

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Monday, May 9, 2016/Vaisakha 19, 1938 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Coal; Drinking Water and Sanitation; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; 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

#### Share of Odisha in coal

1601. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Odisha would get more than two lakh crore out of coal, as per the present policy of Government;

(b) if so, by when the State would get this fund; and

(c) how much fund, as per the present policy, Odisha and the Central Government had shared during 2014-15, and 2015-16?

#### Use of coal in power plants and other industries

1602. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is trying to reduce the use of coal in power plants and other industries like iron, steel, cement, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of coal required for power plants and other industries, as on date; and

(d) the status of domestic production and imports made, as of now?

#### Contracts with Indian shipping companies for coal transport

1603. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to do long term contracts with Indian shipping companies to transport coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to set up a small private equity fund which would provide equity to various organizations undertaking logistics through coastal shipping and inland waterways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Schedule-II coal mines**

†1604. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 19 Schedule-II coal mines were under operation till 31st March, 2015;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only five coal mines could be restarted after auctioning; and

(c) if so, the reasons for which the other coal mines could not be started?

production of coal by the subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL) during each of the last three years, subsidiary-wise;

(b) whether the quantum of coal produced by these coal subsidiaries fall short of the targets fixed for them;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the corrective measures being taken in this regard along with the steps taken for increasing the production in all the subsidiaries of CIL?

**Lignite coal production**

1605. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of coal produced by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited (NLC) from various operational mines during the last three years and its value in rupee;

(b) the income earned by NLC during the corresponding period and the funds allocated by Government for development of employees of NLC and people around it;

(c) whether Government has designed any mechanism to provide adequate machinery and manpower support for exploitation of all the coal mines of NLC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the quantity and value of coal expected to be produced during the next three years?

**Coal production**

1606. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of targets fixed and total

**Recording of billing and receiving of coal**

1607. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: SHRI ANIL DESAI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government and coal companies have taken a decision that the variation between coal as billed and coal as received on account of grade slippage be placed on record of the commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether its benefit would be passed on to the consumers?

**Acquisition of coal bearing areas**

1608. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of coal bearing areas acquired by Government till now under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957;

(b) the details of extent of land which was acquired from people belonging to SC/ST under this Act; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the details of compensation paid to them?

**Operation of coal mines auctioned in Schedule-II**

†1609. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in some cases of Schedule-II, coal was extracted by the earlier allottees, but at present, the State Governments are expressing their inability to get the coal mines started for certain reasons;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments were consulted before the auctioning of coal mines; and

(c) if so, the provisions for starting the coal mines after auctioning?

**CSR activity funded by ECL**

1610. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL) has undertaken any activity from its funds earmarked for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) based on the recommendations of any Member of Parliament;

(b) if so, the nature of such activities undertaken during the last three years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Ponds for conservation of water**

1611. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to make more number of ponds in different

parts of the country to meet the demands of drinking water and to overcome the problem of scarcity of water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the various steps taken in this regard, so far?

**Technical and financial assistance for supply of pure potable water**

1612. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:  
SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes under which financial assistance is provided to the States for supply of pure potable water by Government;

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

(c) whether apart from the financial assistance, Government has also provided technical assistance for this purpose?

**Fluoride free rural habitation in Telangana**

1613. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, as per the Integrated Management Information System, 1267 rural habitations were identified as fluoride affected in nine districts of Telangana during 2012-13;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) what efforts the Ministry has made to make them fluoride free;

(d) the details of technical and financial assistance provided to the State Government to deal with the above problem; and

(e) the present status of above habitations?

#### **Crisis of drinking water**

†1614. SHRI R.K. SINHA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the main reasons for the current crisis of drinking water in the country; and

(b) whether Government is working out any special scheme to provide clean drinking water to people in the country and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Non-functional toilets in Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh**

1615. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of household toilets granted by the Ministry during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that, as per the baseline survey of 2013, 20 per cent of toilets have become defunct and the percentage is as high as 66 per cent in Jharkhand and 59 per cent in Chhattisgarh; and

(c) if so, how the Ministry looks at it and what efforts the Ministry is making to keep every toilet functional?

#### **Advisory to States for preparing summer action plan**

1616. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to issue advisory to States particularly to those which face acute shortage of drinking water to prepare summer action plan for providing water to the people; and

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

#### **Foreign assistance for drinking water projects**

1617. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of drinking water projects being implemented with foreign assistance during the last one year including the status of the present projects;

(b) whether some States including Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh have submitted foreign fund assisted projects/proposals for providing pure drinking water to all the families; and

(c) if so, the names of such agencies funding the proposals/projects including the details of these proposals/projects alongwith the present status of each proposal?

#### **Priority list for basic needs in rural areas**

†1618. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of priority list of basic

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

needs for villages and rural areas and the manner in which availability of resources has been determined to fulfil them; and

(b) the number of villages facing paucity of potable water and those requiring sanitation facilities and the details of accelerated action plan to provide such facilities, State-wise?

#### **Water conservation schemes**

†1619. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether acute drinking water crisis has emerged in many States of the country due to drought and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the names of schemes available with Government to promote water conservation and the details of schemes upon which funds have been spent, State-wise on water conservation;

(c) whether expected results have been achieved from implementation of existing schemes of water conservation; and

(d) if not, Government's plan to resolve the grave crisis?

#### **Allocation of funds under SBM**

1620. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), so far, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether Government has reviewed the progress of SBM during the last year and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is facing any

problems in implementation of SBM and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the action taken/being taken by Government to solve them?

#### **Privatisation of drinking water supply**

1621. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to improve drinking water supply efficiency through its privatisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how the proposed plans are going to bridge the demand-supply gap;

(d) whether privatisation would solve the problem of the country; and

(e) if so, from where private companies would get water to fulfil the requirement of States?

