Maharashtra, location-wise along with cost incurred since 2017?

Notification of ESAs in Western Ghats

4042 Shri Narayana Koragappa:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

the status of progress made towards finalising the notification of Eco-Sensitive Areas (ESA) in the Western Ghats?

Environmental clearance for public transport projects

4043 Dr. V. Sivadasan:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken by Government to reduce the pollution caused by vehicles;
- (b) whether any measures or campaigns have been taken by Government to encourage the travel by public transport system;
- (c) whether environmental clearance is required for the implementation of public transport projects;
- (d) whether environmental clearance is exempted for the implementation of railway projects; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Discrepancies in Tiger Census of 2019

4044 Dr. Santanu Sen:

Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the media reports of the repeated photographs of tigers in the Tiger Census of 2019;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the details of the actions that have been taken to avoid its reoccurrence;
- (d) whether Government ordered a recounting of tigers after such a report;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the count after the recounting; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Single use plastic packaging

4045 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any effort and chalked out any policy to reduce the production of single use plastic packaging for processed food; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Extinction of turtles of Indian Tent species

4046 # **Shri Brijlal:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the turtles of Indian Tent species found in Narmada River are on the verge of extinction due to illegal mining in the river;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to stop illegal mining and prevent extinction of turtles of Indian Tent species;
- (c) whether the extinction of said turtles is adversely affecting the ecosystem of the river as per a survey conducted by the scientists of Zoological Survey of India; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

Achieving air pollution targets

4047 **Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the annual levels of PM 2.5 and PM 10, from 2017 till date;
- (b) whether Government is on track to meet the objective of reducing PM 2.5 levels to less than 50 by 2022 as per the NITI Aayog New India @ 75 strategy report;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) details of measures taken to curb Methane emission from the burning of solid waste?

Bio-decomposer technology for stubble burning

4048 **Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the use of Bio-decomposer technology, and CSM machinery, as part of on-site crop residue management has contributed to a reduction in the cases of stubble burning this year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government possesses the details of the States who have procured these equipments;
- (d) if so, the number of these equipment procured over the last three years;
- (e) whether Government proposes to incentivise the State Governments by compensating them for the cost incurred whilst procuring the same; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Death of wild animals by electrocution

4049 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government takes cognizance of the serious issue of death of wild animals by deliberate electrocution using uninsulated wire traps by poachers;
- (b) if so, the steps that have been taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether there have been any efforts to decrease chances of accidental electrocution of wild animals; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Targets of National Clean Air Programme

4050 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made in achieving the targets set by National Clean Air Programme for 20-30 per cent reduction in PM2.5 and PM10 concentrations by 2024;
- (b) whether Government is aware that the programme is not legally binding with any specified penal action; and
- (c) if so, the measures taken to establish a better enforceable mandate for multi-sectoral intervention in the National Clean Air Programme?

Problem of monkeys in urban areas

4051 **Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the unaddressed problem of monkeys in urban areas of the country including Agra, Mathura, Lucknow, Vrindavan & many other cities;
- (b) the details of policy initiatives, action plan and efforts, if any, taken by Government in regard to the above and its results;
- (c) whether Government has anywhere tried for creation of Monkey Rescue Centers or Monkey Safari in the forest area outside urban areas; and
- (d) if so, the results thereof?

Environmental clearance for Ken Betwa River Link Project

4052 # **Smt. Geeta alias Chandrababha:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the approval of environmental clearance for 'Ken Betwa River Link Project', whether approval has already been granted;
- (b) if so, whether the entire project has been approved; and
- (c) if not, by when this approval is likely to be granted?

Bio-medical waste in the country

4053 **Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that hospitals in the country are producing tonnes of COVID-19 related bio-medical waste amid the recent wave of COVID-19 infections;
- (b) if so, the complete details of COVID-19 related bio-medical wastes in the country during the last 18 months; and

(c) steps that Government has taken or propose to take to approve proposals lying with Central Pollution Control Board for more than 18 months on bio-medical waste collection to meet hygiene and safety standards as laid down by World Health Organization (WHO)?

Disposal of hazardous waste at Union Carbide Plant in Bhopal

4054 **Shri Y. S. Chowdary:**

Shri Vaiko:

Will the Minister of *Environment, Forest and Climate Change* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any decision has been taken for disposal of hazardous waste at Union Carbide Plant in Bhopal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the site where the hazardous waste is proposed to be disposed and whether any trial undertaken to ensure its safe disposal without affecting the ecology;
- (d) whether any opposition to dump the hazardous waste is raised by public or any agency; and
- (e) if so, the response of Government thereto?

Development of regional climate projections for robust risk assessments

4055 **Shri S. Selvaganabathy:**

Will the Minister of *Environment, Forest and Climate Change* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to rope in premier research institutes to develop regional climate projections for robust risk assessments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) steps taken by Government to develop well functional markets for environment friendly products and disseminate them for the desired behavioural change?

Role of vultures in environment purification

4056 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

Will the Minister of *Environment, Forest and Climate Change* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government subscribes to the view that vultures are environment purifiers, and they also play a significant role in checking the spread of dangerous diseases;
- (b) if so, the concrete measures that have been taken/being taken by Government to save the vultures; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Definition of forest

4057 **Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

Will the Minister of *Environment, Forest and Climate Change* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country has official definition of forest, if so, the precise legal basis of such a definition;
- (b) total forest cover in the country and whether the figure also include trees in Delhi's Lutyens' Zone;
- (c) whether the India State of Forest Report of 13th Jan, 2022 claim an increase of 2261 sq.km also includes Lutyens Zone; and
- (d) whether apart from depending on satellite imagery, attempts have been made by Government to consult ecologists to figure out what constitutes a forest?

