

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Monday, August 8, 2016/Sravana 17, 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**

#### **Utilization of surplus water available in disused mines**

2302. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of water available in discussed mines of Bharat Coking Coal Limited;

(b) whether it is a fact that during a recent visit to Dhanbad, the Hon'ble Minister has assured that water in disused open cast mines would be utilized gainfully;

(c) the details of specific plans proposed for utilization of surplus water; and

(d) whether such plans include making it available for human consumption?

#### **Prevention of coal theft**

2303. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one fifth of

total annual production of coal in India is stolen;

(b) if so, the details of estimated cost of coal stolen during the last three years, year-wise along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to prevent theft of coal and also to improve the quality of coal sold by the Coal India Limited?

#### **Pollution caused due to coal mining**

†2304. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pollution, caused due to coal mining by Coal India Ltd. in different coal zones in Jharkhand, is causing great damage to environment and the citizens have to face serious health hazards;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many coal companies situated in that State are

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

not following the standards of controlling pollution; and

(c) if so, the steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

#### **Fire in coal block in Pachwara**

†2305. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the incident of fire took place in the seam of Pachwara central coal block situated at Amrapada in Pakur district of Jharkhand;

(b) whether there is 600 million tonnes of seam coal in the said coal block;

(c) when the Director General of Mines safety (DGMS) received the information about the fire and when it was forwarded by district administration;

(d) when and what steps were taken to extinguish the fire;

(e) whether such incident had occurred there in the past also and if so, when and the remedial steps taken by Government; and

(f) the reasons for recurrence of such fire there?

#### **Annual requirement of coal**

2306. SHRI SHADILAL BATRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey to assess the total annual requirement of coal in the country;

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

(c) whether Government has fixed any targets for coal productions in the country, in order to meet the shortfall;

(d) whether Government has formulated any action plan to increase the production of coal;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Health problems of mine workers**

2307. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the biggest problems of coal mine workers is that they are suffering from asthma, eye infection and other health problems and they do not have any other option for their livelihood;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that the contractors are compromising the protocols related to health problems of mine workers?

#### **Functioning of coal washeries**

2308. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of coal washeries functioning at present and the annual expenditure incurred for running the washeries;

(b) the steps taken/being taken by Government to construct coal washeries to improve the quality of coal produced in the country; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to produce more quantity of high grade coal in the country?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Allocation of coal block to Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. in Odisha**

2309. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that the Chief Minister of Odisha has requested the Central Government to cancel Tentulai coal block and to allocate other suitable coal block to Odisha Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. (OTPCL) as Techno Commercial mining viability of the block upto depth of 900 meters makes it unsuitable for mining as most of the coal is located at greater depth; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Ministry as OTPCL has submitted the application to the Central Government to allocate the Baitarani east coal block against the cancellation of Tentulai coal block?

**Coal stock**

2310. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what was the coal stock in the country on April 1, 2016;

(b) how much was annual consumption during 2015-16;

(c) how much coal was produced internally in that year;

(d) how much was imported; and

(e) as a part of Make in India programme, whether Government would decide to meet the demand fully internally?

**Royalty rates on coal**

†2311. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the royalty rates on coal

are different for power and non-power sectors in Chhattisgarh while 85 per cent of coal has to be supplied to power sector; and

(b) whether Government proposes to approve the proposal of the State Government to enhance the royalty by revising it to the tune of 30 per cent of the base price in place of existing 14 per cent?

**Poor enforcement of safeguards at coal mines**

2312. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a human rights group has claimed that abusive laws and the poor enforcement of safeguards at coal mines are leading tribal communities to oppose expansion of coal blocks;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said group has also alleged that the Central and State Governments do not care to speak or listen to the vulnerable adivasi communities whose lands are acquired and forest is destroyed for coal mining;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether these allegations were part of a conspiracy to derail the development and progress of the country?

**Coal production**

2313. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the record coal production last fiscal allowed public sector behemoth the Coal India Ltd. to augment sales *via* lucrative electronic auction route to firms with captive power plants and power generators;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the rise

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

in e-auction sales boosted the company's annual sales by ₹ 2,500 crore;

(c) whether the 58 million tonnes of coal sold under spot e-auction was 11 per cent more than that of fiscal year 2015; and

(d) whether the company has garnered 33 per cent higher prices compared to the notified rate through e-auction?

**Targets of constructing toilets in rural areas**

2314. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is way behind in meeting the targets of constructing toilets in rural areas under the Swachh Bharat Mission;

(b) if so, the number of toilets constructed in the country particularly in Odisha against the target, so far;

(c) the funds, so far, allocated and spent for the above purpose, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that the target of constructing 12 crore toilets by 2019 is achieved?

**Providing drinking water and sanitation to villages**

2315. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages covered, so far, under the drinking water and sanitation programme;

(b) the number of projects in the pipeline waiting approval of Government; and

(c) the target set for 2019 for providing drinking water and sanitation to all villages?

**Construction of toilets in all houses**

2316. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to achieve the target of constructing toilets in all the houses in the country by the year 2019; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the States to achieve the said target along with the details of funds earmarked for the said purpose, State/UT-wise?

**Achievement of toilet construction under SBM**

2317. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of families in the country, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the number of families in the country without own toilets, State/Union territory-wise;

(c) the number of toilets constructed and in use in each of the last two years and the current year under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) State/Union Territory-wise;

(d) whether achievement under the scheme by each of State and Union Territory is satisfactory; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken/proposed to be taken to reach the targets?

**Construction of toilets and bathrooms for every household**

†2318. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATTYA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken for construction of toilets and bathrooms for every household in rural areas and for arranging the required place and water management for the same;

(b) the year-wise details of financial assistance provided to Madhya Pradesh during the last three years with reference to the above and the district-wise details of the achievements; and

(c) the details of Nirmal Grams with reference to (b) district-wise?

**Target under NRDWP**

2319. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of target fixed under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) in Tamil Nadu during the current financial year 2016-17;

(b) the details of amount earmarked for this; and

(c) the amount released, so far?