#### **Supply of pure drinking water**

†1622. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps being taken by Government to provide pure drinking water across the country;

(b) the details of provisions made by the Ministry to provide pure drinking water to States;

(c) the position of States regarding providing pure drinking water and the details thereof; and

(d) the details of time period fixed by Government to provide pure drinking water?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Safe and clean drinking water to rural schools**

1623. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme to implement the provisions of safe and clean drinking water to rural schools across the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details and number of schools in rural areas which do not have access to clean drinking water, States and UT-wise;

(c) the details of funds provided for this purpose during the last three years; and

(d) whether Government conducts quality checks on water available for drinking in rural schools periodically and if so, the details thereof?

**Crisis of drinking water in Rajasthan**

1624. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether serious crisis of drinking water has arisen due to drought situation in Rajasthan and if so, the details thereof;

(b) what are the measures/steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) whether the villages would be provided drinking water by tankers?

**Supply of potable water to all villages**

1625. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of villages provided quality drinking water by laying pipelines during 2014-15 *vis a vis* target set, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for very slow pace of work in this regard;

(c) the reasons for delay in achieving the target of establishing water testing labs in each State; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to achieve the target of potable water supply in all the villages in the country by 2022?

**Implementation of SBM (Gramin)**

1626. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to choose the best districts of the country for implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) during the current year; and

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

**World bank assistance to SBM in rural areas**

1627. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has assured of giving ₹10,000 crores to Swachh Bharat Mission in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of goal set under the above Mission for rural areas;

(d) to what extent the above money would help in strengthening the institutions, service delivery and implementation to achieve the set goals;

(e) whether the targets set are on the path of achieving; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Problem of clean drinking water in villages**

1628. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:  
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in the country where potable water is not available;

(b) the action plan being implemented by Government to provide potable water in such villages;

(c) the funds provided by Government during the last one year to implement the above-mentioned action plan, State-wise; and

(d) whether Government would provide potable water as per the criteria to the villages facing the problem of clean drinking water, within next one year?

**Burning of dry leaves, trash and rubbish**

1629. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) whether the number of incidents of burning dry leaves, trash and rubbish is on the increase in metropolitan cities, especially in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether robust garbage disposal system is in place in cities and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the guidelines issued by the National Green Tribunal in April, 2015, banning burning of wastes, were being followed; and

(e) whether monitoring system is strictly adhered to and periodic review made in view of WHO ranking Delhi as the world's worst city for air pollution?

**Monitoring of air quality in Delhi**

1630. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA :  
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put in place a system to monitor air quality in Delhi and its NCR areas;

(b) whether this system has regularly been updated to assess air pollution; and

(c) what are the details of stringent measures that have been taken to control pollution in Delhi?

**Drafting of new forest policy**

1631. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the process of drafting the new forest policy is completed;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) if not, the details of reasons for delay and the progress made, so far, in terms of meetings held and stakeholders consulted?

**Forest area**

†1632. SHRI R.K. SINHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of the total land of the country is the forest area;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the details of percentage by which forest land has dwindled year-wise since 1950 to 2015; and

(c) whether Government intends to plant trees on unused land along both sides of national highways and railway tracks to boost forestation in the country and if so, the action-plan thereof?

#### **Endangered natural world heritages**

1633. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent WWF survey has put several natural world heritages on the brink of being endangered/extinct;

(b) if so, the details thereof, along with the names of the major ones;

(c) what its implications would be; and

(d) what is being done about this?

#### **Conservation of Great Indian Bustard**

1634. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the population of Great Indian Bustard has plummeted to less than 200 now in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government for conservation of this critically endangered species on the red list of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)?

#### **Population of rhinoceros**

1635. DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rhinoceros found in the country;

(b) what is the trend in the rhino population and whether the Ministry expects the number to fall ; and

(c) what measures are taken by the Ministry to protect India's rhino population?

#### **Area covered under wildlife sanctuaries**

1636. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, whereas the number of wildlife sanctuaries in the country has increased as compared to 2006, the total area covered under the wildlife sanctuaries has actually shrunk considerably;

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

(c) the reasons for reduction in area; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that there is no further reduction in the area?

#### **Potential yield of GM mustard**

1637. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether initial studies establish that



GM Mustard has the potential to increase yield between 20 to 30 per cent which is significant enough for commercial cultivation of any crop;

(b) whether a consortium of six farmer bodies has demanded commercialization of GM mustard crop, saying it would increase farmers' income in the country by more than ₹1,000 crore and also help extract edible oil which is presently imported in huge quantities; and

(c) whether the petition from farmer bodies makes out that GM technology can successfully co-exist with conventional hybrid as well as organic farming systems?

#### **Financing pattern of Project Tiger**

1638. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the financing pattern of Project Tiger, a centrally sponsored scheme has been changed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the aforesaid change has stalled the progress of various programmes under Project Tiger;

(d) the details of funds that would be shared and released by the Central and State Governments respectively under the present scheme;

(e) whether the Ministry has recommended the Ministry of Finance to reconsider the changed funding pattern; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

#### **National Air Quality Monitoring Programme**

1639. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated the National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP) for determining the status and trends of ambient air quality in order to check air pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated and utilized for employing personnel and providing for equipments involved in the sampling, chemical analysis and data reporting for effective implementation of this programme, State/UT-wise; and

(d) the details of agencies authorised by Government to undertake the aforesaid monitoring programme and the action plan drawn by Government pursuant to such a monitoring programme in order to ensure better air quality?

