

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, August 1, 2016/Sravana 10, 1938 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Coal; Drinking Water and Sanitation; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Mines; New and Renewable Energy; Panchayati Raj; Planning; Power; Road Transport and Highways; Rural Development; Shipping; Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation)

Total number of questions — 160

Revenue earned from auction of coal blocks

†1502. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal blocks which have been auctioned till now and the number of blocks which have become operational along with the number of cases pending in the courts after the auction;

(b) the revenue likely to be earned by Government of Jharkhand from the action of coal blocks; and

(c) the number of coal blocks allocated to the private sector in the first phase of auction and the fields in which these would be utilised?

Allocation of coal blocks to Goa

1503. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Goa Government was allocated a coal block by Government;

(b) what is the legal status of that coal block;

(c) whether Government proposes to give or allocate another coal block to the State;

(d) whether the block has been identified, the process started and the quantum of energy Goa would get has been assessed; and

(e) by what date the whole process is going to be completed?

Adherence to EIA notification by CIL

1504. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of mines owned by the Coal India Limited (CIL) with regard to adherence of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) notification; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the measures taken by mines towards EIA adherence?

Supply of coal to power units

1505. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coal India Limited has been asked to provide the full contracted quantity of coal to power units under the Fuel Supply Agreements (FSAs) signed in 2011;

(b) whether it is also a fact that CIL has not been providing committed quantity of coal;

(c) whether while FSAs required CIL to fully cater to power capacity of 78,000 MW, a 2011 presidential decree gave it leeway; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Underground fires in Nirsra coal deposits

1506. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a six laning of the National Highway is taking place from Barwada to Panagarh *via* Nirsra of Dhanbad district which passes through large deposits of coal;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the underground fires are raging in areas contiguous to the highway in Nirsra area; and

(c) whether the Director General of Mines Safety was against the proposed National Highway passing through rich coal bearing areas in and around Nirsra which also had underground fires?

Reduction of distance for supply of coal

1507. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to reduce the distance for supplying coals from pitheads to thermal power stations from existing 750 km to 500 km;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Construction of toilets under SBM-G

†1508. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposals/requests from the State Governments to allocate 369.48 crore rupees for construction of 80,000 toilets under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G) as per the new funding ratio of 60:40; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to allocate funds in this regard?

Providing piped drinking water to all villages

†1509. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses in which drinking water is supplied through pipe lines by Government and the percentage of people and houses covered under it, State-wise;

(b) the total amount allocated/released and spent under the said scheme during the last three years and the current year,

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

year-wise and the amount likely to be spent, State-wise, to achieve the target of providing drinking water through pipe lines for the purpose; and

(c) by when the drinking water is likely to be provided to the households in all villages?

Setting up of solar pumps for supply of drinking water in Chhattisgarh

†1510. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was proposed to ensure the availability of drinking water in the remote settlements of Chhattisgarh with the help of solar pumps of which only 960 solar pumps out of 1,722 have been set up;

(b) whether the installation of about 3,000 solar pumps is proposed in the State for which funds worth rupees 73.05 crore is required from the Centre;

(c) whether 466 villages selected under the rural water scheme which is already underway are yet to receive funds from the Centre; and

(d) whether the Centre would release funds to complete the infrastructure without any delay?

Status of NRDWP

1511. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP);

(b) what is the number of rural

households without safe drinking water, State-wise;

(c) whether there are any projects being undertaken under MGNREGA for providing safe drinking water; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, State-wise?

Providing toilets under SBM in Tamil Nadu

1512. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding percentage of households without toilets, State-wise; and

(b) the number of households in Tamil Nadu provided with toilets under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) since its inception?

Additional funds to Rajasthan under NRDWP

†1513. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) in Rajasthan;

(b) whether the State Government has demanded an additional funds under NRDWP; and

(c) whether the Central Government proposes to make an additional allocation of budget towards payment of remaining obligations and if so, by when the additional allocations would be made and if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Fluoride, arsenic and other metals in drinking water in Chhattisgarh

†1514. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether drinking water quality of various settlements of Chhattisgarh is affected by fluoride, arsenic and other metals of which only 78 fluoride affected localities have adequate measures to curb the pollution;

(b) whether there is no sufficient infrastructure to curb the problems of hard water in 21 localities and to curb the problem of availability of iron, mica and arsenic in 1,742 localities; and

(c) whether special package would be sanctioned for providing quality drinking water in the State?

(e) the other steps taken by Government to achieve the target set for TSC by involving local bodies in the country particularly in the rural areas?

Financial assistance to States for pure drinking water

†1516. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the schemes under which Government provides financial assistance to the States for supply of pure drinking water;

(b) the names of districts in Bihar which have been provided such financial assistance during the last two years; and

(c) whether Government has also provided additional technical assistance along with the financial assistance?

Performance of States under TSC

1515. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has assessed the performance of various States under the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC);

(b) if so, the details thereof including the deficiencies/irregularities noticed, State/UT-wise;

(c) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to check recurrence of such kind of deficiency/irregularity in future;

(d) the funds released for the purpose during the last three years, State-wise; and

Open defecation

1517. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that despite building toilets, open defecation is still a huge concern in the country;

(b) whether the Ministry has taken any proactive measures to prevent open defecation;

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

(d) whether the Ministry aims to adopt Bangladesh's CLTS mode to overcome this problem; and

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Utilisation of funds released under
SBM-G**

1518. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the States have not fully utilised the funds released under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM-G) during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is taking any steps to advise the States to fully utilise the funds released under SBM-G;

Dumping of e-waste

1519. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the volume of dumping of e-waste in the country has increased during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the e-waste (Management) Rules, 2015 for better management of e-waste, have been notified and given effect to;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor and by when the rules are expected to be notified; and

(e) what other measures are taken for collection and channelizing of electronic waste?

India's INDCs targets

1520. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) set ambitious renewable energy targets mainly in terms of solar and wind energy;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) how these targets have been proposed to be achieved?