**Menace of plastic wastes and hazardous chemicals**

2320. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the menace of plastic wastes and hazardous chemicals in the country;

(b) if so, the details of quantity of plastic wastes and hazardous chemicals accumulated annually in the country;

(c) the roles and responsibilities of both the Central Government and respective State/Union Territory Governments in this regard;

(d) the steps taken by Government to clear all plastic wastes and hazardous chemicals accumulated, so far; and

(e) the technologically competent and effective measures taken by Government to curb further accumulation of plastic wastes and hazardous chemicals?

**Pollution in metro cities**

2321. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified the major causes of pollution in metro-cities;

(b) if so, whether Government has fixed any emission limits for vehicles;

(c) whether the emission violations are being checked regularly; and

(d) if so, the reasons for uncontrolled pollution level?

**Retreat of Gangotri glacier**

2322. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the retreat of Gangotri glacier is one of the main causes of lowering the water level of river Ganga;

(b) if so, whether Government has any study report on retreating glaciers; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the action proposed by Government to stop the imbalance of formation of ice and the melting rate of glaciers on Himalayas?

#### **Coastal erosion around Chennai**

2323. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central teams that visited Chennai to assess the damage due to floods had taken note of increased coastal erosion threatening the coastal hamlets around Chennai;

(b) if so, the decisions taken in regard to the situation; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government to prevent the coastal erosion?

#### **Projects for conservation of environment**

†2324. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of projects being run by Government for conservation of environment in the country and the details of amount spent on these projects during the last three years;

(b) whether Government is formulating any special scheme to raise the number of trees in States having lesser number of trees;

(c) the estimated number of trees being cut every year in the country, State-wise; and

(d) the efforts being made by Government for conservation of

environment in metropolitan cities and other cities including those in Maharashtra?

#### **Requirement of forest area under National Forest Policy**

†2325. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, according to the National Forest Policy, 1988, 33 per cent of the geographical area of the country must be covered under forests and orchards;

(b) if so, the locations of forests, State-wise;

(c) whether Government is contemplating on providing financial incentives to the farmers and private land lords to plant saplings on their unused lands in order to expand the areas under forests; and

(d) the total number of districts selected under this scheme in Maharashtra?

#### **Environmental clearance to projects in Himachal Pradesh**

2326. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects including construction of roads, hydro electric projects, etc. pending for forest/environmental clearances in Himachal Pradesh along with the reasons for their pendency, project-wise;

(b) the number of such projects cleared during each of the last three years and the current year, project-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

expeditious clearances of all the pending projects of the State?

**Green trees on proposed NISD building**

†2327. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there are thousands of lush green trees on the land proposed for construction of National Institute of Social Defence (NISD) building in Dwarka, Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has given permission to cut these trees for building construction; and

(c) if so, when the request in this regard was received and when the approval was given and the details of trees planted to replace the cut trees, as per rules?

**Review of PCA Act**

2328. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to review the provisions of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960, especially those pertaining to definitions of cruelty and the punitive measures prescribed;

(b) whether the Ministry intends to review the draft amendments to the Act, received in 2011;

(c) if so, the details thereof, including the timeline and the road map for the same; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Intensive plantation in Jharkhand**

†2329. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the average area covered under all kinds of forests in Jharkhand remain 29 per cent of total geographical area of the State;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the intensive plantation would be beneficial in the dense forest area in the State with a view to conserve forests and wildlife and for maintaining environmental equilibrium; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this direction?

**Biodiversity and ecosystem of Western Ghats**

2330. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madhav Gadgil Expert Panel on Western Ghats put Athirappilly and surrounding areas in the ecologically-sensitive list and clearly stated that impact of the hydel project there may be irreparable on the biodiversity and ecosystem and whether the Central Government has taken note of this Report;

(b) if so, what is the response by the Ministry regarding viability of this project;

(c) whether Kerala Government has sought environmental clearance from the Central Government for the project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Causes of pollution**

2331. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is repeatedly emphasizing the cause of pollution attributed to vehicular traffic;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that industries, crematoria, road dust, medical incinerators, DG sets, constructions, crop residues and solid waste burning, etc., are the major causes of pollution in Delhi and NCR; and

(d) if so, what steps Government proposes to take to control these industries instead of banning vehicles to control pollution?

### **Penalties imposed for environmental damage**

2332. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cases of penalties amounting to more than ₹ 50 crore, imposed for ecological/environmental damages during 2013, 2014 and 2015, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the details of such penalties recovered from the offenders, so far, State-wise; and

(c) the details of such penalties withdrawn by Government along with the basis on which it was withdrawn and the dates of its withdrawal, case-wise?

### **Withdrawal of penalty for environmental damage**

2333. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: SHRI D. RAJA:

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

(a) whether Government has withdrawn the penalty of ₹ 200 crore imposed on Adani port and SEZ for environmental damage caused during the construction of Mundra ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the date of its imposition and withdrawal;

(c) the basis on which it was imposed; and

(d) the basis on which it has been withdrawn by Government?

### **Projects without environmental clearance**

2334. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to clear the projects constructed without environmental clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it includes the projects taken up by Government authorities and private parties and if so, the details thereof?

### **Death of animals in forest fire**

2335. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a lot of wild animals have

died due to forest fire in different national parks and sanctuaries in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Funds for disposal and recycling of e-wastes**

2336. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of e-wastes that gets generated in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that only 1.5 per cent of the total e-waste generated in the country gets recycled;

(c) the mechanisms currently in place to dispose of e-waste in a safe manner;

(d) the quantum of funds allocated for disposal and recycling of e-wastes during the last five years;

(e) whether most of the e-wastes are currently managed by unorganized sector; and

(f) if so, what steps would be taken by the Ministry to regulate them, considering the huge volume and danger caused by its improper disposal?

**Eco-sensitive zones near sanctuaries and national parks**

†2337. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the compulsory norms have been prescribed by Government for demarcation of eco-sensitive zones in the

areas near various sanctuaries and national parks in the country;

(b) whether the proposals of Gujarat Government for demarcation of 15 eco-sensitive zones in the State is pending with Government; and

(c) if so, whether the said proposals fulfills the compulsory norms for demarcation and the time likely to be taken for their demarcation?

**Development of national parks for protection of wild animals**

2338. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any new action plan for development of national parks for protection of wild animals in the country;

(b) whether there is a scheme to relocate the villages around these national parks by declaring them as buffer zones; and

(c) if so, the number of such national parks in the country for which Government has formulated such scheme?