Lifestyle change to save the environment

4058 Shri K.J. Alphon:

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) in what manner does Government plans to promote a sustainable lifestyle to tackle climate change;
- (b) whether Government will promote any fresh ideas to change individual lifestyles of citizens since the UN Climate Change Conference held at Glasgow; and
- (c) whether Government will release measures that ordinary citizens are expected to follow in this regard?

Promotion of Indian culture and tourism abroad

4059 Dr. Ameer Yajnik:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is taking any steps to promote Indian culture and tourism in other countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Gujarat to promote its culture and tourism abroad; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Videsh Bhavan in Andhra Pradesh

4060 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry had obtained certain piece/parcel of land from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for setting up Videsh Bhavan in the year 2018;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the terms and conditions on which the piece/parcel of land was received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) whether the Ministry has utilized the piece/parcel of land that had been allotted by the State Government for the purpose for which the same was sought;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Activities on the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

4061 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of various activities and programmes launched by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions on the occasion of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav to commemorate 75 years of Independence;
- (b) whether any beneficiaries under these activities/programmes are from the state of Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has prepared any roadmap of activities for the remaining period of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the details thereof?

Visit of Foreign Dignitaries

4062 # Shri Neeraj Dangi:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of foreign dignitaries who visited India in the last two years till date;
- (b) whether any bilateral agreements have been signed with them;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to keep good relations with these countries?

Indians lodged in Foreign Jails

4063 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Indians lodged in the various foreign jails, country-wise cases, along with the reasons;
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to get them released at the earliest; and
- (c) the outcomes of the steps taken, if any?

Issuance of e-Passports in 2022

4064 Shri Narayana Koragappa:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the e-Passports issuance for citizens have been planned in the calendar year 2022; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Resumption of trade ties with Pakistan

4065 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a media report stating that 'Adviser to Pakistan PM Imran Khan backs resumption of trade ties with India'; and
- (b) if so, the views of Government in this regard?

Diplomatic missions across the world

4066 Shri Iranna Kadadi:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of active Indian diplomatic missions across the world working under the Ministry;
- (b) the total expenditure incurred by Government for running all the diplomatic missions;
- (c) the number of Indian embassies, high commissions and consulates currently active in the world, the data of the total staff, both diplomatic and non-diplomatic working under various missions and operations; and
- (d) Schemes and projects undertaken by Indian Diplomatic mission to engage with the Indian community under their jurisdiction in order to ensure their safety?

Indians lodged in jails of Gulf countries

4067 Smt. Ambika Soni:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of Indians are either trapped or lodged in jails in foreign countries particularly in gulf countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government for early release and deportation of such Indian

citizens?

Presidency role of India in G-20

4068 **Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which India is preparing for assuming the responsibility of Presidency of G-20 later this year;
- (b) the details of the activities planned; and
- (c) the manner in which it would be helpful for India's growth and development?

Prasar Bharati monetisation

4069 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhara:**

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

- (a) whether Public broadcaster Prasar Bharati is planning to allow satellite TV channels and internet streaming content providers the option of purchasing archival content that dates back to pre- Independence;
- (b) whether the department would like to justify the move on compromising the national interest; and
- (c) whether this move will serve the few political interests, if not, the details thereof?

Vacancies in Prasar Bharati

4070 **Shri Jawhar Sircar:**

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

- (a) the reasons why the post of Chairman of Prasar Bharati has been kept vacant for an indefinite period and by when it will be filled up;
- (b) the reasons why the second most important post in Prasar Bharati, namely the Member (Personnel) has deliberately been kept vacant for five years;
- (c) the number of 'experts' and 'consultants' who have been appointed or engaged during these five years even without a Member (Personnel); and
- (d) the posts that are lying vacant in Prasar Bharati and its two wings and decision of Government regarding its manpower audit, cadre reorganisation and recruitment?

Birth centenary of Satyajit Ray

4071 **Shri Jawhar Sircar:**

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

- (a) the Government's plans to commemorate the birth centenary of India's greatest film maker, Satyajit Ray; and
- (b) whether there are plans to extend the reach of Ray's iconic films to a wider audience through other Indian languages?

Fact finding committee report on news media in J&K

4072 **Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the recently released Press Council of India's Fact-Finding Committee Report on news media in the Jammu and Kashmir region;
- (b) details of the steps Government proposes to take to free the news media from the

extensive curbs imposed by the local administration in Kashmir;

(c) the number of journalists from Jammu and Kashmir who have reported harassment by the authorities since 2017, year-wise; and

(d) whether the public relations work in many Government offices has been taken over by the police, if so, the details thereof?

Self Regulatory Bodies under IT Rules, 2021

4073 Shri Binoy Viswam:

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

(a) total number of self regulatory bodies set up under the IT rules and details of the composition of these bodies;

(b) criteria for selection of these self regulatory bodies;

(c) total number of such bodies which have applied for registration, whose registration was approved or rejected as also whose registration are pending with the Ministry, the names of all such bodies; and

(d) legal basis for the establishment of these bodies and their mandate in light of orders of the Bombay and Madras High Court that struck down rule 9(1) and 9(3) of the IT Rules, 2021?