Death of workers in quartz crushing industries

1521. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that thousands of workers in quartz crushing industries have died due to silicosis in the country, particularly in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise in case of Gujarat;

(c) whether Government would ban quartz crushing industries due to damage to environment and large scale death of workers; and

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

Water and air pollution from thermal power stations

†1522. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the present status of water and air pollution from thermal power stations, the estimated number of people affected by them and the arrangements made for protecting the health of such people, State-wise and power station-wise?

Checks on lakes and waterbodies in Bengaluru

1523. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether given that under Section 4 of the Solid Waste Management Rules, solid waste dumping and discharge of untreated wastes and effluents is prohibited, the Regulatory Authority has conducted any recent checks and received appropriate response from the Karnataka Government on lakes and waterbodies in Bengaluru;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) further, as required under Section 4(4) of the Rules, whether the State has carried out classification and detailed Environmental Impact Assessment of wetlands as required; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Initiatives to check pollution

1524. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the main initiatives taken to check various kinds of pollution;

(b) whether there has been any improvement, during the last two years, in

India's ranking in Global Environment Performance Index (EPI);

(c) if not, what further initiatives the Ministry proposes to take in future; and

(d) how frequently the Central Pollution Control Board revises the Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) and what is the criterion for revising CEPI?

Fire in landfill sites in Mumbai and NCR

1525. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently fire engulfed the landfill sites in Mumbai and the National Capital Region which spewed toxins causing severe air pollution affecting the people living in the vicinity;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government has taken or proposes to take in the matter?

Getting rid of filth and pollution from wastes

†1526. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the programme formulated to make efforts undertaken to get the country rid of filth and pollution from wastes more effective and the status of implementation thereof; and

(b) the present status of fixing of responsibility and financial management for implementing Government policy for creating a healthy atmosphere by making land, water and air pollution free?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Pollution of Manjeera and Nakka Vagu

1527. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that river Manjeera and a rivulet, Nakka Vagu that merges with Manjeera are being polluted with the release of effluents from nearby factories in the Sangareddy area of Medak district in Telangana;

(b) whether the polluted river waters have created a drinking water problem; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to address the issue?

Areas covered by dense forests

1528. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of areas covered by dense forests;

(b) the details thereof during the last ten years;

(c) whether any forest land has been got converted into non-forest land during that period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Environment Supplement Plan

1529. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Environment Supplement Plan has come into force;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when it is likely to be legally enforced?

Death of elephants in Tamil Nadu

1530. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, in a span of just one month, around 7 elephants have died in Coimbatore and Nilgiris districts of Tamil Nadu;

(b) the steps taken by Government to study the causes of such frequent deaths of elephants in the region; and

(c) the schemes/measures taken by Government, so far, in reducing the unnatural deaths of wildlife such as elephants in the region as well as for reducing the man animal conflicts?

Protection of endangered animals and birds in Puducherry

1531. SHRIN. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided adequate funds and infrastructure facilities to develop and improve the wild life, bird sanctuaries and zoological parks in the country to protect endangered animals and birds around Puducherry;

(b) the details of funds allocated and disbursed during the last five years, year-wise;

(c) the steps taken by Government to develop marine parks, zoological parks and bird sanctuaries in Puducherry; and

(d) the various scientific and innovative measures taken by Government to protect marine habitat in the country particularly around Puducherry?

Pre-mature deaths due to air pollution

1532. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that close to 1.6 million pre-mature deaths take place per year in the country due to air pollution;

(b) if so, what is the source of this information;

(c) whether Government agrees with such a conclusion; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Permission of NTCA for digging tunnels

1533. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that the Kerala State Electricity Board Limited (KSEBL) had requested the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) on 30th September, 2014 for permission to use explosives to dig tunnels for Anakkayam small hydro project and that no reply was received in spite of reminders in 2015 and 2016, so, far;

(b) whether, even though forest department has begun steps to cut down trees in the area, NTCA has not given permission to start tunneling work using explosives in that area; and

(c) whether the Ministry would see that the sanction is expedited?

Environment clearance to Polavaram Project

1534. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Ministry for extension of environmental clearance to Polavaram Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any approval orders have been issued in this regard for uninterrupted construction of Polavaram Project and if so, the details thereof?

Relaxation of forest laws for roads, school buildings and irrigation facilities

1535. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to relax certain provisions of the forest laws for construction of pucca roads, school buildings etc. and to provide irrigation facilities in tribal dominated villages located in forests; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, area-wise and State-wise, including Himachal Pradesh?

**Integration of NRCP in Ministry of
WRRDGR**

1536. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT,
FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cabinet Secretariat had
sought the comments of the Ministry to
integrate the National River Conservation
Plan (NRCP) in the Ministry of Water
Resources, River Development and Ganga
Rejuvenation (WRRDGR);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has submitted
the comments to the Cabinet Secretariat
and whether this matter has been resolved;
and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Schemes for environmental
conservation**

1537. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT,
FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be
pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes implemented
by Government for environmental
conservation in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the
environmental conservation is in a critical
stage in various States of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the
remedial steps taken by Government in this
regard; and

(d) the efforts being made by
Government for achieving sustainable
development in the country?

Operational mines closed in Rajasthan

†1538. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI:
SHRI NARAYAN LAL
PANCHARIYA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT,
FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be
pleased to state:

(a) the number of operational mines in
Rajasthan closed due to non-availability
of environmental clearance;

(b) whether the National Green Tribunal
has sought suggestions from the State
Governments before closing down the
mines and if so, by when and if not, the
reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken by Government to
address the issue of job crisis likely to be
faced by the workers due to such closure;
and

(d) whether Government is taking any
steps to facilitate the process of
environmental clearance so that the mining
activities could be restarted in the State and
if so, the details thereof?