**Illegal felling of trees in NE States**

2339. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large scale illegal felling of trees is underway in some parts of the North-Eastern States and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action taken by Government in this regard?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Tackling of large dumping grounds**

2340. SHRI SACHIN RAMESH TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken due cognizance of fire at the Deonar dumping yard, Mumbai earlier this year;

(b) whether the Ministry intends to formulate any policy to tackle such large scale dumping grounds from metropolitan cities; and

(c) whether the Ministry intends to formulate a national policy for garbage disposal that can be adopted by all States and cities?

**Solid waste management in metros**

2341. SHRI SACHIN RAMESH TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has considered a solid waste management policy or a binding law for metropolitan cities to follow;

(b) if not, what are the long-term solutions for mega cities like Mumbai, Delhi and other cities that have such large garbage dumps; and

(c) whether the Ministry has consulted the experts in waste management and the countries which have faced such problems earlier?

**Deforestation in Jashpur district**

2342. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether deforestation in a large scale

has been done in Jashpur district in Chhattisgarh specially in Sanna and Pandrapath area; and

(b) whether Government would demarcate the forest land and replant trees in Jashpur district specially in its Sanna, Pandrapath, Bagicha, Tapkara, Manora, Kasabel, Duldula, Pathalgoan areas as climate change is taking place due to massive deforestation and not planting trees?

**Allocations for development of forest areas**

2343. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount allocated to various States by the Central Government for development of forests in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether Government has directed the State Governments to increase forest areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Target of UN millennium programme**

2344. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is not able to achieve the target of UN millennium programme for climate change;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the strategy to fulfil the UN millennium programme?

### Thick smoke in NCR

2345. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that, every year during winter session, a thick smoke cover, produced by burning of paddy straw in Punjab and Haryana, comes and disrupts the normal life of NCR;

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to check such man made pollution; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### Handling of Nilgais

2346. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Nilgais are a serious problem in some parts of the country for growing grains, vegetables, pulses and oil seed crops;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal under consideration to handle the problem;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether, it is possible to catch Nilgais and inhabitate them in parks which could ultimately be used as a part of rural tourism; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

### Decline in dolphin population

2347. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the population of dolphins has declined in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the total number of dolphins in the country at present, State/UT-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for the protection of dolphins in the country?

### Scrapping of Section 2 of Forest Act, 1980

2348. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending with Government to scrap Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 which empowers it to divert forest lands for non-forest activity;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### Setting up of breeding centre for Great Indian Bustard

†2349. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government proposes to approve the setting up of Great Indian Bustard breeding centre at Jaisalmer area in Rajasthan and to release funds therefor and if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether the Rajasthan Government has sent the proposal regarding State action plan for protection of the bird to the Central Government for approval and if so, by when

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

it would be approved and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Plantation of trees**

†2350. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the recent status of the number of trees targeted to be planted, the actual number of trees planted and the number of trees that remained alive after the passage of a year since their plantation during each of the last three years from 2013-14 to 2015-16, State-wise; and

(b) the details of action plan, expenses and measures for making necessary arrangements for plantation, protection and conservation of trees and for encouraging the same?

#### **Development of sewage system**

†2351. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is developing sewage drainage system in various areas of the country;

(b) the details and the number of cities in the country where the Ministry proposes to establish sewage system and sewage treatment plants, State-wise;

(c) whether any proposal for setting up of sewage system and sewage treatment plants at Sultanpur city in Uttar Pradesh is pending with the Ministry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken thereon?

#### **Schemes for increasing forest resources**

†2352. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:  
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) the schemes being run by the Ministry to increase the forest resources in the country and the extent of increase of forest cover during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the quantum of funds provided to the Uttar Pradesh Government for various schemes being run by the State regarding planting of trees for environmental conservation; and

(c) the number of proposals for environmental conservation and tree plantation sent by the State Government pending with the Ministry and the funds involved therein?

#### **Auctioning of mines**

†2353. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mines auctioned by Government during 2014-15 and 2015-16, year-wise;

(b) the funds received by Government through auctioning of mines, year-wise;

(c) the number of mines Government is planning to auction during 2016-17; and

(d) the estimated funds Government is likely to get through auctioning of mines during 2016-17?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Conservation of natural resources  
damaged by mining**

‡2354. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that constant mining in different States including Madhya Pradesh is damaging the natural resources and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether any special scheme has been formulated by Government to conserve natural resources; and

(c) if so, the details thereof or the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

**Arrangement regarding transfer of  
payables to Odisha**

2355. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry would clarify that any arrangement has been made for transfer of ₹ 560.00 crore payable by M/s HINDALCO on account of Talabira-I to the State of Odisha; and

(b) if not, the immediate steps taken on this score?

**Biogas from bio-degradable  
substances**

2356. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what measure Government is taking to promote the production of biogas from bio-degradable substances;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the production of biogas to meet the demand of rural and remote areas; and

(c) how much fund has been allocated therefor?

**Litigation in WTO regarding solar  
power equipments**

2357. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) under which provision of the WTO the United State of America has filed a case against India on solar power equipment;

(b) the basis on which WTO has ruled against India;

(c) whether WTO has power to adjudicate on the internal policy of the Indian Government;

(d) whether India has brought to the notice of WTO about dumping of solar cells and modules by other countries, including US; and

(e) if so, what was the reaction of WTO thereon?

**Initiatives for promotion of renewable  
energy sources**

2358. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:  
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:  
KUMARI SELJA:  
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH  
YADAV:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new initiatives have been taken by the Central Government in promoting renewable energy sources;

(b) if so, the details of initiatives taken during the last five years, State-wise;

(c) whether these initiatives are suited to the Indian environmental conditions; and

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons why such initiatives have not been taken so far?

**Targets and measures for reducing emission intensity**

2359. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government's targets and proposed measures to reduce India's emission intensity;

(b) the proposed contribution of different forms of alternative energy sources towards these targets; and

(c) the steps taken to reduce the price of alternative energy sources to encourage its use?

**Setting up of wind power projects**

2360. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to set up 1,000 MW wind power projects throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has allocated any budget for the proposed projects?