Vacancies in All India Radio and Doordarshan

4074 Shri Derek O' Brien:

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

(a) whether there are 25,188 vacancies in Prasar Bharti, 9,869 in Doordarshan and 15,319 in All India Radio;

(b) whether Government has a detailed plan to fill-up these vacancies; and

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

Regional programmes in DD Kisan

4075 Shri Mahesh Poddar:

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

(a) the number of interactive programmes which have been created by DD Kisan for the benefit of farmers, the details thereof;

(b) the number of regional languages covered under these programmes across the country, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of DTH Set-Top Boxes (STBs) procured for remote, tribal, and Left Wing Extremists (LWE) areas during the last one year, the details thereof?

Accreditation to journalists

4076 Shri John Brittas:

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

(a) whether Government has brought in new provisions for granting and enabling journalists to have accreditation;

(b) if so, the details of amendments made in the guidelines;

(c) the reasons for such changes;

(d) whether the Editors Guild of India demanded withdrawal of these new guidelines by referring the same as vague, subjective, arbitrary and draconian; and

(e) if so, the response of Government thereto?

Uplinking and downlinking of Indian Channels

4077 Shri John Brittas:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that television channels uplinking from India are dependent on foreign satellites for their broadcasting;
- (b) if so, the details thereof with number of television channels in foreign and Indian satellites;
- (c) the measures taken to provide sufficient bandwidth for the Indian broadcast industry; and
- (d) the details thereof?

Application pending for RNI registration

4078 Dr. V. Sivadasan:

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

- (a) the number of pending applications for Registrar of Newspapers of India (RNI) registration;
- (b) the number of RNI registration since 2017, year-wise; and
- (c) the number of applications for RNI registration rejected since 2017, year-wise?

Legal protections to gig workers

4079 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of new '10-minute delivery' business models and rising number of accidents of delivery executives/partners working under this model;
- (b) whether Government has laid any uniform policy on the kind of insurance cover to drivers or delivery partners in cases of accidents or medical emergencies;
- (c) whether Government has taken cognizance of the fact that due to absence of a legislation granting protection to gig workers, especially delivery executives, they are left without a social security net in case they meet with an accident while on job; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any measures in this regard?

Atmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana (ABRY)

4080 Dr. Ameer Yajnik:

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has started Atmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana (ABRY) for the creation of new employment;
- (b) if so, the details of new employment generation, under this initiative, State-wise;
- (c) whether financial assistance has been provided by Government to both employers and employees under this initiative and the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) whether Government has any direct financial scheme to help the informal sector workers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Data on seasonal migrants

4081 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of seasonal migrant labourers migrating from different States each year, gender-wise and caste-wise data thereof;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any studies to understand the reasons for large-scale seasonal migration from different States each year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has adopted any measure to address this issue by providing alternate employment opportunities in their home villages;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether it is a fact that these workers get lower wages than workers from the host State; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

EPFO interest rate

4082 Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) interest rate since 2017, year-wise;
- (b) whether EPFO is currently providing the lowest interest rate during the last four decades, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Finance Ministry has written to the Ministry of Labour and Employment to reduce EPFO interest rates, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the amount of withdrawals done since 2017, year-wise?

Benefits of e-SHRAM registration

4083 Shri Kumar Ketkar:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Common Service Centre (CSC) and Aadhaar Kendra which were increased for e-Shram registration, the details thereof, State-wise and city-wise;
- (b) whether accidental and disability insurance under Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana is just for one year, if so, whether Government plans to extend the scheme;
- (c) details of workers who have received benefits of e-Shram registration, State-wise;
- (d) Government's plan to keep e-Shram portal as a registration system; and
- (e) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh transferred cash in bank account of 1.5 crores workers under e-Shram benefits, if so, from when and the transferred amount?

Welfare of construction and industrial workers

4084 Shri Kumar Ketkar:

Shri Tiruchi Siva:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) deaths and injuries of construction and industrial workers during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise details thereof;
- (b) whether any social audit has been conducted to assess the problems at construction and industrial sites, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) creches and schools provided for children of construction workers at their work sites during the last five years, State-wise data thereof?

Reverse Migration

4085 **Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

the details of studies which have been conducted by Government on reverse migration, death and loss of livelihood in the informal sector due to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Status of Jobs in manufacturing sector

4086 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

(a) details of the number of jobs in manufacturing sector created in the country and share of manufacturing jobs as a percentage of total employment in the country during last five years, year-wise;

(b) whether Government has analysed the causes for declining share of manufacturing jobs in total employment over the last decade, despite policy measures like Make in India and Production Linked Subsidy, if so, the reasons for declining trend; and

(c) whether Government has prepared an action plan to revive manufacturing sector, thereby enhancing employment opportunities and reduce burden on agriculture to provide employment, if so, the details thereof?

Upgradation of employment exchanges

4087 **Shri Syed Zafar Islam:**

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to upgrade employment exchanges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to consider the requests made by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for financial assistance in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken in this regard?

Additional benefits under PM-SYM Pension Scheme

4088 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

(a) aims and objectives of PM Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM) Pension Scheme for informal workforce;

(b) details of enrolments since implementation of the above scheme, month-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether there are any plans to give additional benefits/incentives under PM-SYM Pension Scheme for wider acceptance and to cover more and more workers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether lack of publicity is one of the factors for low enrolments; and

(f) if so, Government's plan to address this?

