

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Tuesday, December 1, 2015/Agrahayana 10, 1937 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy
(AYUSH); Civil Aviation; Corporate Affairs; Defence; Finance; Health and
Family Welfare; Information and Broadcasting; Minority Affairs)

Total number of questions — 160

Promotion of Yoga as secular concept

161. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN : Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) while giving international publicity to Yoga, whether Government consider it as a Hindu ritual or as a recipe for health promoted by various sections of people in ancient India;

(b) whether Government will promote it in future as a secular concept; and

(c) whether research will be promoted about all aspects of Yoga so that it will furnish as a growing branch of knowledge and not deteriorate into a ritual?

Opening of new Ayurvedic Medicine Centres

162. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA

AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has planned to open any new Ayurvedic Medicine Centres where affordable medicines would be available to the patients suffering from various dreaded diseases like Cancer, Cardiac arrests, Diabetes etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof mentioning the names of cities/States where such proposals are made, if not, the reasons therefor?

Clinical trials for AYUSH medicines

163. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether clinical tests or trials or medicines are mandatory before their marketing in the country;

(b) if so, whether any clinical tests/trials of ayurvedic, unani and homoeopathic

medicines have been conducted in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the procedure laid down for scientific validation of the ayurvedic, unani and homoeopathic medicines, and the details thereof?

Commissioner of Railway Safety

164. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to bring a separate legislation for creating an empowered/autonomous body as Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the fresh steps taken by Government to resolve the long pending issue of duality of command in discharging the functions of CRS as well as strengthening and restructuring of CRS in order to ensure its effective functioning?

Unified policy for development of new airports

†165. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cities in the country where Government has plans to develop airports under the new aviation policy;

(b) whether the airports/airstrips coming under Ministry of Defence have also been included under it;

(c) the number of such airstrips coming under Ministry of Defence, which are almost not in use presently; and

(d) whether Government is formulating a unified scheme in this regard?

Aviation training institutions in the country

166. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand for aviation professionals in the country is rapidly growing;

(b) if so, whether the existing aviation training institutions offering aviation training courses are able to cater to the increasing demand for aviation courses, particularly for pilots and cabin crew; and

(c) the details of the aviation training institutions offering courses in all aspects of aviation, including for pilots, cabin crew, engineers, aviation security and ground handling?

Status of Development of new airports

†167. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is considering a proposal to build a new airport at Bhiwadi in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the places where setting up of new airports is being considered and the status of Jewar Airport in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh;

(c) the progress made towards building the proposed international airport in Kushinagar district, keeping in view the Buddhist tourism and by when international flights will commence operation from here; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the details thereof?

Funds through ECB for Air India

168. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI PAUL MANOJ
PANDIAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India is proposing to raise funds through external commercial borrowing (ECB) to meet working capital requirements;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the average period of maturity of loan; and

(d) whether the funds would be used to fund for maintenance of grounded aircraft and purchase of spare parts to increase its fleet strength, and if so, the details thereof?

Financial problem of civil aviation sector

169. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA:
SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether civil aviation sector in the country is facing financial and liquidity problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the State of financial performance of Air India and other airlines services in the country;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for resolving above stated problems; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Modern air traffic control system at airports

†170. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of airports on which modern air traffic control system has been installed during the last three years till date and the details of the expenditure made by Government in this regard;

(b) the details of the benefit accrued to the aviation sector as a result thereof;

(c) the names of airports that have been enabled for charter flights during the above period;

(d) the names of places on which Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radar (MSSR) have been installed/proposed to be installed in the country; and

(e) the details of expenditure incurred on these radars and the benefits of installing the MSSR radars?

International flights from Guwahati

†171. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of airports in the North-Eastern Region and the places where international airports are proposed to be set up;

(b) whether Government intends to increase the number of international flights from Guwahati in Assam keeping in view its religious and cultural importance as well as its significance from tourism point of view;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government plans to start new direct flights from Guwahati for international places such as Singapore, Dubai, Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Measures to overhaul aviation infrastructure

172. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the domestic aviation industry has the potential to grow from its current level of \$23-25 billion to \$250 billion by 2025 and have the potential to generate employment for more than 2 million people; and

(b) if so, the details of policy measures that are being taken by Government to overhaul aviation infrastructure in the country to meet the growing demand?

Aging fleet of narrow body aircrafts with AI

173. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India currently has a fleet of 62 narrow body aircrafts from the Airbus A-320 family but only 59 are operational due to lack of spares;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the airlines is also working with Airbus to extend life of 17 narrow body planes, which have hit an average age of 17.5 years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Mishandling of luggage by airlines

174. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of complaints regarding 'luggage missing' and 'luggage mishandling' by Airlines have increased in recent times;

(b) if so, the details of such complaints received against various Airlines, during last three years, Airlines-wise; and

(c) the details of punitive action, if any, taken against these Airlines by concerned authority?

New draft aviation policy

175. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in its new aviation policy draft the Government has attempted to offer more choices to passengers flying abroad by liberalising bilateral rights;

(b) whether the new proposals seek to improve regional connectivity, bring down fares for short-haul flights and facilitate higher foreign investment;

(c) whether the new policy is silent on the future of Air India and of reviewing the 5/20 policy relating to domestic carriers seeking to expand abroad; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Cess on air tickets

176. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fund for essential air services fund can be achieved

by way of charging 2 per cent cess on all air tickets;

(b) whether it is also a fact that levying of 2 per cent cess on all air tickets will not increase airfares much since the losses incurred on unviable routes are already included into the fares charged from passenger on trunk routes;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the cess will help bring greater transparency and allow subsidies to be directed to specific locations and specific airlines that operate there; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Essential air services fund to facilitate regional air connectivity

177. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that regional connectivity will not become viable unless the Government provides subsidy to fly to these destinations;

(b) whether it is also a fact that remote area connectivity is extremely important for a large country like India;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the regional connectivity is recently unviable given low demand and high cost of operations;

(d) whether it is also a fact that this needs to be facilitated by way of an essential air services fund as recommended by Naresh Chandra Committee in 2003; and

(e) if so, the views of Government in this regard?