**Integration and transmission of renewable energy**

2361. SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures taken for integration and transmission of renewable energy;

(b) the details of projects being undertaken for large scale integration of renewable energy in the grid;

(c) the details of measures being taken for transmission of power in States with high renewable energy installed capacity;

(d) whether Government is planning to equip discoms of renewable energy rich States with advanced technologies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Promotion of solar energy by World Bank and ISA**

2362. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank and the International Solar Alliance (ISA) have signed a declaration to promote solar energy and mobilize finances;

(b) if so, whether the target for mobilizing finances is to the tune of 1,000 billion US dollar;

(c) whether the World Bank would facilitate international expertise for knowledge sharing and technology transfer to meet the objectives of the alliance;

(d) whether the World Bank has committed to low cost and long term finances for renewable energy projects in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Installation of solar pumps in Andhra Pradesh**

2363. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra

Pradesh has been allocated 6,725 solar pumps for irrigation and 1,000 solar pumps for drinking water under Solar Pumping Programme for 2014-15;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of solar pumps installed so far, out of the allocated ones; and

(d) by when the remaining pumps are going to be installed?

#### **Energy from wind and solar sources**

2364. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of energy generated, using wind and solar sources, at present;

(b) the number of projects under construction in these two fields;

(c) the estimates of solar energy purchased by companies for captive consumption;

(d) the details of Government's projects to promote the generation of wind and solar energy; and

(e) the energy likely to be generated by wind and solar stations during this year?

#### **Exploitation of power from hydel projects**

2365. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noted that expenditure to exploit power from hydro power projects with capacity less than 25 MW is comparatively higher;

(b) whether Government would encourage and assist such projects; and

(c) whether a higher percentage of help to such projects would be provided considering that these are comparatively free of environmental threats?

#### **Training of elected representatives of PRs**

2366. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is assisting the States for providing reorientation and training programme to the elected representatives of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Gram Sabha members;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the financial assistance provided to Himachal Pradesh for the purpose during the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and

(c) the details of the proposals received from that State for setting up of training institutes/resource centres and the number of proposals sanctioned out of them and funds sanctioned/released therefor during the said period?

#### **Transfer of schemes to States**

2367. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) and the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA) have been transferred to States from April, 2015 ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) how the Ministry is monitoring the implementation of above schemes; and

(d) when BRGF is transferred to States, what would be the Status of funds that are likely to be given to Andhra Pradesh under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act for development of backward regions in the State?

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Transfer of power to LSGs**

2370. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the States which have transferred powers to Local Self Governments (LSGs) as per 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendments;

(b) the extent to which powers have been transferred to them;

(c) whether LSGs are successful in handling the new powers;

(d) the details of resources transferred to them; and

(e) whether any taxation powers have also been passed on to them?

#### **Centrally sponsored schemes**

2368. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the names of schemes including the centrally sponsored schemes being implemented by the Ministry;

(b) the details of funds allocated to the States during the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise, year-wise and State-wise including Punjab;

(c) whether Government has set up training/resource centres in the States to strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions; and

(d) if so, the details of such centres along with the funds allocated therefor?

#### **Schemes in Bihar and Jharkhand**

†2369. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes initiated by the Ministry in Bihar and Jharkhand during the last three years and the progress made therein;

(b) the details of amount allocated/released to the States during the last two years and the current year, district-wise;

(c) whether the amount of money has been utilised fully in the States;

#### **Starvation and unemployment in Jharkhand**

†2371. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people in mineral-rich State of Jharkhand are facing problems of starvation and unemployment;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to formulate any scheme to improve the lives of people of the State; and

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

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Status of special category States**

2372. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) which are the States that have been given the status of special category ;

(b) what facilities are proposed in respect of central funds for these States; and

(c) what is the present status of special category States?

**Population below poverty line**

2373. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL  
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:  
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH  
YADAV:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had information of exact percentage of population below poverty line, at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether various committees constituted by Government have submitted their figures on population below poverty line; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to bring the population below poverty line to the above poverty line?

**Position of Jharkhand in HDI**

†2374. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the place of Jharkhand is below the national average in

terms of many aspects of Human Development Index (HDI); and

(b) if so, the steps Government would take to upgrade the level of the State?

**Monthly targets for Ministries**

2375. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether PMO has asked NITI Aayog to fix up monthly targets for Ministries for effective implementation of various schemes and programmes of Government; and

(b) if so, the details of such proposals, and the details of schemes/programmes that come under monitoring?

**Control of rising population**

†2376. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts being made by Government to control rising population of the country; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the level of poverty is increasing and the developmental processes are being hindered due to increasing population of the country and if so, the stringent steps being taken by Central Government in this regard?

**New projects for rural electrification**

2377. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has, after coming to power in May, 2014, taken up new projects for rural electrification or it is

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

pursuing the projects initiated by the previous Government;

(b) if so, the details of new projects that the present Government has taken up at its own initiatives; and

(c) the details of such rural electrification projects initiated by the previous Government but which have either been shut down or abandoned by the present Government?

#### **Employment to local people by Maithon Power Limited**

2378. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total quantum of land acquired while setting up the Maithon Power Limited;

(b) what was the total number of persons from whom land was acquired;

(c) whether an assurance was given to provide employment to persons from whom land was acquired; and

(d) if so, how many such persons were actually given employment?

#### **Power projects by BHEL**

2379. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the power project orders being undertaken for execution by the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) along with the repair and maintenance of existing power plants, in the last three years, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether there has been any delay in execution of power projects by BHEL

including the projects executed/yet to be executed, till date; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with action taken thereon?

#### **Demand and supply of electricity**

†2380. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the electricity requirement in terms of megawatts as on date in the country;

(b) the quantum of electricity generated in the country in terms of magawatts;

(c) whether Government has formulated any scheme to ensure electricity supply to the citizen as per the requirement; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Electrified villages**

2381. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the details and the number of villages whose status was marked by Gram Vidyut Abhiyantas (GVAs) as 'eo' (which means un-electrified) and which have been shown as 'electrified' in overall category by Government during the last year?