National Child Labour project

4089 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Child Labour Project which was valid till 31st March, 2021, has not been extended yet;

(b) the policy being made by Government in respect of personnel working in the District Project Committee offices under National Child Labour Project for the last 20-25 years, if NCLP project is being included in Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan; and
 (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Increase in child labourers due to COVID-19 pandemic

4090 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) increase in the number of child labourers in the country due to COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) whether Government proposes to allocate budget for National Child Labour Project (NCLP) society for conducting survey at district level, so that the actual number of child labourers can be estimated;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) measures being taken by Government for economic, mental and social upliftment of these child labourers?

Exploitation of garment workers

4091 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed the working conditions of those involved in the garment industry that supplies/exports to top international brands;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the minimum wage of garment workers in India and the wages they earn on hourly basis by top international brands;
- (d) whether it is a fact that there exists a gender wage gap between males and females in the Indian garment industry;
- (e) whether Government has taken any measures to rescue garment workers from exploitation and has placed safeguards to protect their rights; and
- (f) if so, details thereof?

Setting up of ESI hospital at Una

4092 # **Ms. Indu Bala Goswami:**

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up ESI hospital in Una district of the State of Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether modern lab facilities would be provided to the patients for getting lab tests done in this hospital; and
- (d) by when the construction work would start for this hospital and the amount of funds to be spent on the same?

Employment in Government and public sector

4093 **Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of people working in Government and Public Sector Undertaking, year-wise figures since 2017;
- (b) the percentage of public sector employment in the total employment in the country,

- year-wise since 2017;
- (c) whether it has decreased over years; and
- (d) if so, the reason therefor?

Minimum Pension and EPS, 1995

4094 Dr. Santanu Sen:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the current minimum pension of ₹ 1,000 under the Employees Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 is adequate;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, whether Government is considering the recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour to raise the minimum pension to ₹ 2,000;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Ministry has written to Finance Ministry in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

Employment opportunities to check migration

4095 # Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes introduced with the objective of providing adequate employment opportunities in rural areas and small towns of the country;
- (b) whether Government has any special scheme to provide employment opportunities in above areas so as to stop migration of the people towards metropolitan cities; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Survey of Migrant and Domestic Workers

4096 Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the survey on migrant and domestic workers;
- (b) estimated timelines for completion of the survey and publication of results;
- (c) the methodology being used to conduct the surveys; and
- (d) measures being taken to ensure the privacy of those surveyed?

Cess collected and used under the BOCW

4097 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the impact on State unorganized workers' welfare boards that are under State jurisdiction due to new labour codes;
- (b) the amount of cess collected by the State Building and Other Construction Workers (BOCW) Boards since 2017 till date, State-wise;
- (c) the amount of BOCW cess used for the welfare of construction workers since 2017 including the amount used for women construction workers, State-wise;
- (d) the number of registrations of unorganized workers under the unorganized welfare boards; and
- (e) the number of unorganized workers' welfare boards which have been set up, year-wise breakup thereof?

Donate-a-pension programme

4098 # **Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha:**

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of donate-a-pension yojana;
- (b) the manner in which the workers of the unorganized sector would benefit from this scheme; and
- (c) the number of registrations done under this scheme?

Foundation for sustained economic growth

4099 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government concurs with the view that sustained increases in productivity, wages, and job security for the vast mass of Indians are the only sure foundation upon which to build economic growth and secure livelihoods;
- (b) if so, the steps which have been taken/being taken by Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Welfare of Tea Plantation Labourers

4100 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has data regarding the health indicators of Tea plantation labourers in the country for the last five years;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to improve the health and wellness of the Tea plantation labourers in the country;
- (d) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has undertaken any health related projects for Tea plantation labourers during the last two years; and
- (f) if so, the State-wise details of action taken in this regard?

Facilities in court complexes

4101 **Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas:**

Will the Minister of ***Law and Justice*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of court complexes that have no separate ladies and gents toilets, drinking water facilities and basic medical facilities, the details thereof;
- (b) the funds allocated and utilised in providing these facilities in court complexes since 2017, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) the number of court complexes that have been provided with these facilities since 2017, year-wise and State-wise;
- (d) the number of court halls that are functioning on the rented halls, State-wise; and
- (e) the number of new court halls created since 2017, year-wise?

Infrastructure development for judiciary in Bihar

4102 **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

Will the Minister of ***Law and Justice*** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of the fund which was released by the Central Government to State Government

of Bihar under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary during the last 3 years;

- (b) details of the unspent balance under the scheme (Central and State share), as on date;
- (c) the progress in construction of lawyers hall near district court at Patna and approved estimate for the same; and
- (d) whether Government of Bihar has submitted any proposal for construction of lawyers hall, toilet complexes and digital computer room, if so, details thereof?

Setting up of High Court Bench at Meerut

4103 Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up a High Court Bench in Western Uttar Pradesh particularly at Meerut;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Infrastructure at court complexes

4104 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 26 per cent of court complexes do not have separate toilets for ladies and 16 per cent do not have toilets for gents;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that only 68 per cent of courts rooms have separate record rooms and 50 per cent do not have library;
- (c) whether only 5 per cent court complexes have medical facilities and just 27 per cent court rooms have computer placed on Judge's dais for video conferencing;
- (d) details of planning to address these problems;
- (e) whether Government is considering giving financial autonomy to judiciary to address these and other issues; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Need to increase judges in High Courts

4105 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a need to both increase the number of judges in High Courts and urgently fill existing vacancies of judges, if so, the details thereof and steps being taken thereon;
- (b) whether Judicial infrastructure does not even meet the basic minimum standards, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether there is a need for the setting up of statutory authorities, both at the Centre and at the States, if so, the details thereof and steps being taken thereon?