Delays in Air India flights

178. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by the Ministry since January, 2015 regarding delays in Air India flights both domestic and international;

(b) the details of investigations/inquiries initiated by the Ministry on complaints of delay received, since January, 2015;

(c) how much compensation has been paid by Air India because of delay in flights in the last five years;

(d) what are some of the most recurring causes for delay in Air India flights; and

(e) what strategy has been formulated by the Ministry to curb the menace of delay in Air India flights?

Boosting air connectivity to Tier-II and Tier-III cities

179. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre is working on a plan to operationalise about fifty airports in the country that are currently non-functional in order to boost air connectivity to tier-II and tier-III cities across the country;

(b) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) had been mandated to develop five no-frills airports and if so, the progress of work made so far on these projects; and

(c) whether AAI had invested over ₹ 300 crores on modernisation of over eight airports which are not yet operational for want of flights turning them into 'ghost-airports'?

Development of MRO facilities of aircrafts in the country

180. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Carriers are undertaking Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) of Aircraft outside the country due to which there is more revenue loss to the airlines;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government will come forward to take initiative in this regard under "Make in India" programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Development of aviation hub in North East Region

181. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of project proposals of the Government for promotion of tourism in North East Region;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has sanctioned fund to develop aviation hub in North East;

(c) if so, the details of the report and the project potentiality; and

(d) the status of upgradation of airports of North East States?

Sale of assets by Air India

182. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has been mulling over sale of assets for a long

time and has a plan to raise ₹ 5,000 crore by March, 2016;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that delay in getting approvals has hurt the process of sale of Air India's assets to raise funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Performance of AI

183. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the seat occupancy, accuracy of arrival and departure, technical snags, etc., of AI and other domestic airlines during the last two years, airline-wise and month-wise;

(b) to what extent the irrational ticket pricing and policy is contributing to AI pathetic performance when compared to other domestic airlines;

(c) to what extent the price war dipped the business of AI;

(d) whether there is any thinking going on to reduce the freebees being given to AI staff; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Survey report on growth in air traffic

184. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that passenger traffic is expected to more than double over the next ten years;

(b) if so, whether Government has any survey report on the same thereof; and

(c) the details thereof and technical support planning to cope up with the projected air traffic therein?

Plan to handover of Begumpet airport to IAF

185. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is planning to handover Begumpet airport in Hyderabad to the Ministry of Defence;

(b) if so, the reasons for handing it over to Indian Air Force (IAF);

(c) whether any permission has been taken from the State Government;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any consultation have been held with Defence Ministry in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

Psychometric test for pilots

186. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a three member committee appointed by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) had recommended that pilots should undergo psychometric tests at least three times in their career;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that an expert committee will look into the recommendations made by a three member panel; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the DGCA is in discussion with various entities including the Institute of Aerospace Medicines and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in this regard?

Exclusive terminals to private airlines

187. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the airlines in the private sector have sought exclusive terminal at Mumbai and other airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to provide exclusive terminal to private airlines in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Privatisation of airports in the country

188. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to privatise some airports in the country, if so, the details thereof including the name of those airports, terms of contract, criteria fixed for the purpose and the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of the welfare schemes to be offered to the employees of those airports; and

(c) whether the States have opposed the privatisation of airports and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto including the details of the inter-Ministerial group constituted on this issue?

Monetisation of Air India properties

189. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India is considering to sell its office property in 1.7 lakh square feet area in BKS Marg in Delhi and staff housing quarters in Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, both of which can fetch attractive prices;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these two properties have to be decided by the Urban Development Department and a lot of procedures are involved; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Development activities of Karipur airport

190. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the runway extension and other development activities of Karipur International Airport has been stalled;

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

(c) what are the measures Government is taking to speed up the developmental activities of the Karipur airport?

Promotion of regional connectivity and airports

191. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering improving regional connectivity and promoting regional airports and airlines in the country;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that air traffic in the country is focused around bigger cities and the six key metros which constitute

over 65 per cent of the total air traffic in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Privatisation of Kolkata and Chennai airports

192. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has dropped its plan to privatise services at Kolkata and Chennai airports; and

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

Improving regional air connectivity by States

193. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has asked State Governments to work towards improving regional air connectivity by providing financial support to smaller carrier on the lines of Madhya Pradesh, which underwrites about three seats every flight and also waives off tax paid on fuel purchased in the State;

(b) if so, the response received from the State Governments in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Union Government is considering to underwrite some seats in every flight that operate in remote areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Valuable artifacts in possession of AI

194. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India's iconic 23 storey Nariman Point building in South Mumbai would soon house an art gallery, which would display rare artifacts and artworks acquired by the airlines over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Air India has since 1930's bought more than 950 paintings and bronze and stone sculptures, which had been prematurely estimated to be worth at least ₹ 350 crore; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the valuable artworks had been stacked in a storeroom on the 18th floor of the Nariman Point building for many years?

Redressal of investors' grievances

195. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the companies independent mechanism to redress investors' grievances has yielded the desired results;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the details of action initiated against the companies on the grounds of non redressal of investors grievances during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) whether a number of companies are in default of payment of dues to the small investors are still actively trading in the stock exchanges?

Review of Companies Act

196. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of each of the six Expert Committee to review the Companies Act, 2013;

(b) the reasons for review within a short period of its implementation of just 2 years;

(c) whether Government proposes to set up National Company Law Tribunal, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any recommendations have come from industrial bodies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and how it proposes to incorporate them in the Companies Law?

Compliance with CSR rules

197. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies in India that have complied with rules on Corporate Social Responsibility, as a percentage of total companies registered, year-wise since 2010;

(b) the total amount of charitable donations made by corporation in India, year-wise since 2010;

(c) whether the Government has information about the kinds of CSR activities undertaken by companies under this rule, and if so, details thereof; and

(d) details of the measures taken by the Government to ensure all companies registered in India comply with the CSR requirement?

Judicious use of CSR resources

198. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has urged the corporate in the recently held CSR Compendium to use their resources more efficiently for the larger good of the society by increasing their CSR activities in a judicious manner and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of the efforts being made

by the Government to guide the corporate for their responsible participation in CSR activities?