Floods in Himalayan region

†1539. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR
SABLE: Will the Minister of
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND
CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the destruction caused by
floods in the Himalayan region in 1970,
2013 and 2014 was due to excessive
deforestation;

(b) if so, Government's plan to plant
trees in the deforested areas of the
Himalayas; and

(c) the types of programmes run by
Government to create environmental

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

awareness among youth of the country including these regions?

Effect of rise in sea water

†1540. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has paid attention to the Global Environment Report of United Nations, according to which Mumbai and Kolkata would be most affected due to rise in sea level due to climate change and it could pose danger to nearly 4 crore people;

(b) if so, whether Government is formulating any plan to deal with this situation; and

(c) if so, by when this plan would be prepared?

Poaching of one horned rhinoceros

1541. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a continuous rise in the poaching of one horned rhinoceros in the Kaziranga National Park and other national parks in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether the persons responsible for poaching have been punished, so far;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what efforts are being made by Government to stop the killing of one horned rhinos in Kaziranga National Park?

Identification of wetlands

1542. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether wetlands help in flood mitigation and ground water recharge;

(b) whether wetlands alone support 20 per cent of the known range of bio-diversity in the country;

(c) whether wetlands are losing to the demands of real estate; and

(d) the reasons for not identifying wetlands in the country during the last five years despite their ecological importance?

Death of spotted deer in National Zoological Park

1543. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of spotted deer died in recent rabies attack in the National Zoological Park, Delhi;

(b) why vaccination was not provided on time and why precautions were not taken to isolate healthy deer, from other animals;

(c) whether any enquiry was made by the Central Zoo Authority to find out the reasons and to take remedial measures; and

(d) how many spotted deer are in healthy condition in Delhi zoo and whether vaccination process is over for them and the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Mangrove vegetation in Sunderban delta

1544. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a change in the mode of mangrove vegetation in Sunderban delta of West Bengal;

(b) whether this change is having an impact on the Royal Bengal tiger population;

(c) whether this change is having an impact on the people of the area who depends on fishing and jungle products for their livelihood; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Existence of forest, green belts and water bodies

1545. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that forest, green belts and water bodies mentioned in revenue records do not exist on ground as such;

(b) whether Government has any plan to reconvert either the revenue records or restore areas, as mentioned in revenue records, to match the ground reality; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Tigers in Jim Corbet National Park

1546. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of tigers have increased in the Jim Corbett National Park, Uttarakhand and if so, the total number of tigers, as in June, 2015;

(b) whether Government is having any plan to frame better schemes to preserve these tigers;

(c) whether Government is providing extra funds to preserve tigers there; and

(d) if so, the total extra amount contributed by Government?

Setting up of e-waste management plant

1547. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up an e-waste management plant in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has any report on e-waste account of the country and the estimates for the next ten years and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed in consultation with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in this regard?

Parking of new vehicles in Delhi

1548. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cars are parked on narrow streets of residential colonies in the capital as the car owners do not have parking space inside their houses which create a lot of problem for the resident of Delhi and many persons have died due to fight over parking space;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to make it compulsory for car buyers to submit a map of parking space at the time of registration of their vehicles and also an affidavit that they would not use public space for parking their vehicles; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

National symposium on mining

†1549. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had organized a national symposium on mining;

(b) the States from which mining officers were present therein;

(c) the suggestions made by representatives and the reaction of Government thereon;

(d) whether some representatives complained about not getting timely permission from Forest and Revenue Departments for mines of limestone and copper;

(e) whether concerns were also raised about the interference of China in every field of India; and

(f) whether at present industrialists do not get the permission to set up the industry, even after the allocation of mines and if so, the steps being taken by Government for improving the condition?

Support of World Bank group to Indian solar energy projects

1550. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank group, under an agreement signed with International Solar Alliance consisting of

121 countries led by India, has committed to provide \$ 1 billion support to Indian solar energy projects;

(b) whether the World Bank supported projects include solar roof-top technology, infrastructure for solar parks, creation of transmission grids for solar energy; and

(c) whether India aims to collaborate with global agencies and mobilise around \$ 1 trillion of investment in solar energy by 2030?

Wind-solar hybrid policy

1551. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to formulate any wind-solar hybrid policy for near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) how it would help in strengthening the energy security of the country?

Waste to energy plants

1552. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to states:

(a) how many waste-to-energy plants have been installed till now and in which States;

(b) how successful these plants has been in dealing with garbage problem and generating energy;

(c) whether Government proposes to set up more and more such plants, especially in urban areas, where the problem of garbage is quite large and the demand for energy is high; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) how effective the Waste-to-Wealth Scheme has proved?

National Biogas and Manure Management Plan

1553. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched any plan as National Biogas and Manure Management Plan (NBMMP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the manner in which it would promote clean energy and the details of financial and infrastructural framework therefor?

Off grid and concentrated solar projects in Maharashtra

1554. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central and the Maharashtra Governments have agreed to implement off grid and concentrated solar projects in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how the industries in the State are likely to benefit from these solar projects; and

(d) what are the prospects for Konkan region under these projects?

Generation of new and renewable energy

†1555. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of new and renewable energy, in megawatts, generated in the country during the years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 and the sources from which the energy was generated;

(b) the target set for generation of renewable energy in the country in the current year and the amount of success achieved in this regard;

(c) the comparative advantages and disadvantages of wind and solar energy;

(d) the efforts made by Government to enhance co-operation in the renewable energy sector; and

(e) the prospective plans of Government for development of renewable energy sector with regard to Bihar and Jharkhand?

Solar power generation in West Bengal

1556. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated, released, persons benefited and progress, attained under various projects by the Ministry including development of Solar Parks, development of Solar Power Plants on canal banks/tops, solar projects for defence establishments, solar power projects for CPSUs as well as roof-top solar installations, etc. during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Ministry is aware that despite having tremendous potential for solar power generation, West Bengal possesses less than 2 per cent of the total commissioned capacity in the country; and

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry to resolve this issue?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Identification of districts under BRGF

†1557. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines prescribed for identification of backward districts under Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF);

(b) the number of districts included under BRGF in Maharashtra;

(c) the details of funds allocated under BRGF to the State and its utilisation;

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure total utilisation of funds; and

(e) the number of districts in the State which received funds under BRGF, since 2010, year-wise?