Legal Aid to the Disabled

4106 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken appropriate measures to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to justice on an equal basis with others;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

- (c) whether Government has taken any measures/steps in pursuance of its Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Deal with Persons of Disabilities”;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the number of specially abled people who have benefitted from such initiatives, if taken?

Use of advance technology at Courts

4107 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Shri Sanjay Singh:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of advance technologies, particularly Blockchain technology and Artificial Intelligence used in judicial process and digital record management;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government is exploring the possibility of introduction and integration of these technologies with justice delivery system under the e-Court project;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it will be helpful in early disposal of cases?

National Symbol used as Election Symbol

4108 **Shri Prasanna Acharya:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a national symbol e.g. National Bird, National Animal or National Flower can be used as Election Symbol by any registered political party, if so, whether it is not undermining the values of the National symbol being used for political purpose;
- (b) the political parties which have been allotted election symbol by the Election Commission similar to any National Symbol; and
- (c) whether Government will consider disallowing use of National Symbol as party symbol?

Permitted Language for the functioning of State High Courts

4109 **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that counsels/litigants are not allowed to present their case in the language of State in that particular State High Court;
- (b) whether Government agrees with the fact that the Regional language is a necessary component in the functioning of its respective High Court; and
- (c) if not, the details of the proposed solution to address such problems?

Legislation on concurrent list

4110 **Shri John Brittas:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received representation from the Chief Minister of Kerala expressing reservation regarding Central Government resorting to legislation unilaterally on subjects under concurrent list;
- (b) the response of Central Government thereto and the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that several items were shifted from State List to Concurrent List or Union List under seventh schedule to the Constitution of India;
- (d) if so, the details of the items shifted till date since adoption of the Constitution; and
- (e) the details thereof, year-wise and category-wise, and reasons therefor?

Pro Bono Legal Aid

4111 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of cases where pro bono legal aid was provided by the States since 2017, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) the total amount utilised by each State in providing the legal aid;
- (c) the detailed break up of legal aid fund spending by each State, State-wise; and
- (d) the number of lawyers who are registered on the Nyaya Bandhu Mobile app, State-wise?

Nodal Ministry for Pension Scheme

4112 **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Shri Ram Nath Thakur:

Shri Neeraj Shekhar:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per Department of Legal Affairs, DoP&PW is the nodal Ministry to issue general orders for exclusion of employees whose advertisements for recruitment were issued before 01/01/2004 from purview of NPS and to cover them under OPS in view of the fact that DoP&PW had issued OM dated 17/02/2020 to provide one time option to cover under OPS to those officials whose recruitment process was delayed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the nodal Ministry in this regard along with the rationale therefor?

Uniform Civil Code

4113 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Article 46 to the Constitution of India envisages Uniform Civil Code;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that there have been demands for Uniform Civil Code from various quarters;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government is planning to refer the issue to the 22nd Law Commission and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reasons behind 21st Law Commission not studying the proposal referred to it earlier?

Expenditure on judicial infrastructure

4114 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in spite of Government sanctioning ₹ 981 crores in 2019-20 to States under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of judicial infrastructure in courts, States could spent just ₹ 84.9 crores, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the efforts being made by Government to persuade the States about importance of infrastructure in lower judiciary to clear lakhs of pending cases; and
- (c) the details of allocation made in 2022-23 for judicial infrastructure in lower courts?

One nation one election

4115 **Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any thinking about one-nation-one-election and also maintain the democratic freedom;
- (b) if so, the views of Government in this regard;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) Government's plan to undertake a study of such election processes prevailing in other countries?

Revamping of Legal education system

4116 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

Shri Y. S. Chowdary:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Supreme Court suggested for complete revamp of legal education system in the country, by introducing certain reforms to enable maintenance of standard and placement of law graduates;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Bar Council of India, being the apex regulatory body, has been asked to tighten yardstick in examinations, stringent control at the entry level and constant monitoring of law colleges for compliance; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and by when the revamp of the system would be finalised?

Pending Court Cases

4117 **Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is having data of all pending cases in the subordinate courts of the State of Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for such huge pendency;
- (c) whether poor infrastructure is one of the main reasons and if so, the details thereof along with the efforts made by Government so far to improve the infrastructure of subordinate courts in Rajasthan; and
- (d) the details of the other measures proposed to be initiated by Government to speed up disposal of cases in subordinate courts in the country?

Pendency of Cases in Courts

4118 **Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of filing of cases, pendency and disposal of matters/cases during the last five years in the Supreme Court, year-wise and sub-category-wise;
- (b) whether Government is aware that delays in disposal of matters by the Supreme Court and High Courts are often on account of non-filing of affidavits/responses on behalf of the Central Government; and
- (c) details of the monitoring system, if any, to ensure that responses/affidavits are timely filed on behalf of Government?

False affidavit in Parliamentary election

4119 **Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether failure to furnish correct information, giving false information and concealing any information in Affidavit in parliamentary election is punishable under the Affidavit Act, 1897 and The Representation of the People Act, 1951;
- (b) if so, the complete details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has examined any such cases during the last five years and if so, the details thereof, case-wise?

Compulsory voting

4120 **Shri Sanjay Raut:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to make voting compulsory in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and by when;
- (c) whether Government is also considering to publish the voter's name in various Election Commission of India (ECI's) website, who casted their votes in various elections; and
- (d) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Decision regarding old pension scheme

4121 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the names and designation of competent authority who has decided to go against the advice of Department of Legal Affairs to abide by the directions of Apex Court regarding exclusion of employees whose advertisements for recruitment were issued before 01/01/2004 from purview of NPS and to cover under OPS, who otherwise may face personal contempt before the Apex Court; and
- (b) the details of reasons placed on record for taking such a decision and to deny general orders which is against advice and jurisprudence and causing embarrassing situation for Government?