#### **Pollution effect of thermal power plants**

2382. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the contribution of all thermal power plants in energy generation from all sources in the country during a year;

(b) the details of thermal power plants along with their annual generation capacity, State-wise;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the details of pollution effect of cluster power plants in Jhajjar cluster in Haryana and Korba cluster in Chhattisgarh on neighbouring cities of Delhi and Raipur and other cities of Chhattisgarh;

(d) the measures taken to prevent such pollution in the area; and

(e) whether plant-wise standards and regulations were prescribed in all plants and if not, the reasons for not prescribing them so far?

**Advertisement issued by PGCIL and NTPC**

2383. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy of releasing advertisements to casual publications like brochures and souvenirs by the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) and the NTPC Limited;

(b) whether PGCIL has recently released one page advertisement worth Rupees Six Lakh to brochure titled "ALPANA";

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for releasing such a whopping amount of advertisement; and

(d) whether Government would refer the matter to an investigating agency for wasting of huge amounts on such casual brochures and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Closure of power plants due to shortage of water**

†2384. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether many power plants in the country have been permanently closed down due to non-availability of water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these power plants are being considered for re-commencement; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Power deficiency in remote and rural areas and SC/ST settlements**

2385. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether remote and rural areas as well as settlements of SCs and STs in several States in the country continue to be power deficient;

(b) the efforts being made by Government in this direction along with Government's plans in this regard;

(c) the schemes being implemented, specially in SC & ST villages, towards electrification and the funds allocated therefor during the last three years; and

(d) the number of villages benefited under these schemes and by when the remaining villages would be electrified?

**Rural electrification data on GARV app**

2386. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether figures of rural electrification are grossly exaggerated since the figures available on GARV website show that both electrified and unelectrified villages have been counted as part of the 7,000 (out of 18,792 unelectrified villages) electrified villages;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether out of 7,000 electrified villages, 3,604 had been marked “villages found electrified during the survey”;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) if not, the details thereof?

#### **Loans to States for rural electrification**

2387. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to provide soft loans to States with a view to ensure that rural electrification programme does not suffer any set-backs due to financial constraints of local distribution companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the modalities of the plan along with the quantum of funds released through this system to States?

#### **Setting up and development of power projects**

†2388. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received any proposals from different State Governments for setting up and development of power projects during the last three years;

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

(c) the actions taken by the Central Government to give its approval and the details of Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) signed with States thereon and the details of funds allocated therefor, State-wise?

#### **Increase in rates of electricity**

†2389. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of adverse impact of continuous increase in the rates of electricity on agriculture sector and common people;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government has taken any concrete steps to resolve the problem;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Construction of Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project**

2390. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction work of Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project of NHPC is delayed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be completed;

(c) what new steps the Central Government has taken specifically to meet the power crisis in Assam and the entire North-Eastern Region;

(d) what would be the fate of people in Assam if Bhutan and Arunachal Pradesh go ahead with their several hydro projects for power generation; and

(e) the action/project work undertaken by Government to safeguard life, livestock and property of people of the downstream areas in Assam affected by such projects?

#### **SC and ST employees in NTPC**

2391. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of SC and ST employees

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

working in the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), as on date;

(b) whether recruitment to various posts in NTPC are made according to reservation rules; and

(c) if so, the details of the recruitment regarding SCs and STs for all types of posts existing in NTPC?

#### **Per capita consumption of power**

‡2392. SHRI P. L. PUNIA:

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of per capita generation and consumption of electricity in the country;

(b) whether per capita consumption of electricity in the country is very less than global average and the details thereof;

(c) whether 300 crore people in the country are not able to use electricity and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of States with surplus electricity during the year 2016-17 and the details of per capita supply of electricity in those States?

#### **Effect of quality of coal on power generation**

‡2393. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether electricity generation is being affected due to the use of sub-standard indigenous coal by power generation companies and if so, the details of expenditure incurred towards per unit of generation; and

(b) the quantity of indigenous and

imported coal used by power generation companies during the last two years, the details thereof?

#### **Generation and shortage of power**

2394. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether power generation growth has risen to 9.5 per cent so far, during this year against 5.65 per cent during the ten year period from 2004 to 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there was 87 per cent reduction in energy shortage in just two years to 14 million units from 110 million units earlier; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Assistance for electricity generation**

2395. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Central assistance provided for electricity generation in the country during the last two years, State/ UT-wise; and

(b) the measures taken by the Central Government to reduce the loss incurred by different electricity boards during the said period, board-wise?

#### **Construction of bridge on Zuari river**

2396. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of construction of the proposed bridge over Zuari river;

(b) the mode of financing the project;

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‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the scheme under which the project is being constructed;

(d) the estimated cost of the project; and

(e) the proposed date of completion?

**Construction of Talpona and Galgibaga bridges in Goa**

2397. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of construction of Talpona and Galgibaga bridges in Goa;

(b) the mode of financing these projects;

(c) the names of Public Private Partnership companies involved in the project;

(d) whether the construction has started;

(e) the cost of the construction of the two bridges;

(f) the estimated date of completion; and

(g) the details of the projects?

**Bridges on river Brahmaputra in Assam**

2398. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to construct bridges across the river Brahmaputra in Assam connecting Disang Mukh (Sibsagar Distt.) to Takeliphuta (Lakhimpur Distt.), Nimati Ghat (Jorhat) to Kamalabari (Majuli) and Gohpur to Numaligarh (Bokakhat);

(b) if so, whether survey has been undertaken and the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) have been prepared; and

(c) by when the work would be started?

**Status of Chennai port-Maduravoyal elevated corridor project**

2399. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons that compelled NHAI to terminate the Chennai port-Maduravoyal elevated corridor project; and

(b) how much investment has been spent on the above project, so far?

**Accidents at National/Express Highways**

2400. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of a large number of accidents on various National/Express Highways in the country;

(b) if so, the number of total accidents reported along with the number of persons killed in road accidents during each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(c) the action taken by Government to prevent road accidents along with the steps taken to step up compensation for the victims?

**Impact of banning of diesel cars/SUVs**

2401. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL:  
SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme

Court had directed the Government to ban 2,000 CC plus diesel cars/SUVs till the end of March, 2016;

(b) whether Government has examined the impact of this directive punishing the automobile industry besides the owners of such diesel cars and SUV users;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what are Government's plan on the use of diesel cars and SUVs which are more than 15 years old?