Budget allocation for the Ministry

1558. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to either close the Ministry of Panchayati Raj or to merge it with the Ministry of Rural Development; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Funds to States for schemes/ programmes

1559. SHRI SHADILAL BATRA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated and sanctioned to and utilised by States for various schemes/programmes by the Central Government during each of the last three years, State-wise especially in Haryana;

(b) whether the Central Government has fixed any criteria and prescribed norms to the State Governments for utilisation of funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the corrective steps being taken by Government in this regard?

Cut in budget allocations for the Ministry

1560. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether, with a drastic cut in budget allocations, the Ministry is floundering over empowering Panchayats nation-wide, with crucial schemes, BRGF and RGPSA discontinued and more than 54,000 Gram Panchayats functioning without office premises;

(b) whether, with much efforts and pressure, RGPSA was revived partially under the new Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan with an allocation of ₹ 655 crore; and

(c) how Government proposes to bolster grassroot democracy in the country, with a weakened and fund-starved Ministry?

Improved methodology for defining poverty line

1561. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any conclusion, with regard to improved methodology for defining the poverty line in the country has been reached;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating by when it would be announced;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government is considering to formulate permanent solution for fixing poverty line by applying cost inflation index to keep it realistic and if so, the details thereof?

Electricity connection in electrified villages

†1562. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified and the number of villages yet to be electrified in the country till 2013-14; and

(b) the total number of villages electrified in the year 2014-15 and 2015-16 and the total number of new connections provided in these villages?

Industrial power consumption in West Bengal

1563. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether industrial power consumption has decreased in West Bengal during the last few years; and

(b) if so, the details of industrial consumption during the last ten years?

Losses due to electricity theft

†1564. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has incurred huge revenue losses every year due to electricity theft;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether majority of cases of electricity theft have been found in industrial sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether effective steps have been taken by the Central Government to check electricity theft and these steps had yielded positive results during the last two years; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Savings due to LED bulbs

1565. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that if all 770 million bulbs are replaced with LEDs, India would save 100 billion units in power consumption and ₹ 14,000 crore every year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken in this direction and the results yielded, so far?

Amending the Electricity and the Energy Conservation Acts

1566. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to amend the Electricity Act and also the Energy Conservation Act in view of India's commitment at the recently held Paris Climate Summit;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has started initiatives to amend the above laws; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Electrification of villages

1567. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to electrify all villages by 2018;
- (b) how many villages are yet to be electrified; and
- (c) what is the specification of an electrified village?

Mini power plants

1568. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to install mini power plants in each State to augment power generation; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Revival of gas-based power plants

1569. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to revive the gas-based power plants in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any subsidies and tax concessions are being offered to these plants and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of power plants which are being given revival packages across the country?

Power situation in the country

1570. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of power deficit during 2015-16 in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether, as per the Central Electricity Authority, power generation in the country was in surplus than the demand during 2016-17;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the basis of such a claim;
- (e) the details of power generation capacity in the country, as on date; and
- (f) the details of actual power generation, as on date?

Agreement signed between India and Bangladesh

1571. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has signed any agreement with Bangladesh or any other South Asian country in order to enhance electricity generation and also to enhance the export of power;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether Government has any such proposal in the future?

Electricity supply and connections in electrified villages

†1572. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the average hours of power supply

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

in villages which were electrified during the year 2014-15 and 2015-16, State-wise; and

(b) whether the number of electrified houses in such villages is very small and if so, the average number of houses which have electricity connections and which do not have electricity connections?

Status of hydro power generation

1573. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the share of hydro power in the total energy mix of the country has fallen consistently from 51 per cent in 1962-63 to about 15 per cent, at present;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the private sector's share in hydro power generation is negligible; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to enhance hydro power generation in the country?

Initiatives to conserve electricity

1574. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of initiatives taken by Government to conserve electricity;

(b) whether any mechanism exists to ensure efficiency in domestic, agricultural and commercial sectors of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has conducted any energy audit during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to ensure implementation of the mechanism developed to conserve electricity?

Coal stocks at thermal power plants

1575. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether thermal power plants have sufficient stocks of coal to meet the current requirement and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of thermal power plants which had to be shut down for short period due to shortage of coal during the last two years; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to ensure uninterrupted supply of coal to the thermal power plants?

Power shortage

1576. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) which are the States which have power shortage for commercial as well as domestic purposes;

(b) what is the total power requirement of Odisha and what is the shortfall;

(c) how the State is presently managing its shortfall; and

(d) what suggestions and help, the Central Government would provide to the States including Odisha to overcome their shortfall?

Incentives for hydel projects of more than 25 MW capacity

1577. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether hydel projects of up to 25 MW capacity are being given incentives by treating them under renewable energy sources;

(b) what are the reasons for not giving incentives to hydel projects with more than 25 MW capacity; and

(c) whether it is one of the reasons for slackness in the development of hydel projects in the country?

Power generation capacity

†1578. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the power generation capacity in the Central, State and private sectors;

(b) the percentage of power generation from the different sources in the country during the last three years;

(c) the targets fixed and achieved in power generation from different sources during 2015-16; and

(d) the details of growth in power generation in different parts of the country during the last three years and the steps being taken to meet the rising demand of power in the country?

Closure of coal based power plants

1579. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of coal based

power plants have been shut down in the recent past in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government not to build coal based plants in water stressed regions, in future?

Electrical infrastructure in villages

1580. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether no electrical infrastructure exists even today in many villages which have been classified as 'electrified' villages in Government records; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Electrification of villages in Rajasthan

†1581. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of villages in Rajasthan covered under electricity supply; and

(b) the action plan formulated by Government to supply electricity to remaining villages and 'Dhanis' in desert areas of the State which are deprived of electricity?