Leakage of examination papers

4122 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is maintaining any database on leakage of question papers of entrance examination for Government jobs;
- (b) the details of question papers of Government examinations leaked since June 2019, till date;
- (c) the details of action taken against persons responsible for the leak of such question papers;
- (d) the details of steps taken by Government to ensure that interest of appearing candidates is safeguarded; and
- (e) whether Government has set up any committee so as to ensure that such paper leaks do not occur in future?

Comments of DLA on Old Pension Scheme

4123 **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Neeraj Shekhar:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Department of Legal Affairs (DLA) has furnished its comments for excluding employees whose advertisements for recruitments were issued before 01/01/2004 from the purview of NPS and to cover them under OPS vide Note dated 24/11/2021;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of action/decision taken to issue general orders for similarly placed employees in response to comments of Department of Financial Services dated 08/10/2021 and DLA dated 24/11/2021; and

(d) the reasons why Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DoP&PW) has again sought comments from DFS and DLA in this regard along with details thereof and terms of reference for comments?

Office Memorandum regarding filling of posts for OBC

4124 **Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued any Office Memorandum with regard to implementation of O.M. dated 25th September, 1991 for filling up posts for OBC that in case sufficient number of such candidates is not available, unfilled vacancies shall be filled by the other Socially and Economically Backward Classes as upheld by the Supreme Court of India in the case of Indira Sawhney Vs Union of India and others (W.P. (Civil) No.930 of 1990) in para 124; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Reservation for OBC in promotions

4125 **Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to bring a Constitutional amendment to provide reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in matters relating to promotions at par with SC & ST reservations;

(b) if so, the reasons and the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has issued any circular/office Memorandum with regard to maintenance of roster and recruitment register by all the departments of Union Government for effective implementation of OBC reservation; and

(d) if so, the reasons and the details thereof?

DNA-based forensic technologies

4126 **Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu:**

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

(a) whether Government has decided to expand the application of DNA-based forensic technologies to support and strengthen the justice delivery system of the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the steps taken by Government for the development and application of DNA

technologies;

(c) whether Government proposes to set up DNA data banks across the country to store profiles;

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

(e) by when these DNA data banks are likely to be set up?

Innovation related schemes for school children

4127 # Shri Om Prakash Mathur:

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

(a) whether various innovation related schemes are being run by Government which help the school children of remote areas of the country to find innovative solutions to their day-to-day problems;

(b) the number of villages that have benefitted under the scheme; and

(c) the details of the innovative solutions offered by the school students under the said Government schemes and recognition accorded to these solutions in every district of the State of Rajasthan during the last three years?

Assessment of NSTEDB

4128 Shri Syed Zafar Islam:

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

(a) whether any assessment has been made on the performance of 'National Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Development Boards (NSTEDB)' in the country;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(c) the details of institutions set up/ assisted in the State of Uttar Pradesh under institutional mechanism under the project;

(d) the details of training programmes conducted during the last three years by the Boards under various programmes;

(e) whether any outside agencies have been engaged for conducting the training programmes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria adopted for engaging such agencies?

Delay in work of shore-based laboratory

4129 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that three years have passed since foundation-stone was laid for National Institute of Oceanography's (NIO) shore-based laboratory near Rushikonda in Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether Coastal Regulation Zone clearance has been obtained from Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay when NIO does not have a proper laboratory since 1976;

(d) the manner in which students and researchers would study and do research at NIO in absence of basic infrastructure; and

(e) by when will Government complete the work?

Setting up of premier research institutions

4130 Shri Sanjay Singh:

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

- (a) the measures taken by Government to promote the culture of scientific research & development;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government funding continues to be less than 1 per cent of GDP, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to set up Government funded premier research institutions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Promotion of scientific temper by CSIR

4131 Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

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

- (a) whether Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) plays a pivotal role in providing necessary base of knowledge for social and economic development of the country including that of rural areas and small cities;
- (b) if so, the achievements and performance thereof during the last two years;
- (c) whether CSIR has taken several new measures to imbibe scientific acumen among the youths; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Participation of women in science

4132 # Shri Hardwar Dubey:

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

- (a) the percentage of women to men working in the institutions related to science and technology in the country;
- (b) women working in these institutions, State-wise; and
- (c) the programme being run by the Ministry towards increasing the participation and development of leadership among women in the field of science?

Opening up of space sector to private players

4133 Shri Narayana Koragappa:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the roadmap for opening up the space sector of the country to private players has been prepared;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the support required for start ups in the space sector; and
- (d) the anticipated business in the space sector?

Earth Observation Satellite (EOS) Series

4134 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of satellites and the purpose for which they have been merged into the new EOS series and the details of the new categorization;
- (b) the purpose for which the EOS-2 satellite was created, the slated date of launch which was deferred, reasons for the delay, and an estimated time-frame for its launch;
- (c) whether Government has enquired into the reasons for the failure of the launch of the EOS-3 satellite, if so, the findings thereof, and if not, the reason for not initiating an inquiry;

and

(d) the related-projects that have been delayed due to these failures?

Space centre at Central University, Jammu

4135 # **Shri Brijlal:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has opened North India's first space centre at Central University, Jammu, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the facilities available to students for study and research in this space centre; and
- (c) whether this centre has started functioning, if so, the details thereof and if not, by when it is likely to be started?