#### **Road safety awareness**

2402. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:  
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of WHO report which places India as the country with the highest number of road accidents; and

(b) the initiatives Government has taken to create road safety awareness among youth and whether these initiatives have been successful?

#### **Bypass roads in Uttarakhand**

†2403. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to construct bypass roads in various cities of Uttarakhand, in view of traffic jams;

(b) if so, the names and the length of proposed bypass roads; and

(c) by when the construction of these bypass roads is likely to be completed?

#### **Compensation to vehicle owners impacted by banning of diesel vehicles**

2404. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has examined the order of the National Green Tribunal banning diesel vehicles of more than ten years old in Delhi;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to protect the interests of vehicle owners who had paid one time road tax for a period of 15 years and their vehicles are still road worthy;

(c) whether Government has any plans to compensate such owners of such vehicles and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reasons for not giving adequate time and permission to such vehicle owners to sell their vehicles outside Delhi?

#### **Road Safety Bill**

2405. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of proposed Road Safety Bill;

(b) whether any consultations have been held with the States and other stakeholders;

(c) if so, the details of suggestions/objections made by States, State-wise; and

(d) whether the proposed Bill is in compliance with the Road Safety Audit or is going to add some more road features in the Bill in addition to what is there in the Road Safety Audit?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Four laning of Mahulia-Bahragoda-Chichira NH**

†2406. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether four laning of the Mahulia-Bahragoda-Chichira road on NH-33 and NH-6 is pending for the last three years;

(b) whether the Central Government had announced its construction but only an agency has been selected till now even after the passage of five months time since then;

(c) by when the work on this road would be completed; and

(d) Government's plan for speedy completion of the work?

**Projects under 'Setu Bharatam' in West Bengal**

2407. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some projects under 'Setu Bharatam' are under consideration for West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the estimated cost, project-wise; and

(c) by when these are likely to be finalized?

**Corpus of CRF**

2408. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

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

(a) the current corpus of Central Road

Fund (CRF) along with the releases made therefrom during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the criteria adopted for allocation of funds to the States/Union Territories;

(c) the amount received in CRF during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the number of proposals received and sanctioned, State-wise?

**Pending NHAI projects**

2409. KUMARI SELJA: SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

(a) the number of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) projects which are pending for completion;

(b) the reasons for the delay in their completion; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to expedite the completion of these projects?

**Progress of Bengaluru-Chennai Expressway project**

2410. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bengaluru-Chennai Expressway project is progressing as per the schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor along with the revised cost estimates and timelines?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Delay in completion of expansion of National Highway works in AP**

2411. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the delay being caused in completion of expansion of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) which are the National Highways facing this problem;

(d) the details of works completed and yet to be completed, so far; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Ministry for their early completion?

**Payment of penalty for delay in road projects**

2412. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NHAI proposes to pay penalty to private developers in BOT projects in case it fails to get statutory clearances and approvals within the scheduled time-frame;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this move would place greater accountability on NHAI in PPP road projects and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any penalty clause has also been imposed on private developers who fail to achieve the target set by NHAI; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which these changes are likely to encourage private developers in road

infrastructure and speedy construction of highway?

**Bharatmala Pariyojana**

2413. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Bharatmala Pariyojana being taken up by Government;

(b) the details of State roads along coastal areas, including connectivity of non-major ports and tourist places, proposed to be taken up in Maharashtra thereunder; and

(c) the initiatives taken up, so far, in this direction and the State Government's response in this regard?

**Ponds along highways**

2414. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to construct ponds along the highways as a measure of water conservation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether budgetary provisions has been made for this purpose; and

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

**Coastal Highways as NHs**

2415. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of National Highways along the coastline, State-wise;

(b) the length of coastal highways not yet notified as National Highways, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken by Government to notify the same as National Highways; and

(d) by when they are likely to be notified?

#### **Quality roads in border States**

2416. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to provide quality roads for better connectivity in border States of the country; and

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard in each State during the last three years?

#### **Maintenance of Pathalgaon to Jashpur stretch on NH-78**

2417. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on maintenance on Pathalgaon to Jashpur (Shank border) stretch on NH 78 during the last five years;

(b) whether recently a large amount was again allocated for maintenance of this stretch and within few days it went bad and now it is difficult to drive on this road;

(c) whether Government would take note of it and a special team would be sent to audit the accounts for maintenance for the last five years and take action on Chhattisgarh NH team at Raipur, Ambikapur and Jashpur; and

(d) whether Government would maintain the road as it is getting bad in rains and traffic would face problems?

#### **Banning of diesel vehicles**

2418. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) whether the National Green Tribunal has recently directed diesel vehicles older than 10 years to be deregistered in NCR of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether scrapping policy has been developed by Government and if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay;

(e) how the owners of more than 10 years old diesel vehicles in Delhi would be compensated; and

(f) whether Government would advise for annual health check ups of all motor vehicles for reducing air pollution and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Participation of CRCC in NHAI projects**

2419. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the China Railway Construction Corporation (CRCC) has expressed keen interest in participating in projects of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) if so, the details of projects on which they have shown interest;

- (c) whether NHAI is willing to tweak rules to allow CRCC in road projects; and  
(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Emission norms for vehicles**

2420. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the transition from Euro-VI to Bharat Stage-VI emission norms for vehicles would pose a significant technological challenge;  
(b) if so, the details thereof; and  
(c) by when technological changes would be made in the vehicles which are affordable on pricing and less polluting?

#### **Road construction projects in Haryana**

2421. SHRI SHADILAL BATRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of proposals received from Haryana Government during the last three years for road construction projects in the State;  
(b) the number of proposals approved and pending for consideration with the Central Government; and  
(c) by when the pending proposals are likely to be approved?

#### **Work on Raipur-Jagdalpur NH-43**

†2422. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of four laning of National Highway No. 43 from Raipur to Jagdalpur;

(b) whether construction of a bypass is necessary on this highway at Keshkal Ghat, which has 11 hairpin bends which cause frequent accidents;

(c) whether any proposal regarding the same has been sent to Government for approval under LWE scheme; and

(d) whether sanction for ₹ 872.66 lakh was obtained from the Ministry on the 3rd March, 2008 for construction of a bridge over Markandi river on the above highway but as it was necessary to construct a high quality bridge over this river a proposal for approval was sent to Government on the 6th September, 2010?