Independent Directors in PSUs

199. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Companies Act mandates to have at least, one independent Director in all PSUs;

(b) whether it is a fact that 28 of the 45 PSUs do not have even a single independent Director on the Board;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the efforts being made to appoint independent Directors in the above PSUs immediately?

Modernisation of armed forces

200. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to modernise the armed forces, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has procured multi-purpose naval vessels and aircrafts, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Acute shortage of fighter planes with the Air Force

†201. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of fighter planes in Indian Air

Force *vis-a-vis* the rising number of fighter planes with Pakistan and China;

(b) if so, by when this shortage will be addressed by Government; and

(c) if not, the number of fighter planes currently available in the fleet of the Air Force?

Sporting of beard by aspiring Muslim cadets of NCC

202. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that taking cognisance of complaints about Muslim students being barred from National Cadet Corps (NCC) for sporting a beard, the Andhra Pradesh State Minorities Commission has asked the Defence Ministry to make the exemption granted to the Sikh community applicable to Muslims too; and

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

Crashes involving military helicopters

203. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:
SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of crashes and disappearances of military helicopters recorded in India since 2010, year-wise;

(b) the details of findings of Government investigations as to the reasons for such crashes; and

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to improve safety standards of military helicopters and reduce number of crashes, if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Notification of OROP

204. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI PRABHAT JHA:
SHRIMATI SASIKALA
PUSHPA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has notified the One Rank One Pension (OROP) for ex-army servicemen and their widows, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there are dissatisfaction among the personnel with regard to faulty implementation of OROP, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a number of ex-armymen have returned their medals in protest of diluted OROP notification, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the response of Government thereto?

Supply of substandard food products to the Armed Forces

*†205. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that defects have been detected in the test by Central Food Laboratory (CFL) of chocomalt products being supplied to the Armed Forces as they are not upto the standard and are potentially hazardous for the health of army personnel;

(b) whether the oil, soya and sodium including other chemicals/ingredients being used to preserve food for longer periods and used in malted milk food, which is being currently supplied to Indian Army, are banned; and

(c) the number of food items which were rejected by the Army in the last three years and the action taken against their manufacturers/suppliers?

Building of road network at Line of Actual Control

†206. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to build road network at the Line of Actual Control in Indian territory, in the wake of violations of Line of Actual Control by China along the Indo-China border; and

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

Revision of pension of pre-2006 pensioners

207. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare has issued an Office Memorandum No. 38/37/08-P&PW(A) dated 30 July, 2015 regarding revision of pension of pre-2006 pensioners' if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Section Officer (Civ), Integrated Headquarters, Ministry of Defence (Navy), Directorate of Admin (Civ) has received representation (s) from pre-2006 pensioners to revise their pension with effect from 1st January 2006; and

(c) if so, action taken by Government to revise pension of pre-2006 pensioners *w.e.f.* 1st January, 2006 and by which date payment of arrears will be made to them?

Provision of PMR in OROP

†208. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ex-servicemen have rejected the 'One Rank One

* WITHDRAWN

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Pension (OROP) scheme declared by Government;

(b) the demands of ex-servicemen other than those declared by Government in the scheme;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is no provision of VRS in the army, rather they are offered pre-retirement (PMR) and whether Government in view of this would include PMR in OROP; and

(d) the reaction of Government to other demands of ex-servicemen?

Hiring of agents by defence companies

†209. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in newspapers that Ministry of Defence is planning to allow Defence Companies to hire agents;

(b) the details of changes the erstwhile Government made in concerned policies subsequent to Bofors gun deal scandal; and

(c) the policy of Government in matters of procurement of defence equipments with respect to above issue?

Usage of social media by on duty defence personnel

210. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noticed any incidents of usage of social media by Defence personnel, who are on duty; and

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any measures to address it?

Funds for defence research and development

211. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated for research and development in defence sector during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether Government proposes to increase fund allocated in the coming years for defence research and development; and

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

Shortage of Commissioned Officers

212. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the shortage of Defence Personnel at the level of Commissioned Officers in the Indian Army, Indian Navy and Indian Air Force, respectively;

(b) whether it had an impact on the effectiveness of the Defence Forces and increased stress and strain on the existing officers; and

(c) the efforts taken to fill the vacancies, like holding career fairs and exhibitions, advertisements, motivational lectures in schools and colleges and details thereof?

Defence import by the country

†213. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's share has been 15 per cent in the global import of weapons during the last five years;

(b) whether 59 per cent of the defence budget is spent on the import of weapons; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the quantum of reduction in the defence import during the last one year; after the concept of Make in India?

Import of arms and weapons for the Army

214. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various weapons, arms/ammunition, etc., which are required for Indian Army;

(b) how many of them are produced indigenously;

(c) how many of them are imported from foreign countries; and

(d) the reasons for their import from various foreign countries?

Maintenance of border roads in Uttarakhand

215. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Lambagad stretch on National Highway 58 in Chamoli District of Uttarakhand remains blocked for a very long period due to landslide and heavy rains;

(b) if so, the number of days for which this stretch remained blocked affecting the traffic on this stretch during each of the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to make this NH motorable throughout the year in view of its importance from the point of view of pilgrimage, tourism and important military establishments on China border?

Modernisation plan for Indian Navy

216. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government formulated any comprehensive plan to give impetus for indigenous development of naval capabilities and pace of modernisation programme of the Indian Navy under Make in India programme; and

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

Vacant positions in Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)

217. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that a large number of sanctioned positions at DRDO are lying vacant;

(b) if so, the total number of sanctioned and vacant positions at DRDO, rank-wise;

(c) the details of employees who have resigned from DRDO during the last three years, year-wise, rank-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken to resolve this issue?

Manufacturing of specialist ammunition by private manufacturers

218. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has mooted a proposal to allow private manufacturers to produce specialist ammunition for the Army; and

(b) if so, the number of years for which a firm commitment will be given to the private supplier?

Agitation over OROP

219. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ex-Servicemen have been agitating for grant of One Rank One Pension (OROP);

(b) if so, response of Government thereto; and

(c) whether any scheme has been framed in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

Boosting the country's air power capability

220. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of efforts made by Government during the last two years to boost the air power of the country in comparison to our neighbouring countries and the details thereof; and

(b) what remedial measures Government have taken or proposes to take to increase the air power of the nation?