#### **Forest land diverted for projects**

1640. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of areas of forest land diverted for different projects during the last two years;

(b) whether compensatory afforestation was undertaken during this time for the diverted land and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Proposal of Special Rhino Protection Force**

1641. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Assam had submitted a proposal named 'Special Rhino Protection Force (SRPF)' for protection of rhinoceros in Kaziranga National Park, Assam with 1,200 battalion members;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the current status of the proposal, the amount allocated for this project and the action taken by Government in this regard;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government has launched a health insurance scheme for forest guards of the Kaziranga National Park; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Guidelines for protection of tiger corridors**

1642. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is working on guidelines to protect tiger corridors;

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

(c) whether there are any tiger corridors identified that fall within Tamil Nadu;

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

(e) what are the steps being taken by

Government to conserve the existing tiger corridors;

(f) whether Government intends to take any steps to acquire land to increase these tiger corridors; and

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

**Remote earth sensing for measuring climate change**

1643. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to have remote earth sensing for establishing a strong database for measuring climate change; and

(b) whether any study has been carried out by Government to assess the impact of such database for prevention and control of global warming in Indian region and if so, the details thereof?

**Encroachment on forest land**

1644. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any report about encroachment on forest land in the country;

(b) if so, the details of total area of forest, which remains encroached, State-wise;

(c) how many cases against encroachers were registered during the last three years;

(d) whether Government could reclaim any forest land from encroachers during that period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

#### **Target for Green India Mission**

1645. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the target set under the Green India Mission and the extent of success achieved; and

(b) the time-limit and financial provisions for this scheme along with the success ratio thereof, State-wise?

#### **Penalties and punishments under PCA Act**

1646. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of a recent incident where a police horse died after being brutally attacked; and

(b) if so, what steps Government is taking to review and amend the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, to ensure that penalties and punishments under the law serve as better deterrent against cruelty, than the current penalty of ₹ 50 for animal abuse?

#### **Financial assistance to Bengaluru**

1647. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state the details of financial assistance/support that the Central Government is providing to Bengaluru for rejuvenating and restoring of lakes?

#### **Signing of Paris Climate Agreement**

1648. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government has decided to sign Paris Climate Agreement along with Brazil, South Africa and China and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the salient features of agreement to reduce global warming by cutting greenhouse gas pollution;

(c) the stand of developed countries in this regard, including commitment to bring down emissions and greenhouse gas effects; and

(d) how far the interests of developing countries would be protected in terms of striking a balance between development and environment?

#### **Focal areas of NWAP**

1649. SHRI A. W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's draft National Wildlife Action Plan (NWAP) 2017-31 envisages 17 focal areas including the new area linking wild life planning to climate change;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the draft accords special emphasis to rehabilitation of threatened species of wild life and focus on wild life health which is another area requiring urgent attention; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Protection of Amravati from floods**

1650. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has impressed on Andhra Pradesh the need to set up an expert panel on steps to protect the new capital Amravati from floods in Kondaveeti Vagu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government heeded to the advice of the Central Government?

**EIA clearances for developmental projects**

1651. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) clearances are required for any developmental projects in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there are any projects exempted from obtaining EIA clearances and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of projects granted clearances and the number of projects not granted clearances under EIA, 2006 since its notifications;

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that proper procedure is followed to obtain EIA and other environmental clearances with respect to developmental projects; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure implementation of EIA rules and regulations?

**Animals in drought affected forests**

1652. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps for the protection of animals in drought affected forests; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Mechanism to bring down peak air pollution levels**

1653. SHRI K. C. TYAGI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India does not have any mechanism to bring down peak air pollution levels and if so, the Government's reaction thereto;

(b) whether a lot of standardization work needs to be done to get all cities and all monitoring stations comparable; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Survey to check environmental pollution level**

1654. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey to check the environmental pollution level of different cities, towns and metropolis of the country during the last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of cities/towns/metropolis whose pollution level is much higher than the prescribed limit; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether Government has any plan to conduct such a survey?

**Factors responsible for climate change**

†1655. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the major factors recognized to be responsible for climate changes;

(b) whether Government has taken any concrete action to check these factors affecting the climate change and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Threat of e-waste**

1656. SHRID. RAJA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the problem of growing e-waste which has grown to 1.7 million tonnes in 2014 in the country, fifth highest in the world, has become very serious threat to the environment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what measures are being taken to solve this problem?

**Death of Asiatic lion**

1657. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an increase in the number of death of Asiatic lions in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such death during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the various reasons for this increase; and

(d) what efforts have been made to stop the death of Asiatic lions in the country?

**Tigers and panthers in Panna Tiger Reserve**

1658. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tiger and panthers have become extinct from Panna Tiger Reserve;

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

(c) the annual grant provided for maintenance of the reserve; and

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

**Target of forest and tree cover**

†1659. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN:: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of target fixed at national level for forest and tree cover out of the total land in the country under the National Forest Policy;

(b) the details of forest and tree cover as on date, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether Government has received suggestions from various sections of the society regarding decreasing forest and tree cover in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the details of steps being taken to control it and to enhance the impact of National Forest Policy?

#### **Illegal trading of animal products**

1660. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various punitive action taken by Government while dealing with illegal animal product trading during the last five years, State-wise;

(b) the proposals that are pending with Government to make laws stringent while dealing with illegal animal product trading; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Destruction of wildlife habitats due to mining**

1661. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether wildlife habitats are being destroyed due to mining activities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the special efforts being made by Government to stop/prevent damage/destruction of wildlife habitats;

(d) whether Government has any data on endangered flora and fauna in the areas adjoining the large mining projects in the country; and

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

#### **Increase in endangered species**

1662. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of endangered species has increased during the last two years;

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

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the names of such species along with the areas/regions of their habitation?

#### **Funds collected under NCEF**

1663. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds collected under the National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF) since its institution; and

(b) the details of utilization and its purpose since its institution?

#### **Solar power target of CPSUs**

1664. SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of target of grid connected solar power of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs); and

(b) the details of present tariff of solar energy and the Plant Load Factor?

**MSW into energy plants**

1665. SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) to energy plants which are in existence; and

(b) the details of potential of waste into energy generation in the country?