Power generation in North-Eastern States

1582. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has urged that State Governments should strictly monitor the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

power projects to ensure the achievement of power generation targets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government has given special consideration to North Eastern States;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of power projects sanctioned for those States, State-wise; and

(f) the amount sanctioned and released for these power projects, State-wise?

Meeting of BRICS working group on energy saving and energy efficiency

1583. DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of BRICS working group on energy saving and energy efficiency was held recently at Visakhapatnam to discuss green energy and maximize energy efficiency;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether promoting LED lighting and solar power was advised and if so, the action proposed by Government to distribute LED lights at subsidized rates?

Electrical infrastructure for electrified villages

1584. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of electrical infrastructure on the basis of which Government deems a village electrified;

(b) the process deployed in ascertaining

whether a village is electrified and whether the assessing experts deems the presence of electrical infrastructure as electrification of the village;

(c) whether at least 10 per cent of households in each of the villages deemed electrified have access to electricity; and

(d) the number of electrified villages that have witnessed power theft during 2015-16 and the measures institutionalized by Government to check the intermediate power theft during its transmission?

Progress of peripheral expressway around Delhi

†1585. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the locations in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana where the construction work of peripheral expressway, proposed to be constructed around Delhi, has been stalled along with the reasons therefor;

(b) whether expected support in construction of the expressway is not being extended by the above States and the details of steps being taken to tackle law and order and land acquisition problems; and

(c) the details of progress in construction work of the expressway and by when the project is likely to be completed?

Construction of National Highways

1586. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many kilometres of National Highways have been constructed since May, 2014;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the details and the number of surveys conducted, if any, for construction of new roads since then and in which States; and

(c) what is the per year target, so far, for construction of National Highway?

Bharatmala project

1587. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to start the Bharatmala Pariyojana from March, 2017 for a total distance of 7,000 kilometres of road network, connecting Eastern and Western India;

(b) whether the coastal Andhra Pradesh is a part of this network;

(c) in what way Bharatmala Pariyojana would benefit the backward areas of Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the details of proposals therefor, routes identified and involvement of Andhra Pradesh therein?

Construction of Chennai-Kanyakumari highway

1588. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to build 5,000 km. of highways during the next two fiscal years on the basis of Hybrid Annuity Model;

(b) whether proposed Chennai-Kanyakumari four-lane highway is a part of this scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Status of road projects in Punjab

1589. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of under construction road projects in Punjab, as on date;

(b) the reasons for the delay, if any; and

(c) by when the projects are likely to be completed?

Compensation for land acquired for NH-45C

1590. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land acquisition for the new alignment of NH-45C on the Vikravandi-Kumbakonam-Thanjavur section has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of compensation paid to farmers/owners of land in this section, as per Government's norms and guidelines;

(c) whether the quantum of compensation has been fixed for the land belonging to villages in Cuddalore district in Tamil Nadu and by when the compensation is likely to be paid; and

(d) the reasons for non-payment of compensation to farmers/owners of land belonging to Pinnalur and Miralur villages in Cuddalore district in the State?

Road Asset Management System

1591. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to set up an independent body to measure

road quality and bringing the entire National Highways network under Road Asset Management System;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a time-frame has been set up to conclude these tasks;
- (d) whether Government has asked States Governments to computerize and integrate all check posts besides using drones for monitoring efficiency; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Bidders for projects on BOT mode

1592. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several projects bid out on the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) mode have failed to find bidders;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what are the main steps taken for increasing liquidity in road sector?

Creation of automated driving test centres

1593. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has sent a proposal for creation of automated driving test centres in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of funds requested therefor; and
- (d) the response of the Central Government thereto?

Blacklisted companies

†1594. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some companies into the business of road construction had been blacklisted by the Ministry on account of several irregularities;
- (b) if so, the names of such companies; and
- (c) the names of such companies on which penalty was imposed?

Effect of BS-VI norms on automobile companies

1595. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that there would be huge economic burden on automobile companies due to implementation of Bharat Stage-VI norms by 2020;
- (b) if so, the estimates of such economic burden likely to be faced by automobile companies; and
- (c) whether Government would take any action to ease the burden of automobile companies and if so, the details thereof?

IT-based plan for handle free movement of cargo

1596. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is working on

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

an IT based plan to make cargo movement across States hassle free and to get all the permissions with the click of a mouse;

(b) whether the Central Government has completed the exercise of consulting the State Governments before going ahead since the success of such a plan is highly dependent on the interest taken by them; and

(c) the details of manner in which the plan would work to get the maximum support of the State Governments to make it a success?

Chardham highway project

†1597. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to start 900 km. long Chardham highway project in Uttarakhand;

(b) by when this project is scheduled to be completed;

(c) the total cost estimated to be incurred on this project;

(d) whether any new alignment has been prepared so that the pilgrims may not face any risk in case of natural calamity;

(e) if so, whether there is any provision for constructing helipad in Chardham alignment so that the pilgrims trapped and facing difficulty may be rescued and taken to safe places; and

(f) the details of helipads proposed to be constructed?

Payment of compensation for Varanasi-Lucknow stretch of NH-56

†1598. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the compensation for land acquired for four laning of Varanasi-Lucknow stretch of National Highway No. 56 in Uttar Pradesh is being paid to the farmers in accordance with the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013; and

(b) the number of complaints/applications received from farmers under the provisions of Awards in the Act regarding irregularities in payment of compensation in district Sultanpur and the action taken thereon?

New alignment of NH-45C on Vikravandi-Kumbakonam-Thanjavur section

1599. DR. V. MAITREYAN:
SHRI N. GOKULA-
KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an inordinate delay in laying of new alignment of NH-45C on the Vikravandi-Kumbakonam-Thanjavur section;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has fixed any time limit for completion of the said project in a time bound manner; and

(d) whether Government has set time-frame for completion of arterial road between Chennai and Thanjavur to avoid

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

inconvenience to lakhs of passengers passing through this stretch?