Opposition to notification of OROP

221. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of notification issued by Government on OROP;

(b) whether it is a fact that all ex-Servicemen opposed the notification and returned their medals;

(c) the details of each of the demand put forth by ex-Servicemen/ex-Servicemen Association and each of the demand accepted by Government;

(d) the details of contentious demands not accepted by Government;

(e) the reasons for not accepting the same; and

(f) the constraints in accepting the unaccepted demands?

Outcome of Gold Monetization scheme

222. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the expected outcomes from the recent launch of Gold Monetization schemes by Government and the target to be achieved through Gold Monetization schemes;

(b) the details of the total quantity and value of gold in Government's possession, in public possession, markets for domestic consumption, and in private gold loan lending companies as on date;

(c) the various measures taken by the Government to control and steady the gold in Government's possession, in markets for domestic consumption, in public possession and in private gold loan lending companies; and

(d) the total quantity and value (in INR) of gold imported and exported in the last three years, year-wise?

Control on counterfeit money in circulation

223. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any specific data or report on the total value of counterfeit money in circulation in the country against the total value of genuine currencies in circulation by RBI, as on date in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the value of currencies printed during last three years, year-wise, denomination-wise;

(c) whether the Government has any innovative methods like introducing of plastic currencies with adequate electronic securities/barcode identification; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to control and curb the counterfeit money in circulation in the country?

Merger of FMC with SEBI

224. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Forward Markets Commission (FMC) have been merged with Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on the aftermath of National Spot Exchange Ltd. (NSEL) scam;

(b) whether rules and regulations to be followed by SEBI when it simultaneously handles both shares and commodities have been adopted;

(c) whether pending court cases in relation to FMC have been settled; and

(d) if not, by what time Government intends to do it so that SEBI can handle commodity cases smoothly?

Lowering of interest rates on small saving schemes

†225. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal for offering lower rate of interest on small saving schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the small investors will suffer a loss due to this step and whether the banks will benefit from this; and

(d) the details of dividends earned by various nationalised banks in the country during the last three years and if the banks are in profit currently, then justification for offering lower rate of interest on small saving schemes?

Central funds for States facing financial crisis

226. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made an assessment or survey of the financial health/condition of the States, if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Haryana;

(b) whether some States are facing a financial crisis, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has proposed to enhance funds to such States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the aforesaid funds are likely to be released?

Performance of Mudra Bank

227. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the response to the Mudra Bank particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that Mudra Bank has done precious little since it has low capital base but is only projecting regular SME loans advanced by public sector banks as its achievement; and

(c) if so, whether Government is considering to put in correctives in place?

Reduction of interest rates by micro financial credit agencies

228. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the micro financial credit agencies have played a leading role in providing loans to poor persons in the rural areas of the country during the last few years;

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

(c) the details of the efforts being made by Government to make the micro financial credit agencies reduce their interest rates?

Black money disclosure scheme

229. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of declarations under the three month compliance window for disclosure of foreign assets;

(b) the details of total black money declared under the aforesaid disclosure;

(c) the details of tax collected on above black money declaration scheme;

(d) whether the above scheme has been a big flop in comparison to earlier similar schemes like VDIS in 1997; and

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

Recommendations of Justice Shah Panel on MAT

230. SHRI MAJEED MEMON:
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Justice Shah panel set up to look into the applicability of Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of recommendations made in the report;

(c) whether the Government has accepted all the recommendations;

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

(e) the further steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for the implementation of the recommendations accepted by it?

Steps for reducing NPAs of PSBs

†231. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has not been able to take concrete step to reduce the NPAs of public sectors banks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the amount of NPAs of banks at present and the steps being taken to reduce it?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Wrong entry in bank account

232. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that recently a woman's account in State Bank of India's branch in Kanpur showed a balance of over ₹ 9571 crore;

(b) if so, the reasons for this astounding entry; and

(c) steps taken to ensure that mistakes do not occur in electronic updating of peoples' bank accounts?

Change in laws concerning foreign money

†233. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating change in laws concerning money brought by people coming from foreign countries;

(b) if so, by when and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana for micro units

†234. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to commence Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana for meeting the shortage of capital of micro units;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds under Make in India programme for MSME sector

†235. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has set up a fund of ₹ 1000 crores under 'Make in India' programme for MSME sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the role of SIDBI in micro financing sector;

(c) whether SIDBI has identified the MSME units for providing loans at concessional rates under the said scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof State-wise including those of Assam and Uttar Pradesh; and

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

Higher interest rates for loans on animal husbandry sector

†236. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the interest rate on the bank loans being given to meet the requirements of animal husbandry sector by the Government is higher in comparison to that on other loans, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Government is contemplating standardising the interest rates in order to provide loan at affordable rate to the animal husbandry sector and if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Payment of dues to IFCI pensioners

†237. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Parliamentary Petition Committee in its 136th and 144th reports had recommended to pay outstanding amount of money along with medical facility to such employees of I.F.C.I. Ltd. who were employed therein as on 1.11.2002 and who had either retired or availed voluntary retirement under V.R.S. scheme 2003-04 by fixing their revised pension;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has implemented the recommendations of Petition Committee through I.F.C.I.; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

New role of post offices based on Kamath Committee Report

238. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has accepted K.V. Kamath Committee recommendations on the possibility of new role to be played by post offices based on the concept of 'post-bank' and 'post insurance' ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

Financial feasibility of PMSBY and PMJJBY

239. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) has the Government estimated the cost that the insurance companies and banks will bear for implementing PMSBY and PMJJBY;

(b) what is the mechanism put in place by Government to ensure financially feasibility of the two schemes;

(c) what will be the investment mechanism of the premium that will be collected under the two schemes;

(d) is there any mechanism laid down by Government to settle the excessive claims per year under the schemes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Losses by insurance companies

240. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the losses suffered by insurance companies during the last three years and the current year, company-wise ;

(b) whether Government has ordered any probe or investigation in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

Lending by PSBs to SC/ST

241. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total lending from various PSU Banks and other Financial Institutions in the country during the last three years;

(b) what is the amount of lending to SC/ST members out of this total amount;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) what are the reasons for the shortfall, if any; and

(d) what are the steps initiated or proposed to be taken to improve the lending to SC/ST members keeping in view the above scenario?