**Power generated from non-conventional energy sources**

†1666. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the break-up of power being generated from various non-conventional energy sources in the country;

(b) the target fixed by Government to generate power from non-conventional energy sources;

(c) whether Government has formulated any short and long term schemes in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to strengthen power security of the nation by generating maximum power from non-conventional energy sources?

**Solar energy generation in Rajasthan**

†1667. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the rank of Rajasthan in solar energy

generation, the increase in percentage of solar energy generation in the State during the last year and the average of solar energy generated everyday;

(b) whether Government has given any assistance to Rajasthan for promoting solar energy during the last year and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has formulated any scheme to encourage farmers to install more and more solar power plants in their farms and if so, the details thereof?

**Action plan for solar water heating systems**

1668. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any action plan for promotion of solar water heating system in homes, hotels, hostels, hospitals and industries in Maharashtra and the rest of the country; and

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

**Reduction in centrally sponsored schemes**

1669. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to reduce the number of centrally sponsored schemes during the next four years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the details of substitutes proposed therefor?

#### **Estimation of poverty line**

1670. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of manners, methodology and parameters estimating poverty line in the country;

(b) the observations of Rangarajan and Tendulkar Committees on poverty;

(c) the details of poverty line being used by Government for assessing beneficiaries for various welfare schemes;

(d) whether Government intends to reassess the poverty line in the country; and

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

#### **Development of infrastructure and connectivity**

1671. SHRI K. C. TYAGI:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the development of infrastructure and connectivity is the single most important factor to remove regional disparities;

(b) whether Government has formulated any specific anti-poverty programmes with focus on development of infrastructure and connectivity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Utilization of demographic dividend for growth and prosperity**

1672. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is the only major country in the world which would be enjoying the boon of demographic dividend in the coming 30 to 45 years;

(b) if so, how Government proposes to utilize the human capital to adequately invest the demographic dividend towards the national growth and prosperity of its population; and

(c) how Government proposes to rope in the rural and remote area population through skill development towards the progress of the country?

#### **Population as a hindrance in development**

1673. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that populations and poverty go hand in hand and causes a big hindrance in the path of development and progress;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the issue of poverty and population has to be addressed in a major way in order to improve and increase the quality of life of people; and

(c) if so, what are the schemes and programmes that Government has introduced to intensely address these issues and by when Government proposes to achieve its targets of providing better quality of life?

#### **Decrease in poor people**

†1674. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of PLANNING be

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



pleased to state:

(a) whether, as per the report of NITI Aayog, the level of poverty and the number of poor people in the country have come down;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the norms/criteria adopted for deciding the level of poverty in this report and the current criteria for the same; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to review these norms/criteria and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Closure of RGGVY**

1675. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for closure of the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY);

(b) the progress and achievements of RGGVY in electrifying villages of the country from the year of its launch till its closure, State-wise; and

(c) what alternate programme Government has undertaken to provide electricity to the remaining villages of the country?

#### **New power plants in Kerala**

1676. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up some power plants in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Status of Ramagundam Stage-IV power project**

1677. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Ramagundam Stage-IV (2x800 MW) power project in

Karimnagar district of Telangana and by when it is likely to be commissioned;

(b) the manner in which the power generated in this plant would be shared by the Central and State Governments along with the cost of power payable by Telangana Government to NTPC; and

(c) the details of findings of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report of this project and the action taken to implement the report?

#### **Discrepancy in data available on GARV app**

1678. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has launched an investigation into the discrepancies in real-time data provided on GARV app for the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has any plans of revising its monitoring system for rural electrification consisting of Gram Vidyut Abhiyantas (GVAs) to avoid incorrect data being uploaded on GARV; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Uniformity in rates of electricity**

†1679. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that different rates of electricity are in force in various parts of the country and there is a need to bring uniformity in them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is working upon a scheme to provide electricity at a single rate under a single grid across the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Electricity supply in villages**

1680. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages which have been connected with electricity, State-wise;

(b) the number of villages which have not been connected with electricity till now, State-wise;

(c) whether every household in the electrified villages has access to electricity;

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

(e) the average hour for which electricity is provided in villages per day, State-wise;

(f) the average power consumption per household in villages, State-wise; and

(g) the steps taken by Government to ensure continuous electricity supply in villages during the last two years?

### **Pending power projects**

1681. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of power projects pending completion as on the 31st December, 2015, State-wise; and

(b) the number of power projects which are pending for more than 10 years in Tamil Nadu and the reasons therefor?

### **Status of stressed assets of power companies**

1682. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by Government to survey, evaluate and

improve the condition of stressed financial assets of power companies; and

(b) whether Government is planning to disqualify companies from bidding for future projects if their stressed assets are beyond a maximum threshold?

### **Installation of smart meters in houses**

†1683. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering seriously to install smart meters in every house;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps in this direction, so far; and

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

### **Depletion of fresh water resources due to thermal power plants**

1684. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's fast depleting fresh water resources could be further impacted due to new coal based thermal power plants with a combined capacity of over 52,000 MW, according to a report by environmental group Greenpeace International;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that a quarter of the thermal power plants proposed to be set up are located in regions that are already suffering from severe overdraw of fresh water; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Hydro power potential**

1685. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has made an assessment of hydro power potential of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, hydro power project-wise;

(c) the targets set for generating electricity during the last and the current five year plans;

(d) whether the targets have been achieved;

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

(f) whether there is any proposal for setting up of new hydro projects and for renovating/refurbishing the existing hydro projects; and

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

**Merging of thermal power with solar power by NTPC**

†1686. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has decided that the power of coal-based thermal power stations of NTPC which would complete 25 years of service, would be merged with the power generated by solar power projects being established by NTPC;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the name of States which have given their assent/dissent on this decision along with the details thereof?