#### **Farmers under MGNREGA**

2423. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers have volunteered to do work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) to supplement their agricultural income; and  
(b) if not, the details thereof?

#### **Utilization of funds allocated under MGNREGA**

†2424. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of amount spent, so far, by States/Union Territories out of the total amount allocated by Government under MGNREGA during the financial year 2016-17;  
(b) the reasons for the delay in spending the amount, if any;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the total number of people provided employment under MGNREGA in States/ Union Territories, so far, during the financial year 2016-17;

(d) whether Government proposes to take special measures for providing health related services/facilities to MGNREGA workers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Work under PMGSY in UP, Maharashtra and Haryana**

2425. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:  
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH  
YADAV:  
KUMARI SELJA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the current phase of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) under progress in the country, as well as in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Haryana;

(b) the details of proposals received under PMGSY from the said States during the last two years; and

(c) the details of allocations made to those States under PMGSY during that period?

**Funds for Haryana under PMGSY**

2426. SHRI SHADILAL BATRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated and spent under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the last three years and the current year in Haryana;

(b) the details of road projects completed during the said period in the State project-wise; and

(c) the details of ongoing and pending works under PMGSY in the State?

**Proposals from Madhya Pradesh under PMGSY**

†2427. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether, under the fifteenth phase of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Madhya Pradesh Government has sent any proposal to the Central Government for its approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this proposal would soon be decided upon or accorded sanction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Meeting of NMC**

2428. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formed the National Monitoring Committee (NMC) to oversee, monitor and help proper implementation of the Land Acquisition Act, 2013 and other acquisition processes;

(b) how many meetings have been held by NMC since its inception to help land-losing and displaced farmers;

(c) whether farmers of Deverapalli, Polavaram Mandal, Gopalpuram, Rajempalem and Devipatnam Mandals have petitioned NMC to help them get fair and eligible compensation for land lost through the Forum on Social and Human Rights; and

(d) if so, the reasons for hesitation of NMC to call the petitioners for discussion to know their issues?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Implementation of SAGY**

2429. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Member of Parliaments (MPs) who have opted for the first phase of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY);

(b) the amount allocated to each model village along with the details of amount spent, State-wise;

(c) whether the interest shown by MPs for SAGY in the second phase has declined; and

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

### **Payment of interest on delayed payment under MGNREGA**

†2430. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether under MGNREGA there is a provision to pay interest on delayed payments of wages to workers and also a provision to punish the guilty officials;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of outstanding payments to workers along with in the amount of delayed payments during the last two years and the current year, State-wise including UP and Assam;

(d) whether the interest has been paid to the workers for delayed payments, as per rules and if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and Government's response thereto?

### **Construction of roads under PMGSY in Bihar**

†2431. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages with population of 500 in Bihar wherein roads are yet to be constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), district-wise;

(b) by when these roads are likely to be constructed;

(c) the amount of funds needed therefor and by when it would be made available;

(d) the names of roads in Buxar which have recently been approved under PMGSY and the names of villages still deprived of such link roads; and

(e) the names of agencies which have been awarded such works and by when these works are scheduled to be completed?

### **Ensuring quality in maintenance of rural roads under PMGSY**

†2432. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism evolved by Government to ensure the quality of roads constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b) whether responsibility for maintenance of roads is entrusted to the construction agency for five years after the completion of road construction work;

(c) if so, how it is ensured that the roads constructed under the schemes are in good condition while handing them over to Government after the period of five years of its construction; and

(d) the punitive mechanism in place against agencies not performing

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

maintenance works and the names of such agencies against whom action has been taken under the provisions of such a mechanism during the last three years?

#### **Delay in PMGSY Projects**

2433. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the completion of several road projects sanctioned under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) have been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being taken by Government for completion of the projects in a time bound manner project-wise; and

(d) the status of road projects sanctioned in Kerala under PMGSY, project-wise?

#### **Deendayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana**

2434. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Deendayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana is a placement-linked scheme;

(b) if so, how many skilled rural youth were provided employment under the above scheme, so far, State-wise; and

(c) whether all the recruits are getting a minimum salary of ₹ 6,000 per month?

#### **Performance of States under MGNREGA**

2435. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the share of beneficiaries from the total workers who availed 100 days of work under MGNREGA during 2014 to 2016;

(b) the names of States that have recorded an annual decline in MGNREGA beneficiaries during the above period; and

(c) what is the share of funds allocated to these States by the Central Government during 2012 to 2016?

#### **Proposal under IAY from Gujarat**

†2436. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received proposals/requests of Gujarat Government for Central assistance of ₹ 4119.88 lakh towards construction of 19,245 houses in 18 districts of the State under the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) during 2015-16; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard for release of the said funds so that the State Government may achieve its target?

#### **Conversion of wasteland in Rajasthan**

†2437. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the area of agricultural land in bighas that has been converted into non-agricultural land during the last five years in Rajasthan, district-wise; and

(b) the details of area of wasteland, in bighas in the State and the details of action plan formulated by Government for converting the above wasteland into agricultural land?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Increase in allocation under  
MGNREGA**

2438. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the increase in MGNREGA allocations during the current year, as compared to the last two years;

(b) whether the increase in number of incomplete projects under MGNREGA is due to lack of funds released by the Central Government and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the total number of MGNREGA man-days generated during the current year, as compared to the last three years?

**Digitisation of land records in  
Maharashtra**

2439. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry has initiated steps to digitise land records in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, how many land records have been digitised so far;

(c) if not, why has such a process not been initiated, so far;

(d) what strategy would be applied by the Ministry to undertake digitisation exercise;

(e) whether steps have been taken to digitise existing paper maps of land parcels;

(f) whether Government would undertake ground trothing with the help of local bodies like municipalities and panchayats to verify actual land records before digitising them; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Modernisation of port sector**

2440. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put in place a roadmap to modernize revamp and overhaul the port sector of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what other measures Government has initiated or propose to initiate to make Indian ports world class?

**Status of new inland waterways**

2441. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the operational status of 106 new inland waterways;

(b) whether an assessment study has been/would be conducted to ascertain the level of pollution these inland waterways would cause;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the area of forest land needed to operationalise these inland waterways?