Criteria for loans under Mudra Scheme

242. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria for getting loan under Mudra Scheme;

(b) whether the nodal officers for implementing the scheme are appointed everywhere; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Ease of paying taxes in India

243. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government wants to make it easier to pay taxes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India rank 156 out of 189 countries in ease of paying taxes;

(c) whether Government plans to take measures to improve India's ranking;

(d) whether Government feels peer review assessments can improve quality of tax orders, as recommended by the Tax Administration Reform Committee (TARC); and

(e) the detailed factual report thereon?

Norms for installation of ATMs

244. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the norms laid down for installing an ATM by the nationalized and private banks;

(b) has the Government provided any special provision to the banks for opening of ATMs in the rural and remote areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Decline in non-farm sector credit growth

245. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the non-farm sector credit offtake growth has fallen to 20 years low in June, 2015 ;

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

(c) the steps proposed to incentivise credit offtake by the industry?

NABARD loans for creating new rural infrastructural units

246. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan sanctioned by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Developments (NABARD) to various State Governments from the Rural Infrastructural Development Fund (RIDF) for creating new rural infrastructural units during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and

(b) the details of infrastructure projects

under implementation in different States during the period along with present status thereof, project and State/UT-wise;

Benefits of rate cuts by RBI

247. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether RBI has recently announced rate cuts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the banks in the country have passed on the benefits of the rate cuts to the borrowers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not what action Government and RBI propose to take to ensure that benefits of rate cuts are passed on to the borrowers?

Revenue Neutral Rate for implementing GST

248. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the revenue neutral rate estimated by the Government of India for implementing GST;

(b) how has the rate been determined; and

(c) what is the status of implementing GST infrastructure?

Lack of co-ordination between RBI and GOI

†249. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any difference of opinion between Reserve Bank of India and

the Ministry of Finance on Monetary Policy, Interest-rate and the report of Financial Sector Legislative Reform Commission;

(b) whether Government proposes to down size the rights of the Reserve Bank of India;

(c) whether there is lack of co-ordination between the RBI and the policies of Government on economic reforms; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the growth rate is being affected as a result thereof?

Disclosure of foreign assets

250. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has received details of undisclosed foreign assets worth ₹ 3700/- crore from 638 declarations till September 30, 2015, the deadline for availing the opportunity under its new black money law; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction to the rapid response from the people to the scheme?

Central assistance to Uttarakhand for holding Kumbh Mela

251. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Uttarakhand Government have asked for Central assistance to enable it to hold the Ardh Kumbh Mela in Haridwar expecting huge flow of devotees during the Mela;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the Central assistance allocated and released to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the Government of Uttarakhand for the purpose till date;

(c) the Central assistance provided by the Government to hold Kumbh Mela in different places in the past; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that Central assistance is given to Uttarakhand for the purpose?

Expenditure on social welfare schemes

252. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the combined expenditure of Central and State Government on social welfare schemes is very low as percentage of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as against amount spent by the developed countries;

(b) the details of steps proposed to be taken to increase the annual expenditure on social welfare schemes for poor in urban and rural areas of the country; and

(c) the details of the innovative financing schemes/models being explored for financing social welfare schemes in the country?

Tax on salary payments by MNCs to expatriate Managers

253. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued notices to Indian branches of several multinational companies to pay taxes on salary payments by the parent company to their expatriate managers; if so, the details thereof;

(b) what is the total revenue to be generated on account of collection of tax by the aforesaid measure?

Norms on gold monetisation scheme

254. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that RBI has recently issued norms on gold monetisation scheme; if so, the details thereof;

(b) how much would be the interest, what would be the minimum deposit and what would be the minimum and maximum tenure of deposit; and

(c) what are the reasons that Government is imposing tax on the gold monetisation scheme inspite of demands for exempting it from the tax net?

Withdrawal of investment by FIIs

255. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of foreign investors who have withdrawn their investments in India since May, 2014;

(b) what is the amount that has been withdrawn; and

(c) what are the reasons for withdrawal of investments by them according to Government?

Enforcement of Swachh Bharat Cess

256. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the FICCI and CII had urged the Government to postpone the date of enforcement of 'Swachh Bharat Cess';

(b) if so, the reasons given by them therefor; and

(c) the details of proposals, if any, to redress their concern in this regard?

Encouragement to electronic payments for financial transactions

257. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend tax benefits and other sops to encourage traders and consumers for making electronic payments for their sale/purchases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this would be helpful to consumers, not to pay any service charges, convenience fee for making their payments electronic; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Application of MAT to foreign companies

258. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has announced that the controversial Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) will not apply to foreign companies that do not have a permanent establishment or a place of business in India, putting to rest another tax issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government will amend the Income Tax Act, 1961 retrospectively from April, 2001 to give effect to this decision and ensure that past cases are not opened;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the move would boost confidence among foreign investors, if so, the details thereof?

Raids on MGF Construction Company

259. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether MGF Construction Company was raided by income tax, Enforcement Directorate and CBI for corruption in Commonwealth Games;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government till date;

(c) whether the properties of MGF Company were attached by ED; and

(d) the number of properties attached by ED and this kind of properties attached at various places?

Enhancement of retirement age of PSU Bank Officers

†260. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to enhance the retirement age of Chairman cum Managing Director and Executive Director of Public Sector banks, Financial Institutions and Insurance Companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has permitted the Chief Executive Officer cum Managing Director, Deputy Managing Director and Executive Director of I.F.C.I. Limited to continue their services in I.F.C.I. despite completing sixty years of age; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Disclosure of unaccounted money

261. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government got only ₹ 2,262 crore from disclosure under a three

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

month compliance window for unaccounted money abroad and that this amount is only a fraction of the ₹ 6,500 crore that Government expected to come to the exchequer under the window;

(b) whether the previous amnesty scheme of 1992 which involved 30 per cent tax with no penalty had seen the exchequer get about ₹ 10,000 crore;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether lack of trust with respect of keeping the information confidential, valuation rules and insufficient time given to tax payer received poor response; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Loans to MSMEs by PSBs/financial institutions

262. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has fixed any target for granting loan to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs);

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the quantum of loan disbursed by the banks during the last two years, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines which seek to qualify any business loan for restructuring to be classified as Non Performing Assets (NPAs) have an adverse impact on MSMEs and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the public sector banks/ financial institutions provide loan to sick industries and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to increase credit flow to MSMEs?