Misleading advertisements by gambling websites

4136 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of misleading advertisements by illegal offshore betting and gambling websites on Indian TV and OTT channels;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any measures to stop such advertisements;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Advertising Standard Council of India (ASCI) is empowered to take action against such advertisement violations, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the actions taken by the ASCI to stop advertisements of illegal offshore betting and gambling companies?

Adventure tourism in the country

4137 **Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that adventure tourism in the country remains unorganised and unregulated;
- (b) whether Government has taken any active and concrete measures to organise and regulate the adventure tourism sector;
- (c) whether Government is aware of increasing number of deaths and accidents at the sites of adventure tourism due to negligence, lack of medical facilities, etc.;
- (d) whether Government maintains data on accidents and deaths caused while participating in adventure tourism; and
- (e) whether Government recognizes that adventure tourism can play a big role in increasing Gross Domestic Product (GDP) contribution of the tourism sector?

Projects for development of tourism in Tamil Nadu

4138 **Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu:**

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

- (a) the details of the projects for development of tourism approved, sanctioned and executed in the State of Tamil Nadu with the financial assistance from Government during the last five years including the current year, year-wise;
- (b) the details of the tourism projects completed so far and the time by which the remaining projects are likely to be completed;
- (c) the reasons for the delay in completion of the pending projects; and

(d) the details of funds allocated, released and utilized for the development of tourism sector in the State during the said period, year-wise?

Connectivity to iconic tourist spots

4139 Shri Sanjay Seth:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that despite India being endowed with nature's bounty and being a land of great tourism potential, its share in international tourist arrivals is a meager 1.23 per cent;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the biggest hurdle is poor connectivity especially air connectivity; and
- (d) if so, the steps Government is taking to connect iconic spots within a designated time frame?

Film tourism in Uttar Pradesh

4140 Shri Syed Zafar Islam:

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

- (a) whether the State of Uttar Pradesh has been included under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme;
- (b) the details of initiatives taken by Government to encourage film tourism in Uttar Pradesh and the extent of success achieved therefrom so far; and
- (c) whether film tourism has been fully developed in Uttar Pradesh particularly in NOIDA?

Coastal Circuit project in Andhra Pradesh

4141 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

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

- (a) whether the development of Pulikat Lake, Ubbalamadugu waterfalls, Nelaputtu Bird Sanctuary, Mypadu Beach and Ramatheertham has started under the Coastal Circuit Project in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether there is any time and cost overrun of the project;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of funds allocated, sanctioned, released and spent so far; and
- (e) by when the projects are going to be completed?

Yatri Nivas in Tribal Areas

4142 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to establish any Yatri Nivas complexes in tribal areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any of these complexes are proposed to be established in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government is implementing other schemes to promote tourism in tribal areas; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Industry status to hotels

4143 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is no uniformity in the tax structure across States in hospitality sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government will initiate policy measures for according industry status to hotels so that benefits of lower rates of electricity, water, property tax could be extended to hotels and taxes levied on hotels are rationalized and made globally competitive; and
- (d) if so, the timeline for according industry status to hotels and if not, the reasons therefor?

Self-reliant tourism for Jharkhand

4144 # **Shri Deepak Prakash:**

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

- (a) whether Government is considering to ensure better experience for tourists; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure self-reliant tourism based economy in the State of Jharkhand?

Tourism promotion in Rajasthan

4145 # **Shri Ramkumar Verma:**

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

- (a) whether tourism industry has been greatly affected during COVID-19 period;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps being taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Rajasthan to include new tourist places in tourism circuits, if so, the details thereof and the current status of proposals received and the decisions taken by Government thereon; and
- (d) whether Government has provided funds to various State Governments for the development of new tourist places in their States during last three years particularly in Rajasthan, State-wise details thereof?

Public-Private Partnership in tourism sector

4146 **Shri S. Selvaganabathy:**

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

- (a) whether there is a need to highlight the significance of public-private partnership to improve infrastructure and tackle the problem of end connectivity, which negatively affect the experiences of international travellers; and
- (b) if so, the initiatives that have been taken/being taken by Government to promote public-private initiatives, and also to ensure that India follows best practices from across the world?

Market Development Assistance (MDA) to Tamil Nadu

4147 **Shri P. Wilson:**

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

- (a) whether Government has details with regard to the funds allotted and disbursed under

Market Development Assistance (MDA) under Overseas Promotion and Publicity Scheme across the country but especially in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether Government has details of the names of approved travel agents, inbound tour operators, tourist transport operators, convention centres under this Scheme across the country but especially in Tamil Nadu; and

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

Development of Konark Temple as an iconic tourist site

4148 Dr. Sasmit Patra:

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

details of the development activities undertaken for the Konark Temple in the State of Odisha as it has been designated as one of the iconic tourist sites in the country?

Inclusion of Mahakal Baba Temple under tourist circuit

4149 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that the famous Mahakal Baba Temple in Darjeeling is highly revered amongst the followers of Hindu faith in the region;

(b) whether Government proposes to include Mahakal Baba Temple in Darjeeling in any tourist circuit; and

(c) if so, the time by when the said place of pilgrim is likely to be included in the tourist circuit and if not, the reasons therefor?

India-Expo shopping fests and fairs

4150 Dr. Vikas Mahatme:

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

whether Government has any proposal for setting up India-Expo shopping fests and fairs at a large scale to attract investments and participation from various nations while also showcasing India's development, if so, the details thereof?