Meeting of Empowered Group of All India Transport Ministers

1600. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Empowered Group of All India Transport Ministers has recommended the improvement in trauma care and the creation of a National Road Safety and Traffic Management Board at the National level;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government proposes to upgrade existing trauma centres with Super Speciality facility/open new trauma care centres with Super Speciality in accident prone regions of Himachal Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of funds allocated to meet the purpose?

Satellite Township Ring Road around Bengaluru

1601. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has submitted any proposals seeking assistance for execution of complete Satellite Township Ring Road (STRR) around Bengaluru;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether NHAI has received a further

proposal from the State Government to change the alignment along this stretch, as NHAI has already taken up the proposed four laning of the stretch between Dobaspet to Hoskote on STRR?

Construction of flyover on Cuttack-Paradip highway

1602. SHRI BISHNU CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to construct a flyover on Cuttack-Paradip highway in Kandarpur to ease the traffic; and

(b) if so, the details and the status thereof?

Grid of National Highway corridors

1603. SHRI SHADILAL BATRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to prepare a grid of National Highway (NH) corridors across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether most of the roads in the corridors are single or two lanes and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government prepares to convert them into four lanes and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government to improve road connectivity in each corridors of the country?

Dilapidated National Highways

†1604. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National Highways in the country which are in dilapidated conditions and require urgent repair;

(b) whether repairing work of these National Highways is getting delayed and if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of proposals received for repairing these National Highways from different States including Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) whether any actions have been taken regarding these proposals during the last three years and the current financial year and if so, the details thereof, State-wise and by when these are likely to be completed?

Treating road accident deaths as murder

1605. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to bring forward a legislation providing for treatment of road accident deaths as murders; and

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

National Green Highways Mission

1606. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ:
SHRIMATI SARAJINI
HEMBRAM:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plantation drive on one lakh km. of highways under the National Green Highways Mission would create jobs for 10 lakh youth and prove to be a game changer for the rural economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the total number of areas of National Highways covered under this programme;

(c) whether Government has kick started the initial plantation drive on 1,500 km of National Highways at a cost of about ₹ 300 crore;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government is planning to extend it to all parts of the country?

Progress of National Highway projects

†1607. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highway projects sanctioned during the last three years and the amount proposed to be spent thereon;

(b) the present status of all these projects and the progress thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the pace of construction and repairing of highways is very slow and if so, the reasons therefor?

Plan for Agartala-Kolkata bus service

1608. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any plans to initiate Agartala-Kolkata bus service through Bangladesh; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

Road safety guidelines for construction of roads

1609. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any existing set of guidelines of road safety based on which roads are constructed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action has been taken if the road design has been found to be faulty;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Separate lane for emergency vehicles in metro cities

1610. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to mark and/or to set up a third lane on roads for emergency vehicles in the metro cities of the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposals that have been received from the State Governments and of necessary funding therefor?

Condition of National Highways in Assam and NE States

1611. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the

present deplorable condition of National Highways in Assam and North Eastern States namely NH-15, NH-37 and NH-44;

(b) if so, the reasons for the worsening condition of these highways; and

(c) the details of funds released for maintenance of above highways during 2014-15 and 2015-16?

Construction of highways by foreign companies

†1612. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Chinese company is willing to construct National Highways and it is in touch with the Ministry in this regard, and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of foreign companies and the length of National Highways, in Kilometres built by them during the last five years and the number of cases in which deficiencies were reported to the Ministry; and

(c) whether, as per the standards for road construction, companies with small capitals can not take up the road construction work but big companies, after getting tender, are allowed to get this work done through such companies?

Widening of Dwarka-Somnath Highway

†1613. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether NHAI has any plan to widen the Dwarka-Somnath road and if so, whether there is any plan to make this road of six lane instead of four lane as Dwarka and Somnath are major pilgrimage centres;

(b) the proposed time-frame for completion of the said road; and

(c) the proposed time-frame to convert Kodinar to Veral section and Bhavnagar to Talaja section in Gujarat into four lane?

Achievement of road construction target by NHAI

†1614. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NHAI has not been able to meet the scheduled target of per day road construction;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the details of target of per day road construction fixed by NHAI?

Assets created under MGNREGA

1615. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total valuation of assets created under MGNREGA annually between 2012 and 2016;

(b) the details of assets created for the purpose of irrigation and water conservation during the above period under MGNREGA; and

(c) the details of irrigation assets created under MGNREGA and the funds allocated in the drought-affected and irrigation deprived regions during 2015-16, State-wise?

Withdrawal of RFCTLARR Bill

1616. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decision to withdraw the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Bill, 2015;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, when this Bill is likely to be withdrawn and what would be the best alternative policy to supplement it?

Meeting of NMC on Polavaram dam

1617. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1886 given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th March, 2016 and state:

(a) whether the National Monitoring Committee (NMC) has called a meeting to discuss the plight of dalits, tribals and farmers of Pydipaka and Ramiahpetta due to denial of due benefits under the Land Acquisition Act, 2013 at Polavaram dam;

(b) whether any interim relief would be given to help them obtain permanent employment and other benefits;

(c) whether a team was sent to enquire into their plights and it did not meet the petitioners on these issues; and

(d) if so, whether Government would send a fresh team to enquire into their plights on this specific issue?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Achievements of the Ministry

1618. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of achievements of the Ministry during the last two years;
- (b) whether a presentation before the Prime Minister has been made about the Ministry's last two years achievements;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Ministry has fallen short of its target and where it has excelled;
- (e) the targets set for the coming three years and the roadmap to achieve the same;
- (f) the details of difficulties brought before the Prime Minister and the suggestions made to overcome them; and
- (g) the details of core areas the Ministry is going to focus on in the coming three years?