Declaration of undisclosed foreign assets

263. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched a scheme to provide an opportunity to individuals and institutions to declare their undisclosed foreign assets on or before 30th September, 2015;

(b) if so, the complete details of the scheme;

(c) whether Government has formulated/proposes to formulate a new legislation to track undisclosed income and assets;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of individuals/ institutions who have disclosed their foreign assets/income after launch of above scheme and the total value of these assets?

Decline in profits of banks

264. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been attracted to a report that 19 out of 39 Indian listed banks have recorded a drop in profits in the June quarter;

(b) whether it is also a fact that for some of them, the decline is between 95 per cent and 81 per cent; and

(c) if so, the response of Government thereon?

Special financial package to Maharashtra

265. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to

give special financial package to the State of Maharashtra to deal with consistent drought condition in the State; and

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

Shortage in supply of free condoms

266. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry acknowledges that India's AIDS programme has won praise globally and HIV prevalence among female sex workers halved between 2007 and 2011;

(b) whether Government also acknowledges the shortage in the supply of free condoms in 2/3rd of India's 31 State AIDS units, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this shortage is because of a one-time procurement issue or a cut in funding; and

(d) whether measures are being taken to address this shortage, if so, the details thereof?

Lack of investment and focus on health sector

267. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has failed to make health a priority;

(b) if so, whether Government has failed to make new policies, new ideas, any significant public commitment and financial commitment to the health sector across the country;

(c) whether there is a lack of investment in the public health system and growth of an unregulated private sector;

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to meet the country's needs in healthy sector?

Low immunization levels of children in the country

268. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many children in India have died due to diseases that can be prevented by vaccinations in the last three years and the details thereof, year-wise;

(b) how many of India's children are administered the three doses of the DPT vaccine, the details thereof, State-wise/UT-wise;

(c) whether Government is aware that countries like Sri Lanka and Bangladesh have better records than India in immunizing children;

(d) what are the reasons for the comparatively low immunization levels in India; and

(e) what steps are being taken to increase vaccinations for children in India?

Long waiting period for medical operations at AIIMS, Delhi

†269. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that general patients suffering from serious diseases are being given several years waiting period for operation at AIIMS, New Delhi, the details thereof;

(b) the method adopted by AIIMS to protect the patients from ill effects of delay in operations concerning serious diseases

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

like heart diseases, liver cancer, nephrology, urology and effectiveness thereof;

(c) whether it is so because of shortage of doctors and other employees in AIIMS; and

(d) the details of various posts lying vacant as on date in different Government hospitals in Delhi including AIIMS?

Law for regulating surrogacy

270. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:
DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA
RAO:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is growing as a hub for Surrogate Motherhood Industry, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is any law governing surrogacy in India or any legal procedure for such activity, if not, whether Government proposes to bring any law for this; and

(c) how Government plans to regulate and monitor this, keeping in view the poverty, illiteracy, extortion and various similar factors to regulate misuse of this technology?

Health sub-centres in rural areas

†271. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has resolved to provide basic facilities like health to the poor in the rural areas of the country and it has decided to establish health sub-centres in villages having more

than 500 population, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the names of the districts and number of rural areas where health sub-centres have been established/proposed to be established in Bihar and the details thereof?

Dengue patients not admitted by hospitals

†272. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people who suffered from dengue this year;

(b) the areas of Delhi and NCR which were the most affected by dengue;

(c) the number of dengue patients who could not get admission to Government and private hospitals;

(d) the number of people who fell ill during the last three years, year-wise; and

(e) the effective steps taken by Government to control the ever increasing dengue cases year after year?

Presence of harmful chemicals in vegetables

273. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether harmful chemicals are present in alarmingly high doses in food items across the country, with the highest number of failed samples being that of vegetables;

(b) if so, whether it was the duty of the State and its authorities to achieve an appropriate level for protection of human life and health;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether there has been an almost two fold increase in the number of vegetables, fruits, meat and spices samples containing pesticides above the permitted level in the last six years; and

(d) the stringent action taken to provide safe food to the people of India?

Framing of a suitable antibiotic policy

274. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that in a recent report India has been declared to have one of the highest rates of antibiotic resistance in the world;

(b) whether the Ministry will consider developing a suitable antibiotic policy with a framework to curb rampant use of antibiotics in livestock; and

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

High TB cases in the country

275. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that during the last year India has recorded the highest number of TB cases in the world;

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

(c) whether Government is aware of the WHO's Global TB Report, 2015 in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to prevent/cure TB?

Full immunization coverage by 2020

276. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of child immunization in the country;

(b) whether Government has identified certain high focus districts with nearly 50 per cent all unvaccinated or partially vaccinated children, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to achieve the target of full immunization coverage by 2020?

Compensation for victims of clinical trials

277. SHRI MANSUKH L. MADAVIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what action has been taken by Ministry as on date to strictly monitor clinical trials of poor patients by pharmaceutical companies;

(b) whether Hon. Supreme Court has advised the Ministry in this regard, if so, what further action has been taken by Ministry;

(c) what action has been taken by Government to provide adequate compensation to poor patients who expired during clinical trials;

(d) whether Government has any specific data of poor patients expired during clinical trials within last three years and the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government has checked

that in such cases sufficient and timely compensation are paid to these aggrieved families?

Drug inspectors and specialists for regulatory work

278. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement of drug inspectors and specialists for regulatory work in the country *vis-a-vis* their present strength;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to meet the huge requirement of drug inspectors and specialists for regulatory work; and

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

Check on misuse of Diclofenac

279. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that despite ban on use of Diclofenac for veterinary use, the multi dose vials available in the market for human use are widely misused for veterinary purposes resulting in 99 per cent decline in the population and 3 species of Vultures;

(b) if so, the reasons for inaction in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to restrict the pack of Diclofenac for human use in single dose only in order to avoid its misuse?