**Road connectivity to ports**

1687. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn up an ambitious plan to construct roads to important ports in various parts of the country to facilitate export/import through them;

(b) if so, whether roads to connect some of the ports to be built up in hinterland are included in the plan;

(c) whether improvement/new construction of roads of Kochi port and the port under construction at Vizhinjam are included in the plan; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Deaths due to headlight glare**

1688. DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether headlight glare is one of the major causes of road deaths and if so, the number of deaths due to headlight glare;

(b) whether the implementation/enforcement of auto dipper function, as mandated by the Central Motor Vehicles Act, has been neglected; and

(c) whether any of the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) have been found skirting the above said provision and if so, the details thereof?

**Land acquired for NHs in Odisha**

1689. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether land for seven new National

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Highways in Odisha announced by the Minister during July 2015, has been acquired;

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

(c) the estimated cost of each highway project and the funds, so far, spent on each project; and

(d) the time by which the construction work on these projects is proposed to be started and the timeline fixed for their completion?

#### **Rise in vehicular traffic**

1690. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vehicles on roads at present in the country;

(b) the increase in number of vehicles expected to be on roads during the next five years; and

(c) whether Government has prepared any action plan to deal with the chaotic traffic situation in cities, which is leading to very high level of pollution, particularly in the metros?

#### **Removal of speed breakers from highways**

1691. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the speed breakers hinder the traffic flow and are safety hazards on high-speed corridors;

(b) if so, the steps taken to remove speed breakers from highways;

(c) the total number of accidents which occurred on highways due to speed breakers and the number of persons killed therein;

(d) whether there is any proposal to construct foot over-bridges and pedestrian underpasses on highways to prevent accidents; and

(e) if so, the details of sites where Government intends to construct foot over-bridges and pedestrian underpasses on highways?

#### **Difference between BOT and Hybrid Annuity model**

1692. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the drawbacks that Government and the companies are facing in the traditional Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) model;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to adopt Hybrid Annuity model in view of the above;

(c) what is the difference between BOT and the proposed model; and

(d) how the above helps in quickening the process of work and reduce burden on developers and financial institutions?

#### **Safety measures on National Highways**

1693. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the agencies to explore the possibility of providing foot over-bridges or pedestrian underpasses on National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to ask agencies to provide pedestrian and vehicular crossings to end accidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Investment in TOT projects by Abu Dhabi Investment Authority**

1694. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Abu Dhabi is keen to invest ₹35,000 crore on 50 Indian highway projects on a Toll-Operate-Transfer (TOT) basis in what would be the first investment of its kind;

(b) whether any MoU is proposed to be signed with Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) and if so, when; and

(c) what would be the modalities of the project, whether any time-frame would be set to complete the projects under TOT basis and if so, the details thereof?

**Panel to resolve road sector issues**

1695. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to set up a four member panel to resolve road sector issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there were 384 stuck road project upto May, 2014; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Revival of unviable highway projects**

1696. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to revive certain languishing highway projects that have become unviable;

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

(c) whether all the highway projects, including the Public Private Partnership ones, Government funded and EPC are proposed to be revived under the aforesaid initiative; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the other steps taken/being taken by Government for reviving highway projects which have become unviable?

**Setu Bharatam Programme**

1697. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents and deaths occurred at level crossings during the last year, State-wise;

(b) the details of Setu Bharatam Programme, its budgetary allocation and timeline for commencement and completion;

(c) whether Government has undertaken measures to survey conditions of all the bridges, on National Highways and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the other measures taken by Government to reduce accidents and deaths at level crossings?

**Condition of NH 61 passing through Adilabad**

1698. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report appearing in the media that NH 61 that passed through Adilabad district is in a bad shape;

(b) whether the funds earmarked for widening of this stretch into a four lane have been left unspent;

(c) whether it is a fact that a toll plaza has been readied at Vanalpahad/Mategaon in Adilabad district to collect taxes; and

(d) the details of action taken to address the above issues?

#### **Declaration of National Highways in Uttarakhand**

†1699. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals have been received from Uttarakhand Government for declaring National Highways;

(b) if so, the names of the roads which the State Government has requested to be so declared;

(c) whether the Ministry has approved all the proposals received; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Rise in road accidents**

1700. SHRI NARENDERA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in road accidents in the country during the recent years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise since 2010; and

(c) what are the preventive measures taken by Government to check accidents in future?

#### **Construction of highways in Himalayan region**

1701. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of plan to build a highway connecting Kedarnath in Uttarakhand and the probable dates of its beginning and completion along with the cost likely to be incurred thereon;

(b) whether Government has planned highways in the Himalayan region connecting all the Himalayan States; and

(c) if so, the details of places to be connected, length of highways, cost involved and dates of beginning and completion?

#### **Safety measures to curb accidents on National Highways**

\* 1702. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that due to lack of proper safety measures taken by the National Highways Authority of India, a number of accidents take place on National Highways;

(b) whether these accidents take place due to lack of underpasses, pedestrian crossings and other safety measures at points where highways meet the roads connecting villages;

(c) whether four female workers belonging to Madenur in Hassan taluk of Karnataka were fatally hit recently; and

(d) when NHAI would take mitigating

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

steps to curb accidents on National Highways in Karnataka?

#### **Clusters identified under SPMRM**

1703. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) for 300 rural growth clusters;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the break up of these 300 clusters, State-wise;

(c) how these would develop skill and local entrepreneurship; and

(d) the number of growth clusters identified for Maharashtra along with their location?

#### **Performance of MGNREGA**

1704. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrears of ₹8,000 crore had piled up for the financial year 2015-16;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 2015-16 has seen the highest MGNREGA expenditure at ₹ 41,371 crore of which ₹ 30,139 crore went towards wages;

(d) whether the highest employment generation over the past three years and the best achievement on key parameters such as works undertaken, women's participation at 55 per cent and 95 per cent payments through electronic fund management had been recorded; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Funds due under MGNREGA**

1705. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds withheld by the Central Government as on date, under MGNREGA which should have otherwise been released to the States, State-wise; and

(b) whether there is any target date by when the State would get their pending dues under MGNREGA and if so, by when the dues would be cleared?