New Tourism Policy

4151 Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

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

(a) whether Government proposes to come up with a new tourism policy and by when it will be implemented;

(b) whether due to massive job losses in the tourism sector during COVID-19 pandemic, the Government has come up with incentives for regeneration of jobs lost;

(c) whether Government proposes incentives and upskilling for tour guides given that the tour guides are the face of the tourism sector; and

(d) whether Government supported initiatives like Dekho Apna Desh to promote 15 tourist spots among domestic tourists has yielded encouraging results?

Promotion of tourism at Sarnath

4152 Shri K.J. Alphons:

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

(a) action taken by Government to promote Sarnath, Varanasi as a global Buddhist

destination;

(b) the expenditure incurred by Government in creating tourist infrastructure at Sarnath; and
(c) the manner in which Government propose to link Sarnath with the rest of the Buddhist Circuit?

Financial Assistance under Khelo India Scheme

4153 Dr. Amee Yajnik:

Will the Minister of ***Youth Affairs and Sports*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any sports institutions were opened during the last three years in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether there is any special provision to support aspiring athletes from rural areas, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has provided any financial assistance to schools, colleges/institutions under Khelo India Scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Youth policy in the country

4154 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:

Will the Minister of ***Youth Affairs and Sports*** be pleased to state:

whether any scheme has been formulated regarding youth policy in the country?

Projects for sports infrastructure

4155 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:

Will the Minister of ***Youth Affairs and Sports*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of projects approved for the development of sports infrastructure, construction of new stadiums and capacity addition of old stadiums during the last five years;
- (b) the number of projects which have been completed/are ongoing out of the approved projects, State-wise details thereof; and
- (c) the total financial expenditure on these projects, the project-wise details thereof?

Sports training Centres in States

4156 # Shri Neeraj Dangi:

Will the Minister of ***Youth Affairs and Sports*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds allocated to promote sports under 'Khelo India' and other schemes in the country during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government has taken any action against the States where no sports training centre exists at present; and
- (c) the number of sports persons trained where sports training centres exists in the States during the last two years, State-wise?

Schemes for sports and youth welfare

4157 Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of ***Youth Affairs and Sports*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes being run for the welfare of youth in the country;

- (b) whether Government has any special scheme regarding sports and youth welfare in the States of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the scheme being run with regard to youth welfare at Panchayat levels in rural areas of the country; and
- (d) the details of the special schemes being run at district level for the welfare of youth in the country?

Support to chess in the country

4158 Shri Mahesh Poddar:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) measures taken by Government to support chess in the country since India is considered to be the inventor of the game, if so, the details in this regard;
- (b) the number of academies created in India to nurture young talent and the amount dedicated for the development/promotion of the game, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government is considering to introduce chess as part of the school curriculum like it has been done in Russia, if so the details thereof?

Revenue from Buddh International Circuit

4159 Shri Mahesh Poddar:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) the revenue generated by Buddh International Circuit based in Noida during the last three years, and whether it is running in profit, the details thereof;
- (b) whether India is planning to bid for an F1 event in the coming future, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government is planning to reconsider the entertainment tax that is levied on such sports, if so, the details thereof?

High Altitude sports training Centre in Dharamshala

4160 # Ms. Indu Bala Goswami:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has selected land for National High Altitude Sports Training Centre in Dharamshala, Kangra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the area of land selected for the National High-Altitude Sports Training Centre; and
- (d) whether play ground for hockey would also be prepared in this Centre?

New Delhi
The 31st March, 2022
 10 Chaitra, 1944 (Saka)

P. C. Mody,
 Secretary-General.

INDEX
(Ministry-Wise)

Prime Minister	: --
Atomic Energy	: 4001, 4002, 4003, 4004, 4005
Culture	: 4006, 4007, 4008, 4009, 4010, 4011, 4012, 4013, 4014, 4015, 4016, 4017
Development of North Eastern Region	: 4018, 4019, 4020, 4021
Earth Sciences	: 4022, 4023, 4024, 4025, 4026
Environment, Forest and Climate Change	: 4027, 4028, 4029, 4030, 4031, 4032, 4033, 4034, 4035, 4036, 4037, 4039, 4040, 4041, 4042, 4043, 4044, 4045, 4046, 4047, 4048, 4049, 4050, 4051, 4052, 4053, 4054, 4055, 4056, 4057, 4058
External Affairs	: 4059, 4060, 4062, 4063, 4064, 4065, 4066, 4067, 4068
Information and Broadcasting	: 4069, 4070, 4071, 4072, 4073, 4074, 4075, 4076, 4077, 4078, 4136
Labour and Employment	: 4079, 4080, 4081, 4082, 4083, 4084, 4085, 4086, 4087, 4088, 4089, 4090, 4091, 4092, 4093, 4094, 4095, 4096, 4097, 4098, 4099, 4100
Law and Justice	: 4101, 4102, 4103, 4104, 4038, 4105, 4106, 4107, 4108, 4109, 4110, 4111, 4112, 4113, 4114, 4115, 4116, 4117, 4118, 4119, 4120
Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	: 4061, 4121, 4122, 4123, 4124, 4125
Science and Technology	: 4126, 4127, 4128, 4129, 4130, 4131, 4132
Space	: 4133, 4134, 4135
Tourism	: 4137, 4138, 4139, 4140, 4141, 4142, 4143, 4144, 4145, 4146, 4147, 4148, 4149, 4150, 4151, 4152
Youth Affairs and Sports	: 4153, 4154, 4155, 4156, 4157, 4159, 4158, 4160