New name and norms for IAY

1619. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN.: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the norms for allotment and the quota of houses to various States has been changed after renaming of Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) as Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (PMAY);
- (b) if so, the details of new norms and quota for the States;
- (c) whether the quota for Kerala has been reduced drastically;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether it is a fact that the quota in general sector for that State has been

completely cancelled and if so, the reasons therefor?

Persons provided employment under MGNREGA

†1620. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons who had registered their names for getting employment under MGNREGA, State-wise;
- (b) whether all such persons had got employment; and
- (c) if not, the number of days of employment provided per capita annually under MGNREGA during 2014-15 and 2015-16?

Village adopted under SAGY

1621. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) launched on the 11th October, 2014 by the Prime Minister has got its desired momentum;
- (b) if so, the details of adopted villages by the Members of Parliament (MPs), so far, and their status; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to persuade the remaining MPs to actively take part in SAGY?

Survey of Government land

1622. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether any survey was made to know the total Government land available in the country;

(b) if so, the details of Government land in urban and rural areas, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether any Government land has been encroached upon and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and

(d) the action taken to recover the encroached land?

Beneficiaries under Indira Awaas Yojana

1623. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) who are the people benefitting out of the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY);

(b) the number of houses allotted to the beneficiaries thereunder in Odisha; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the quota for the State?

Census of BPL population

1624. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR:
SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the parameters used to conduct the last BPL census;

(b) the outcome thereof along with the number of BPL households identified in the census, State/Union Territory-wise and district-wise;

(c) the salient features of various schemes being implemented/proposed to

be implemented by Government on the basis of this census; and

(d) the details of facilities Government is contemplating/has decided to provide to States including most backward States like Jharkhand, at present?

Performance of PMGSY in Kerala

1625. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the details of progress made in construction of roads in Kerala under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)?

Performance of SAGY

1626. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:
SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many Members of Parliament (MPs) are yet to adopt a village under the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY);

(b) what has been the fund allocation for this scheme, so far, year-wise;

(c) whether the Ministry has undertaken any performance evaluation of SAGY and whether it has been instrumental in developing the villages adopted;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government has allowed MPs to adopt a second village under SAGY and if so, the details thereof?

Delay in payment of wages under MGNREGA

1627. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the delay in terms of percentage, in payment of wages to the individuals under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for the years 2015 and 2016; and

(b) the details thereof, State-wise?

(d) whether necessary policy measures have been taken by Government to ensure the total transparency and impartiality and to identify the hundred per cent real beneficiaries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Unemployment in rural areas

†1628. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of unemployed youth is increasing continuously in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is formulating any special scheme to provide employment to the youth in rural areas and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of unemployed persons provided jobs by Government during the last three years, State-wise?

Implementation of PMAY-G

†1629. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working on a plan to convert one crore of 'Kutcha' houses into concrete homes under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) in three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the target fixed for Madhya Pradesh under this plan and the details of progress made, so far, in this direction;

Allocation of funds to Haryana under MGNREGA

1630. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated by the Central Government under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Act (MGNREGA) to Haryana during the last two years;

(b) the amount of beneficiaries under MGNREGA in the State, district-wise; and

(c) the funds likely to be advanced to the State Government under MGNREGA?

MSMEs established under SAGY

1631. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) established during the 1st phase of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY), State-wise; and

(b) the impact of such enterprises on village economy and employment in SAGY villages?

Reclamation of wasteland in Delhi

1632. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is taking any creative measures for reclamation of waste land in Delhi so that it can be converted into arable land;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by Government in this regard?

MoU between GAIL with Paradip Port Trust

1633. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MoU which was signed between Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) with Paradip Port Trust (PPT) on 26th October, 2013 to set up a floating storage, regasification unit, floating off shore, jetty, off-shore pipeline, on-shore pipeline, receiving and metering facilities and LNG re-gasification terminal at Paradip Port would expire on 26th October, 2016;

(b) whether PPT would renew the MoU with GAIL in order to continue the above mentioned projects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Agricultural employment for rural workers

1634. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many days of agricultural employment is given to the rural workers throughout the country;

(b) how many of them are agricultural workers; and

(c) how many of the rural workers are getting minimum wages in the country?

Revival of Buckingham canal network

1635. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made plans to revive the old Buckingham canal and other canals which were operational prior to 1950;

(b) the details of studies that have been done to revive this canal network;

(c) whether funds have been allocated for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details of plans and schedules to revive the network?

Modernisation and increasing capacity of major ports

1636. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for modernisation and increasing the capacity of major ports along with the cargo handling capacity in the country;

(b) whether Government is considering to provide road and rail connectivity to ports for the enhancement of cargo handling capacity for the next three years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the steps taken or proposed to be taken for bringing more investments in shipping industry's overall development?

Infrastructure in shipping sector

1637. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to expand/develop the infrastructure in shipping sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details and the present status thereof along with the details of schemes proposed/under implementation; and

(c) the locations identified/proposed to be developed under the said schemes along with the financial implications involved therein?

Maritime India Summit

1638. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the first Maritime India Summit was held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of issues that have been discussed in the Summit;

(d) how the Summit would help in increasing the port capacity from 140 crore tonnes to 300 crore tonnes by 2025; and

(e) what would be the potential employment opportunities that could be created due to the above?

Augmenting fleet and capacity of SCI

1639. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of fleet of vessels of Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) at present;

(b) what is the current tonnage capacity of SCI; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to augment the fleet and the tonnage capacity of SCI?

Development of inland waterways

1640. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of inland waterways available in the country, at present, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether Government proposes to encourage inland waterways system and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of inland waterways proposed to be developed during the next three years, State/UT-wise;

(d) the funds allocated for this purpose during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and State/UT-wise; and

(e) the extant policy of Government regarding construction of National Waterways Transport Grid which was supposed to cover primarily five national waterways?

Development of coastal shipping

1641. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of initiatives taken to develop coastal shipping in the country;

(b) whether any action plan has been drawn in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the progress made in this regard, so far?