#### **Allocation for Uttarakhand under MGNREGA**

†1706. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated to Uttarakhand during the last three years under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA);

(b) the details of funds allocated for Bhatkoti Gram Sabha and the details of works undertaken therefrom; and

(c) the reasons for halting of road construction at road cutting stage only in the said gram sabha under MGNREGA/ Mera Gaon Meri Sadak Yojana and by when the said work would be completed?

#### **Delay in MGNREGA payments**

1707. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a great delay in payments under MGNREGA;

(b) if so, the details as to the pending amount yet to be paid for works under MGNREGA;

(c) whether the Ministry is undertaking any new projects to meet the stark increase in the demand for jobs due to the present drought; and

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

#### **Allocation of funds for MGNREGA**

1708. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proportion of the 2016-17 allocation for MGNREGA being spent to complete pending payments from the last financial year to beneficiaries;

(b) whether the Ministry can factually corroborate the announcement by the Finance Minister made while making ₹ 38,500 crore allocation to MGNREGA during the Budget Speech this year, that if it would be the highest ever expenditure on MGNREGA; and

(c) the figures to verify it?

#### **Corruption of MGNREGA**

†1709. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether even the process of online payment system introduced to stop corruption in MGNREGA could not completely stop corruption practices;

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

(c) whether the cases of misappropriation of funds in the name of fake documents and dummy workers have come to notice in the country including Maharashtra and if so, the action taken by Government in such cases, so far; and

(d) the details of reasons for delay in making the procurement process for construction work under MGNREGA completely online by Government?

#### **Shortage of skilled workers in rural areas**

†1710. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of skilled workers as per the demand in rural market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has launched Deendayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana for skill development of rural youths as per the demand in the market; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Wages pending under MGNREGA**

†1711. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wage payments of close to ₹10,588 crore are pending under MGNREGA, the main programme to counter extreme rural distress in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for timely payments of MGNREGA wages?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**World Bank credit for Neeranchal National Watershed Project**

1712. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government and the World Bank have signed \$178.50 million credit agreement for Neeranchal National Watershed Project to improve the watershed management in rural rainfed areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the project so signed would also support the watershed activities of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana in Jharkhand; and

(d) if so, the details of intended beneficiaries?

**Tablets to Gram Panchayats to monitor MGNREGA**

1713. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to provide tablets to all Gram Panchayats in the country to monitor the implementation of MGNREGA;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the advantage of this move;

(c) the amount earmarked for the purpose and phases fixed therefor and the number of Gram Panchayats to be covered under the first phase; and

(d) whether the States have been asked to identify Gram Panchayats under the first phase as well as provide for training of personnel and if so, the response of the State Government thereto and by when the first phase would be rolled out?

**Study on environmental benefits of MGNREGA**

1714. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to carry out a pilot study on environmental benefits and green outcome of rural flagship scheme MGNREGA in the country;

(b) whether a bulk of MGNREGA works is linked to water conservation such as water harvesting, drought proofing, irrigation and renovation of traditional water bodies; and

(c) the details of steps taken by Government under MGNREGA to convert drought hit areas of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh into drought proof areas?

**Watershed projects**

1715. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of watershed projects sanctioned for various States in the country particularly Maharashtra under the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme and the Drought Prone Area Programme since these programmes were launched and till date;

(b) how many of these projects were launched and became functional and the total area benefited from them in each State, district-wise;

(c) the total funds released for the programme during the said period, State-wise; and

(d) the achievement made under each programme in the States, State-wise?

**Demand for work under MGNREGA**

1716. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is cognizant of instances of passing off works approved as the total demand for work under MGNREGA and if so, the details thereof and the corrective action taken by Government and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the number of work days provided against the demand under MGNREGA during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government has taken action to rectify the difference between the number of work days demanded against the number of work days provided and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Performance of SPMRM**

†1717. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:  
SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken under the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) towards building infrastructure, promotion of economic activities and skill development;

(b) the number of beneficiaries added/ included, therein, so far;

(c) whether this scheme is helping in checking migration from rural to urban areas; and

(d) the actual status thereof?

**Mobile application to monitor MGNREGA**

1718. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department has developed a mobile application to monitor rural employment under MGNREGA;

(b) if so, how it works and what are its salient features;

(c) whether the Ministry is keen on encouraging its use across the country, including Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, by when?

**Release of MGNREGA funds to drought-hit States**

1719. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed Government to release MGNREGA funds to drought-hit States on priority;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has prepared any chart of drought-hit areas in those States and the quantum of funds to be released under MGNREGA and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of funds proposed to be released to Jharkhand?

**Construction of lavatories under Indira Awaas Yojana**

1720. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that houses constructed under the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) do not have any lavatories and if so, the details thereof and the number of such houses identified;

(b) the details of amount sanctioned for IAY houses during 2015-16; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by Government for providing lavatories in those houses?

#### **Release of funds under MGNREGA**

1721. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to release ₹12,230 crore to the States that would take care of pending wage liability for 2015-16 under MGNREGA;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has decided to maintain a 60:40 wage material ratio at district level to ensure creation of good quality assets in rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Funds for shipping industry**

1722. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shipping industry is not getting adequate support from banking sector in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to make available funds required for this industry which would need massive funds in future?

#### **Investment in ports through PPP model**

1723. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to seek investments in ports through PPP model with a view to develop their infrastructure, modernizing them, integrate them with SEZs, etc. in the country;

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

(c) what are details of Sagaramala projects; and

(d) whether some of the ports are running into losses and if so, the details thereof and how Government proposes to make them profitable?