Outbreak of mosquito-borne diseases in the National Capital

280. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the outbreak of the deadly mosquito-borne diseases like malaria, chikunguniya and dengue in the Capital recently;

(b) if so, what are the details of such cases reported and patients died this year and how does it compare with the last two years; and

(c) whether it is a fact that there has been alarming decline in the allocation of Central funds for prevention of these diseases since the year 2013-14, if so, the details thereof?

HIV/AIDS affected people in the country

281. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people affected by HIV/AIDS in the country;

(b) the States which are considered high risk for HIV/AIDS;

(c) the funds allocated and released to the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO); and

(d) the number of NGOs in Maharashtra that receive financial aid from NACO?

Printing of warning signs/pictures on tobacco packets

282. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether decision to print warning sign/pictures of required dimensions on packs of tobacco products has been taken;

(b) if so, what is the deadline thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons-legal, medical economic, etc. for not doing so?

Acute shortage of staff nurses and counsellors in hospitals

283. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the post of psychology counsellor has not been filled in so many hospitals for a long period, if so, the details thereof along with reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that staff nurses have been working as counsellors in the said hospitals despite being ineligible for the post, if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is acute shortage of staff nurses in the hospitals for a long time, if so, the details thereof along with reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by Government to fill posts of counsellors and staff nurses in said hospitals?

Unsatisfactory performance of population control measures

284. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations Population Fund has spent several million dollars in India for the population control, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the outcome regarding population control is not satisfactory despite spending of so much funds; and

(c) if so, what are the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

Presence of prohibited elements in sweets

285. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that sweets sold during various occasions like Diwali contained prohibited elements and there is no mechanism for proper checking and sampling in the country;

(b) if so, how many samples were picked up on the occasion of Diwali in various parts of the country; and

(c) whether these samples were analysed and action taken against the sweet vendors and stores in the country, if so, the details thereof?

Policy for tackling major diseases

†286. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to formulate any policy to tackle the fury of major diseases, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details of criteria, facts and data on the basis of which the above policy will be ascertained;

(c) the manner in which said policy would be implemented, State-wise, and the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

benefits to be availed by the people by means of the said policy; and

(d) the budgetary amount required for implementing the policy and by when this policy would be implemented and the details thereof?

Launching of e-hospital service

†287. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to launch e-hospital service, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government also proposes to start tele-medicinal service, if so, the details thereof?

Impact of budgetary cuts on CGHS

288. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funding for Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) has been steadily going down since 2013 onwards, if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the same;

(b) whether the Health Ministry has no funds left in the CGHS account for November and December 2015, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether successive budget cuts have resulted in the present crisis in CGHS; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken by Government for smooth functioning of CGHS?

Establishing CGHS centre at Goa

289. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to establish Central Government Health Services (CGHS) centre in Goa;

(b) if so, by what date the centre is proposed to be established;

(c) whether any list of hospital proposed to be empanelled has been prepared; and

(d) the number of CGHS dispensaries proposed to be established for the purpose and the details thereof?

Centrally sponsored health schemes in Maharashtra

290. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Centrally sponsored health schemes or programmes presently in operation in Maharashtra;

(b) the details of funds allocated and provided under this scheme to the State during last two years; and

(c) whether Government has made any assessment about proper implementation and progress of this scheme in the State and if so, the details thereof?

Research on cancer treatment in the country

†291. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is still lagging behind in the field of research of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

medicine to eliminate cancer while this disease is spreading considerably;

(b) if so, the latest position of the development for the treatment of cancer in the country;

(c) whether Government has any plan to work together with the other countries already doing research in this field; and

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

Use of GeneXpert TB test machines

292. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deaths due to drug resistant tuberculosis in the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has sanctioned and rolled-out the GeneXpert TB test machine for the detection of drug resistant TB, if so, the details thereof, if not, why not; and

(c) whether Government has made adequate financial and storage provisions for the operation of GeneXpert machines, if so, the details thereof, if not, why not and the corrective action Government plans to undertake?

Dengue cases in Delhi and Jharkhand

293. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases of dengue and deaths caused on that account in the country and particularly in Delhi and Jharkhand in the current year;

(b) what preventive steps were taken

by Government to generate awareness regarding dengue;

(c) the number of persons treated for dengue in Central Government hospitals in Jharkhand and deaths on this account in the current year; and

(d) what is the plan of Government to address this matter for the future?

Availability of vaccines against swine flu

294. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate number of vaccines are available against swine flu in the country and same is being administered on children and old age people, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether swine flu virus infecting people this season is more volatile than last year; and

(c) if so, whether the vaccine available is fit enough to take care of the infections by the latest virus?

Opening of drug database to foreign regulators

295. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is proposing to open drug database to foreign regulators;

(b) if so, whether it will dispel campaign of spurious drugs emanating from India; and

(c) the status of implementation of the decision on bar-coding of pharma product consignments meant for exports?

Increase in tobacco usage among college students

296. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a 4-fold increase in cigarette/other tobacco products trade in India;

(b) whether this illegal trade has been harming the health system especially of college students, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has devised some action plan to control this menace, if so, the details thereof?

Starting of AIIMS in Kerala

297. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre is considering to start All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Kerala; and

(b) if so, whether Government has received suggestion for any possible locations for AIIMS in Kerala and if so, the details thereof?

Rise in cases of cataract and blindness

†298. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that increase in pollution and ultraviolet rays are the main reasons behind the rise in cases of cataract and blindness in the country;

(b) if so, whether any specific committee has been constituted to get rid of this problem; and

(c) whether special camps are being organised in hospitals across the country for check up of eyes in view of this problem and if so, the details thereof?

Reviving of family planning programme

299. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) in view of unchecked population growth rate, whether Government would consider reviving the family planning programme as a mass movement, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, why not and what alternative plans are planned, if any?