Mechanisation of East Quay Berths at Paradip Port

1642. SHRI BISHNU CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the status of mechanisation of East Quay (EQ) Berths-1, 2 and 3 at Paradip Port on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis under Public Private Partnership (PPP) model; and

(b) the details of benefits of the project and the expected time-frame of its completion?

Improving operational efficiency and coast reduction by SCI

1643. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) is considering to buy fuel efficient ships replacing the old stocks;

(b) whether SCI has a fleet of 69 vessels, of which 17 are bulk carriers, 16 crude oil tankers and 14 product tankers and most of these are old;

(c) whether SCI has taken measures for improvement in operational efficiency and cost reduction;

(d) whether SCI further plans to focus on coastal and near coastal trade, expansion of break-bulk and project cargo business and optimization of equipment inventory; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Development of river network

†1644. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering to develop a river network on the lines of road-network;

(b) if so, whether any steps has been taken by Government in this regard; and

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

Inter linking of rivers

†1645. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would implement the Ken-Betwa river inter linking project;

(b) the name of the States in which the studies on river linking projects are being carried out and the total expenditure likely to be incurred in this regard; and

(c) whether foreign experts have also been consulted in river linking projects and how many States have applied for river linking?

Implementation of financial assistance in Goa

1646. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any schemes of the Ministry are being implemented in Goa;

(b) if so, the names of those schemes;

(c) since when these scheme are being implemented, the financial assistance given for the schemes and the targets achieved under those schemes; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the areas in the State where these schemes are being implemented?

Enhancing capacity of head works at Harike

†1647. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA:
SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether head works capacity of Indira Gandhi Feeder situated at Harike is 15,000 cusecs while the design capacity of Indira Gandhi Feeder happens to be 18,500 cusecs;

(b) whether by means of enhancing the capacity of head works at Harike, the capacity of Indira Gandhi Feeder could be utilised in a better way; and

(c) whether Government proposes to advise Punjab Government to increase the head regulator's capacity from 15,000 cusecs to 18,500 cusecs regarding Indira Gandhi Feeder based at Harike so that wastage of water could be prevented during floods and if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Allocation of funds under AIBP to Telangana and Andhra Pradesh

1648. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any cut in allocations for Telangana and Andhra Pradesh under AIBP during the 11th and 12th Five Year Plan periods; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, year-wise and project-wise?

Restoration of water bodies in rural areas

1649. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that water conservationists have sounded an alarm about the vanishing water bodies in rural areas of the country due to encroachment or grabbing of water body for other uses even by Government authorities;

(b) whether Government, in consultation with State Governments, has taken steps to restore water bodies in rural areas; and

(c) if so, the details of steps taken and the number of water bodies restored, so far?

Ganga Flood Control Commission Patna

†1650. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ganga Flood Control Commission, Patna has prepared a scheme named Embankment and Anti-erosion Work along with construction of launching apron and porcupine stud on the left bank of river Gomati near Pipri village with an estimated cost of ₹ 1,543.14 lac with the aim of tackling the problem of flood and erosion by the river Gomati in Sultanpur district of Uttar Pradesh;

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the action plan prepared for implementation of this scheme and the amount sanctioned/released for the same?

Depleting ground water level

1651. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ground water levels in many parts of the country are fast depleting and also deteriorating qualitatively to a large extent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to arrest this trend;

(d) whether Government has fixed any time-frame to restore ground water level to a satisfactory level; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Shortage of water

1652. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of expected water shortage in the country in the coming years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to overcome the situation?

Setting up of WRDA

1653. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress, so far, on

setting up of the Water Resources Development Authority (WRDA);

(b) what is the budgetary allocations for the same and how the rest of the money would be raised;

(c) the details of 23 irrigation projects which would be taken up in the first year; and

(d) since when these 23 projects have been pending and what is the deadline for their completion by WRDA?

Plan for regular inspection, maintenance and rehabilitation of dams

1654. SMT. RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has chalked out any plan for regular inspection, maintenance and rehabilitation of dams across the country;

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

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to identify dams which needed rehabilitation and to take appropriate action to ensure their safety and operational performances?

CGWB assesement of ground water level

1655. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) carries out ground water level assessment in the country every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) if not, when the last such assessment was done and what was the results thereof, State-wise;

(d) how the above assessment is done; and

(e) what impact the population explosion and industrialisation has on ground water level and remedial measures taken by the Ministry in this regard?

Inclusion of water in Union List

1656. SHRI C.M. RAMESH:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has got suggestions from various quarters to include water in the Union List from the present Concurrent List;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has given any thought to such suggestions; and

(c) if not, how the Ministry is planning to address water disputes between the States?

Purity of Ganga water

1657. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scientific study has ever been conducted by any Government to check the purity of Ganga water;

(b) if so, the details of its findings; and

(c) what steps are suggested to remove the elements responsible for making the Ganga water dirty?

Setting up an authority for management of river basins

†1658. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference on Jal Manthan has been organised of late and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is committed to set up an authority for paying attention towards the management of river basins in the event of arriving an understanding between the Governments of Bihar and Jharkhand;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the mechanism evolved towards water storage for the rivers getting dried up in Bihar?

Mapping of ground water level

†1659. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to go for mapping of ground water for water management throughout the country, in view of falling level of ground water and growing urbanization;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Cleanliness of holy water and
un-interrupted flow of Ganga**

1660. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that main objectives of programme "Namami Gange" is to have clean and continuous flow of holy water called "Swachh and Abiral Dhara";

(b) if so, the details of programmes focused on both the objectives separately, specifying towards cleanliness of holy water and un-interrupted flow of holy Ganga; and

(c) the time targeted to achieve both the objectives?

Implementation of water policy

†1661. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether water is a State subject and on account of it, water policy/law enforced by the Central Government could not be implemented uniformly throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal before Government to include water in the Concurrent List, in order to implement water policy/law uniformly throughout the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 26th July, 2016

Sravana 4, 1938 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

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