**New ports under Sagarmala  
programme**

2442. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of "Sagarmala" in terms of new ports proposed or grounded or under implementation or waiting financial clearances;

(b) whether Government would take part of equity in private ports under Sagarmala programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof, including investment proposed by Government and time-span;

(d) whether it is a fact that established ports are bringing pressure to stop new entrants in many coastal States; and

(e) how Government proposes to bring transparency and fairness in sanctioning new ports under Sagarmala?

**Joint venture port in collaboration with JNPT and MMB**

2443. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a joint venture port in collaboration with Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) and Maharashtra Maritime Board (MMB) is being developed in Maharashtra;

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

(c) whether there are severe concern of local people and fishermen against coming up of this port; and

(d) what are their concerns and what efforts are being made by Government to address their concerns?

**Transportation of passengers and cargo**

2444. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of roles played by the Indian Shipping Industry in the transportation of passengers and cargo;

(b) the details of initiatives taken by Government to develop this sector so far transportation of passengers is concerned; and

(c) the steps taken to recognize, reward and promote quality within the industry?

**Building a major harbour at Kulachal in Tamil Nadu**

2445. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to build a major harbour at Kulachal in Tamil Nadu as a Government project;

(b) if so, how far it would affect the prospects of the Vizhinjam harbour, the work for which has already been started; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure the smooth progress and functioning of Vizhinjam harbour?

**Setting up of major port at Enayam in Tamil Nadu**

2446. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has given its in-principle approval to set up the country's 13th major port at Enayam in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a special purpose vehicle would be formed for the development of port that would act as a major gateway container port for cargo and become a transshipment hub for east-west trade route; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Status of underground water**

2447. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted

underground water mapping in certain States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, along with the status of underground water in such States; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to take concrete steps for recharging the water table in the States where water table has reached a critical level?

#### **Inter-linking of river projects**

†2448. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of river inter-linking projects;

(b) whether priority is being given to the drought-hit States under the above project by Government and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of current figures of the 'availability of water' in the rivers of North-East and South-West India; and

(d) the details of estimated amount proposed to be incurred on the above important projects and the time-frame of the project?

#### **Explosives used at Polavaram dam**

2449. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of explosives are being used daily at Polavaram dam site in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is also a fact that sub-standard and dangerous explosives are being used without proper supervision;

(c) when the last time safety officers visited Polavaram dam and enquired whether excessive use of explosives was current practice; and

(d) the steps proposed to immediately enquire and stipulate proper and minimum use of explosives?

#### **Rain water harvesting programme**

†2450. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched any new programme in a systematic way to harvest rain water in Vidarbha and Marathwada region of Maharashtra for permanent solution of water crisis occurred recently in that region;

(b) the district-wise details of strict decisions taken by earlier Governments on the rules framed earlier for harvesting rain water; and

(c) whether Government has any data regarding the extent of loss of life and property in the regions facing water crisis?

#### **Plan to re-use sewage water in Delhi**

2451. SHRID. RAJA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has evolved a plan to re-use the treated sewage water in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Setting up of new STPs along Yamuna**

2452. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report submitted to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) reveals that to expect a clean river Yamuna is a distant dream;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only less than half of the waste generated is being treated and the rest is being discharged into the river directly; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and what measures are being taken to optimize the use of existing Sewerage Treatment Plants (STPs) and to set up new STPs to maximize the waste water treatment along Yamuna?

### **Dams on river Ganga**

†2453. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dams over river Ganga at present and whether Government has conducted any study as to the effects of these dams on the flow of the river and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has assessed the extent of damage caused to the environment by hydro projects in view of Kedarnath tragedy and if so, the outcome of such assessment; and

(c) whether the priority of Government is uninterrupted flow of Ganga water or hydro projects?

### **Polluted ground water in Delhi**

†2454. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that as per a recent survey a list of 45 locations with most polluted groundwater in 9 districts of Delhi has been issued wherein such groundwater has been found in the vicinity of landfill sites;

(b) whether various diseases like cancer, etc. spread due to consumption of this polluted water;

(c) if so, the steps Government is taking for disposal of all types of garbage along with electronic waste; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Sources of pollutants discharged into Ganga**

†2455. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the main sources of pollutants being discharged into Ganga;

(b) the total quantities of sewage water from drains of cities and poisonous water coming from industries being discharged into Ganga right from Gangotri to Bay of Bengal;

(c) the capacities of treatment plants installed for the treatment of sewage and poisonous discharged water and the number of plants working among them or lying closed;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether there is any role of State Governments in running the treatment plants; and

(e) if so, how they are co-operated and the steps being taken to start treatment plants lying closed?

**Inter linking of minor and major rivers for floods and drought**

†2456. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working on any plan to inter link minor and major rivers of the country, in view of problem of drought and floods occurring in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time-frame within which it is proposed to be accomplished;

(c) whether Government is taking some steps to control the water flow coming from Nepal and other neighbouring countries in addition to rivers of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount to be spent thereon and in how many years this amount would be spent, year-wise?

**Amendments of Brahmaputra Board Act**

2457. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amendments in the Brahmaputra Board Act, with a view to efficiently manage the

Brahmaputra floods, are pending with the Ministry for quite some time;

(b) if so, the reasons for this long pendency; and

(c) by when the Ministry intends to move the amendments?

**Ganga Gram**

2458. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has started any initiative as Ganga Gram;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) how this initiative would help in the entire rejuvenation?

**Anti erosion projects for North-Eastern Region**

2459. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry would implement anti-erosion projects for North-Eastern Region, particularly for Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of projects sanctioned during the last two years, State-wise?

**Performance of improving groundwater**

2460. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any stringent measures to improve the groundwater level in the country and whether suitable incentives are on the anvil for the State/UTs which are performing excellently in conserving/improving ground water and are effectively implementing rain water harvesting;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Revival of drying ponds**

2461. SHRIDILIPKUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the ponds in rural and urban India are fast drying up because of silting and encroachments; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Ministry to revive such ponds across the country?

NEW DELHI;  
The 2nd August, 2016  

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Sravana 11, 1938 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,  
Secretary-General.

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(Ministry-wise)

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