Curtailling use of antibiotics in livestock farming

300. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of a study of American researchers' report published in 'Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences' which predicts India will be fourth largest consumer of antibiotic-laced chicken by 2030;

(b) if so, what steps Government has initiated to curtail use of antibiotics for sub-therapeutic purpose in livestock farming; and

(c) if so, the details of remedial measures adopted so far?

Complaints against unethical practices by medical professionals

301. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that there are lots of complaints against medical professionals who are involved in unethical practices; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

Special measures to control dengue and malaria

302. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that dengue and malaria cases are rising and several deaths have been reported till now in various States of the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(b) whether Government had introduced any special measures/program for controlling this menace and if so, the details thereof?

Targeted goals under de-worming project

303. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the budgetary allocations made for the recent de-worming project undertaken by Government;

(b) what is the estimated time-frame within which Government plans to reach the expected goal; and

(c) whether the de-worming program will be accompanied by supplementary programs focusing on sanitation and provision of clean drinking water and if so, the details thereof?

Rise in dengue cases

304. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cases of dengue disease has been on the rise this year;

(b) if so, the total number of dengue cases reported and died as a result thereof in this year;

(c) the steps taken to prevent dengue disease;

(d) whether the funds allocated for this purpose was not sufficient; and

(e) if so, the amount proposed to be increased/allocated during the next year to meet the dengue outbreak?

Rural medical practitioners

305. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural medical practitioners that are practicing medicine in India currently;

(b) the number of instances of injuries and deaths caused by rural health practitioners in the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government plans to or has undertaken measures to train rural health practitioners as paramedics, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Effective system for controlling swine flu menace

306. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of swine flu in India, *i.e.*, how far it has been controlled;

(b) whether this menace has shown higher figure in the Capital City Delhi during the current year;

(c) if so, the details with reasons thereof; and

(d) whether the Government has developed some effective system to help control this menace at its earliest stage, if so, the details thereof?

Shortage of staff in AIR and Doordarshan Kendra in Odisha

307. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of Technical and Non-Technical staff in the All India Radio and Doordarshan Kendra of Odisha;

(b) if so, the details of sanctioned strength of the staff and the vacant posts; and

(c) by when the Ministry proposes to fill the vacant posts of AIR/DDK of Odisha?

Vacant posts at DDK-PGFs in Odisha

308. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all the important posts are vacant at Bhawanipatna DDK Programme Generating Facility (PGF), if so, by when these posts will be filled up;

(b) the details of other PGFs in Odisha and in other States of the country where

such vacancies are existing, the details thereof with reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Ministry intends to start FM Radio service at Bhawanipatna DDK, if so, by when, if not the reasons therefor?

Less advertisements to Urdu newspapers

309. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Urdu newspapers are not provided advertisements by DAVP in proportion to their circulation in the country;

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

(c) the details of circulation of Urdu, Hindi and English newspapers in the country, State-wise; and

(d) the details of budget allocated for Urdu, Hindi and English newspapers by DAVP for advertisements in last three years, State-wise?

Full autonomy to Prasar Bharati

310. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is concerned about the proper functioning of Prasar Bharati, which is India's largest public broadcaster;

(b) whether Government is planning to grant full autonomy to Prasar Bharati for administration and finance;

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

(d) whether Government has taken any steps to include professionals in the Prasar Bharati Board ?

Delayed payments to newspapers and TV channels by DAVP

311. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the DAVP has delayed the payment for advertisements to newspapers and TV channels;

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

(c) the details of delayed payments with the names of newspapers and TV channels, State-wise?

Removal of Pay Scale anomalies in Prasar Bharati

312. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has considered grant of Prasar Bharati Pay Scales to various Sections of employees in Prasar Bharati who were left out in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Communication No. 310/173/97-B(D) dated 25 February, 1999;

(b) whether Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has considered the proposal received from Prasar Bharati as stated in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4333 on 22 December, 2005 and decision taken thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to put an end to the prevailing wage discrimination and pay scale anomalies in Prasar Bharati and the time-frame for implementing the same?

Review of scheme for welfare of minorities

†313. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:•

(a) whether Government is reviewing its existing schemes for welfare of minorities, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has started a scheme named 'Ustaad' to promote traditional arts and handicrafts among the minority communities, and if so, the details thereof?

Law to protect and develop Wakf lands

314. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to bring about a new law to protect and develop Wakf lands in the country based on the recommendations of the Sachar Committee, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is planning to increase the corpus fund for the welfare of minorities in the country, and if so, the details thereof?

Benefits to minority women under NMDFC

315. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the allocation of funds and expenditure made under National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) for benefit of various communities during the last three years in the country, year-wise, State-wise, Community-wise;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the details of beneficiaries who have availed benefits under NMDFC in last three years, State-wise, Community-wise;

(c) whether priority is being given for providing benefits to women under NMDFC provisions; and

(d) the details of women beneficiaries who have availed benefits under NMDFC in West Bengal during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise?

Scheme for increasing minority representation in State/Central services

316. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated special schemes with a view to increase the number of minorities' officials/officers in States and Central services;

(b) if so, the details of the progress made with regard to implementation of these schemes;

(c) whether Government have reviewed as to what percentage the minority representation has increased in State/Central services after implementation of these schemes; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the details of initiatives taken by Government in this regard?

Separate Wakf Council for Andhra Pradesh

317. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has separated Wakf Council for Andhra Pradesh after the bifurcation of Telangana; and

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

Moratorium on communal violence

318. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures that have been taken by Government, and specifically, the Ministry of Minority Affairs to strengthen the implementation of the ten-year moratorium on communal violence announced by the Prime Minister on 15 August, 2014;

(b) whether Government is planning to revisit and revise the Guidelines for Communal Harmony to give effect to the moratorium; and

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

Scheme for development of hill-based minority community people

319. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched any schemes for the welfare and development of Lepchas, Tamangs and other hill-based minority community people in the country, particularly in West Bengal; and

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

**Implementation of Sachar Committee
Report**

†320. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN
PERWEEN: Will the Minister of
MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has seriously
considered the report of Sachar Committee
if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of up-to-date progress
made in this regard, State-wise?

NEW DELHI;
The 24th November, 2015
Agrahayana 3, 1937 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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