#### **Profit margin of major ports**

1724. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during 2015-16, major ports had added 94 million tonne capacity which was the highest in their history;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the profit margin of 12 major ports owned by Government improved from 27 per cent during 2013-14 to 39 per cent during 2015-16; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Guidelines for land leases of port trusts**

1725. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) names of persons or companies

which have been granted leases of major port trust lands, for more than 30 years;

(b) the dates on which such lands were granted and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government proposes to make any statutory changes to grant land to applying parties by statutory provisions and not by executive orders without any exception; and

(d) whether Government has prepared any guidelines for permitting port trusts to grant powers of executing leases/licenses beyond 30 years?

#### **Title of land in possession of major port trusts**

1726. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the major port trusts who have titles to the land they are in possession;

(b) the names of major port trusts who have their titles recorded in the record of rights of the State Governments; and

(c) the details of land, which they are in possession with clear titles and such area of land where names are recorded in the record of rights having no title to the land, port trusts-wise?

#### **Performance of ports**

1727. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether ports in the country have met last year performance in volume of trade for the financial year which ended on the 31st March, 2016;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not achieving the targets;

(c) whether every year the Ministry has been fixing an unscientific target in spite of the fact that the global economy is down; and

(d) if so, what steps the Ministry is taking to re-fix the target taking into account slow down in the global economy?

#### **PPP agreements in port sector**

1728. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to table a new bill that will facilitate model agreement by way of Public Private Partnership (PPP) in the port sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering coming out with a new model agreement for the above; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Infrastructure for inland waterways**

1729. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any report about the infrastructure constructed to make the inland waterways operational;

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

(c) how many among them are operational; and

(d) the details of amount spent by Government to construct such infrastructure, State-wise?

### **Potential for transportation on inland waterways**

1730. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware about immense potential for transportation on inland waterways;

(b) the details of navigable inland waterways along with revenue earned from them during the last five years, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken for promotion of inland waterways, including allocation and utilization of funds in this direction during those years, State-wise;

(d) the current status of Techno-Economic Feasibility (TEF) studies conducted for waterways including the expected period of its completion and investment required, State-wise; and

(e) the details of progress achieved on National Waterways-5 on East Coast Canal and expected period of completion?

### **Enhancing capacity handling at ports**

1731. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of innovative methods and steps taken by Government to enhance the capacity handling in various ports in the country;

(b) the details of capacity achieved in various ports;

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide state of art technology in all ports in the country to ease the loading and unloading of cargo and smooth transfer of the same; and

(d) the funds spent during the last three years, port-wise, for the same?

### **Massive losses in private shipyards**

1732. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 27 private shipyards in India which are reeling under massive losses due to a mountain of debt and lack of work are likely to get a fresh lease of life with new Government orders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a total of 141 Memorandum of Understandings worth ₹ 82,902 crore were signed at the Maritime India Summit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Action plan to promote shipping**

†1733. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any concrete action plan to promote shipping in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Rajasthan is included in said plan and if so, the details of areas that would be covered under this scheme and the manner in which shipping would be connected to Rajasthan and by when the work would start, as per the plan?

### **Pact for development of ports**

1734. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and South Korea have entered into any pact for developing ports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether the Ministry has identified the ports which are to be developed through this pact; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Operating profits from major ports**

1735. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that efficiency improvement has lowered the logistic cost for the trade, creating estimated benefit of ₹ 400-500 crore per year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the major ports have increased their operating profits from ₹3593 crore during 2014-15 to ₹4268 crore during 2015-16; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, port-wise?

#### **Land under possession of major ports**

1736. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the land under possession of major ports remains unutilised;

(b) if so, acreage of port land allocated and the percentage of land unutilised; and

(c) the steps proposed by the Ministry to ensure optimum utilisation of land resources?

#### **Development of sea ports for private investment**

1737. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is encouraging

private investment in developing sea ports; and

(b) if so, what are the proposals for developing Mookaiyur in Ramnad District, and Kalachal in Kanyakumari district by looking into the welfare of fishermen?

#### **Feasibility report for linking of rivers under NPP**

1738. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Water Development Agency has prepared pre-feasibility/feasibility reports for linking of 30 rivers in the country under the National Perspective Plan (NPP);

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Cauvery (Kattalai)-Vaigai-Gundar link has also been indentified for inter river basin water transfer;

(c) if so, the present status of the project, including the allocations made and spent, so far; and

(d) by when it is likely to be completed?

#### **Setting up of Water Regulatory Authority**

1739. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2766 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th April, 2012 and state:

(a) the details of current status of setting up of Water Regulatory Authority in States as suggested by the Thirteenth Finance Commission State-wise;

(b) the updated status of action taken by the Central Government, in coordination

with the State Government, to frame a special national water usage charge policy for various kinds of water usages; and

(c) by when such a policy is expected to be framed?

#### **Exploitation of underground water**

1740. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2943 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th August, 2011 and state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the underground water level is still going down very sharply year by year due to indisciplined exploitation of water; and

(b) the updated status of action taken and efforts made by the Ministry, in coordination with the State Governments, to curb the indisciplined underground water exploitation and to reverse the water level depletion trend in the country?

#### **Management of water resources**

1741. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether with Maharashtra Government resorting to measures on war footing to rush daily rail tankers of potable water to parched Latur region, the Central Government would initiate long term measures to manage abundant water resources of the nation;

(b) India not being an inherently water scarce country with an average annual rainfall of around 1,200 mm against a world

mean average of 980 mm coupled with water stored in glaciers, whether Government would make full use of Entry 56 of the Union List of the Constitution to work on regulation and development of inter-State rivers; and

(c) if so, Government's views thereon?

#### **Environmental flow in rivers**

1742. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the environmental flows in all rivers and tributaries of Ganga river system are maintained round the year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard in order to fulfill their geological, ecological, socio-economical and cultural functions with consensus of all affected people?

#### **Fast tracking of dam projects**

1743. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have requested the Central Government to fast track dam projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, and the action taken, so far, including Andhra Pradesh and Telangana?

**Examination of Polavaram dam**

1744. 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 the Roorkey Institute of Hydrology has examined the Polavaram dam and found that it is not safe because of faulty foundation;

(b) whether these findings have been taken into account by the Ministry since it is implementing the project; and

(c) what is the outcome of the 95th meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Ministry and action taken on the recommendations made in that meeting?

**Aquifer mapping**

1745. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that despite passage of three years of the Twelfth Five Year Plan, no actual work has been done on critical front of aquifer mapping;

(b) the allocation of funds made during Twelfth Five Year Plan for aquifer mapping and the utilization of funds during the last three years, State-wise and activity-wise;

(c) whether the Ministry is aware that the pilot project on aquifer mapping has undergone significant cost overruns and has missed several completion deadlines; and

(d) the current status of the pilot project and expected time limit of its completion?

**New water security plan**

1746. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:  
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

(a) whether Government proposes to come up with a new water security plan, keeping in view the prevailing water crisis in almost all parts of the country;

(b) whether Government has taken into account the work done by villagers and non-governmental organisations in conserving water in rural places and areas of water scarcity; and

(c) if so, whether Government plans to adopt these measures and work with non-governmental organisations in drawing up drinking water security plans in such areas of water scarcity?

**Central assistance to Maharashtra under AIBP**

1747. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has requested an early release of Central assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) for its various major/medium irrigation projects;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto indicating the reasons for delay in payment; and

(c) by when the Central Government would release the grant to the State Government for timely completion of various irrigation proposals?



**Bilateral co-operation with other countries on water sector**

1748. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many MoUs have been entered into by the Ministry with other countries on bilateral co-operation on water sector since, 2013; and

(b) the details of those MoUs?

**Approval of National Hydrology Project for flood forecasts**

1749. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) whether Government has recently approved the National Hydrology Project (NHP) to provide real-time flood forecasts and data to help farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of States proposed to be covered under the project and the total cost of the project, phase-wise; and

(d) by what time farmers would be benefited, State-wise?

**Rainwater harvesting system**

1750. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government has issued

guidelines to ensure rainwater harvesting system installed in every project including flyovers, bridges and other Government projects in various cities, like Delhi in view of groundwater depletion in various cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of other steps proposed to ensure sustainability of water in various cities; and

(c) what is the monitoring system to ensure its compliance and review?

**Cleaning of Yamuna river**

1751. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reviewed the progress towards cleaning of Yamuna river during the last year;

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

(c) the amount of money that has been spent on cleaning of Yamuna river, so far and whether Government would fix a time-frame to clean the entire river?

**Setting up of sewage treatment plants to clean Yamuna river**

†1752. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH: SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the task of treatment of sewage being thrown by drains into river Yamuna flowing through Delhi is hanging in balance due to which water in Yamuna is getting contaminated;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether orders issued by NGT, regarding setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants to treat sewage being emptied into river Yamuna, are being followed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Rainwater harvesting**

†1753. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:  
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

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

(a) whether there is severe crisis of drinking water in the country due to drought and people in many States are forced to fetch water from far-off places and animals are also dying;

(b) the details of levels at which rainwater harvesting is being done for drinking water;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps for rainwater harvesting at village and hamlet level; and

(d) the details of amount spent by Government during the last five years on rainwater harvesting to deal with the shortage of water?

#### **Enquiry into allegation of Polavaram dam**

1754. SHRID. RAJA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Water Commission had suggested a fact finding visit to Polavaram dam to look into

serious allegations at dam site;

(b) if so, what would be the steps to get accurate and urgent information on evictions and lack of relief and rehab, as per law; and

(c) how Government would protect women from illegal evictions at Polavaram dam?

#### **Palamuru Rangareddy and Nakkalagandi Lift Irrigation Scheme**

1755. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received a representation/complaint from Government of Andhra Pradesh about violation of Sections 84(3), 85 (8) (d) and para 7 of the Eleventh Schedule to Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 by Telangana by laying foundation-stone for Palamuru-Rangareddy and Nakkalagandi Lift Irrigation Schemes without DPRs being approved by the Central Water Commission; and

(b) if so, what action the Ministry has taken to restrain Telangana to stop constructing above projects without proper laid down procedures and approvals?

#### **Harnessing reservoirs and water bodies through modern technology**

†1756. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme has been prepared to harness water from reservoirs and neglected water bodies of the country through modern technology;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government has conducted any survey to find out the reservoirs and neglected water bodies through modern technology for their modernisation and preservation; and

(c) if so, details of the said survey, amounts spent on this scheme, so far, and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

**Agreement with German international Co-operation for cleansing of Ganga river**

1757. SHRINEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has signed any pact with German International Co-operation for cleansing of river Ganga on the lines of rivers Rhine and Danube; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the terms of agreement?

**Acute problem of soil erosion**

1758. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Sitabdiara is facing acute problem of soil erosion at the meeting place of Ghaghra and Saryu rivers and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether a spot inspection was carried out of this place in April, 2015 and engineers of Water Resource Department of Sasaram district were part of that team; and

(c) if so, whether the inspection report has been submitted to the Central

Government and if so, the details thereof and the follow up action taken thereon to protect this historical place from the menace of soil erosion?

**Special scheme for providing water to every farm**

†1759. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to formulate any Special Scheme to provide water to each and every farm;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this direction, till date; and

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

**Linking of Ken-Betwa, Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada**

†1760. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of rivers Government is planning to link artificially and the names of projects including Ken-Betwa, Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada link in which work is in progress;

(b) whether it is a fact that all the projects are lagging much behind their target;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to ensure timely completion of river linking projects, as per fixed target?

NEW DELHI;  
The 3rd May, 2016

Vaisakha 13, 1938 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,  
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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