

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Tuesday, August 11, 2015/Sravana 20, 1937 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 160

#### Separate standard for Ayush systems of medicine

2401. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a scheme of deciding about the quality of hospitals, like Indian Public Health Standard (IPHS), if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether this is applicable to Ayush systems of medicine; and

(c) if not, whether Government is planning for introducing a separate standard for Ayush systems of medicine, if so, the details thereof?

state:

(a) whether Government has taken any measure to check exploitation by foreigners who are visiting India in the name of research study and importing medicinal plants at a huge cost in the name of foreign origin, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether several constraints like inadequate investments in research and development, lack of quality and standardisation norms and lack of adequate marketing and trade information has led to the low share of India's presence in the global trade of medicinal plants; and

(c) if so, the needful initiatives taken by Government for the promotion of herbal and medicinal plants?

#### Checking exploitation by foreigners of the country's medicinal plants

2402. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to

#### Discovery of new drugs under AYUSH systems of medicine

†2403. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether policy measures and necessary measures to provide resources are being taken by the Central Government to promote the discovery of new drugs under AYUSH systems of medicine, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Central Government proposes to establish Ayurvedic Hospitals on the lines of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), if so, the details thereof?

#### **Promoting farming of herbal products**

2404. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by the Ministry to promote farming of herbal products in the last one year;

(b) the achievements of the Ministry in the area of herbal farming in the last one year; and

(c) the details of the funds allocated and utilised for the purpose of herbal farming during each of the last three years and in the current year, State/UT-wise?

#### **Propagation of Yoga**

2405. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) the action plan of Government to propagate Yoga all over the world;

(b) how it will fulfil the needs and duration of time; and

(c) what is the financial support for this?

#### **Inclusion of Yoga in graduate and Post-graduate curriculum**

2406. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted/proposes to constitute any expert panel/committee for the standardisation of Yoga education, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the time by when the said Panel/Committee is likely to submit its report;

(c) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has recognised Yoga in the form of a full fledged curriculum at graduate and post-graduate level, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of full-time or part-time courses being run for preparing Yoga instructors for universities/colleges?

#### **Plan for acceptance of Ayush systems of medicine**

†2407. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) the policy, implementation and future plan of action of Central Government to make each of indigenous Ayurveda systems of medicine under Ayush more acceptable and extended in terms of teachings, training and treatment; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the details of AIIMS-like prestigious centres of Ayurveda under Ayush systems, of medicine including special treatment services provided by each of them?

**AYUSH cure for cerebral palsy**

2408. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of substantial cure of Cerebral Palsy Children through Siddha treatment at Government Siddha Medical College and Hospital, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether podithimirthal (dry powder massage) special therapeutic deep tissue massage using herbal powders is useful in Motor Neuron disorders, Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy, Multiple Sclerosis, Hemiplegia, Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis and obesity;

(c) whether Ministry is aware that Dry Powder (Herbal) massage softens and exfoliates dead skin cells, toning the skin, improves mobility of joints, strengthens and tones up the muscles, rejuvenates the body cells, improves circulation and opens up body channels; and

(d) whether Ministry would take steps to improve efficiency in this therapy and support?

**Second airport in NCR**

2409. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 20 given in the Rajya Sabha on 21 July, 2015 and state:

(a) whether the second airport in NCR will be set up;

(b) the reasons behind change of decision suddenly;

(c) whether the site for the second airport has been finalised;

(d) the details of the finances involved in setting up another airport;

(e) the timeline to make the second airport operational; and

(f) the details of the air traffic that will be diverted to the second airport in the initial phase?

**Development of airports in various States**

2410. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sanctioned any projects for construction of new airports in different States particularly in Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, if so, the details and present status thereof; and

(b) whether Government plans to develop existing airports in various States of the country?

**Announcement of new aviation policy**

2411. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to announce its new aviation policy, if so, by when;

(b) whether the new policy is going to focus on improving connectivity within the country and making flying affordable; and

(c) if so, the detailed report thereon?

#### **Mental fitness of pilots**

2412. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been found that airlines were not providing training to their crew to manage crises;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the quality of our pilots is not up to the mark;

(c) whether it is also a fact that our pilots fly well, but lack in ability to handle a situation under stress; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that a few incidents in the past including the disappearance of Malaysian Airlines flights and the deliberate crash of a German wings plane, have made airlines and regulatory authorities to look at mental fitness of pilots to improve air safety?

#### **Request from States to commence air services**

†2413. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received requests from the States to start air services from the airports, which are ready for operation of flights;

(b) if so, the locations in the States for which requests have been received for

starting the operation of the air services together with the dates of requests made for; and

(c) by when air services will commence from those airports alongwith the reasons for not according permission so far?

#### **Transfer of technicians of Alliance Air**

2414. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of technicians of Alliance Air have been transferred from Kolkata to Hyderabad within 24 hours notice, if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

#### **Promotion to air connectivity in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**

2415. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of upgradation of airports to international standard at Tirupati and Visakhapatnam;

(b) the progress of setting up of airports at Kadapa, Vijayawada and Warangal in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh to promote air connectivity;

(c) by what time, these airports would be operational in all respects; and

(d) what is the amount spent so far, for each airport in the last two years and what is the further amount required for completion of these airports?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Appointment of Chief of BCAS and Chairman of Air India**

2416. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of Chief of Bureau for Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) had been lying vacant for almost three years now;

(b) whether any decision has been taken to fill up this post; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is yet to take a decision on the appointment of Chairman of Air India as the incumbent is on extension since August 2014, if so, the details thereof?

**Expansion of air services in Tamil Nadu**

2417. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Government proposes to expand air services in Tamil Nadu in view of the unprecedented rise in the number of air travellers in Tamil Nadu during the last few years?

**Upgradation of airports under PPP model**

2418. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of non-metro airports in the country and the number of them operational;

(b) whether Government has undertaken/proposes to undertake expansion/modernisation of metro and non-metro airports under Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) model including airports in Karnataka, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether Government has received any requests from the States for modernisation of the airports and helipads, if so, the details thereof, State/UT and airport-wise; and

(d) whether Government has directed the airport regulator to put in place an effective monitoring mechanism to avoid delays in upgradation/modernisation plans of airports?

**Monitoring of assets by Air India to reduce loss**

†2419. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the plan being made by Government to reduce the operational cost of Air India and to what extent the operational cost of Air India is higher than private airlines;

(b) whether by only selling the assets of Air India, it is possible to take it out of loss;

(c) whether the alternative option of reducing the loss by commercially using their assets has also been contemplated, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to bring Air India out of loss?

**Modernisation and upgradation of airports and passenger facilities**

2420. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures taken by Government to increase aircraft and airport capacities, modernise and upgrade airports and passenger facilities during the Twelfth Five Year Plan; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) what has been the performance in each sphere so far?

#### **Attacks on minorities**

†2421. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state how many attacks have taken place on minorities throughout the country in the last one year and if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

#### **Fuel surcharge for transport of cargo**

2422. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that five carriers have been found acting as a cartel in introducing fuel surcharge for transport of cargo;

(b) if so, whether any investigation has been ordered by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) for violation of competition norms;

(c) whether investigation has been completed; and

(d) by when final report in the matter is likely to come?

#### **Action against airlines which failed safety audit**

2423. SHRI SHADILAL BATRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) conducted a safety audit of airlines, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether certain airlines have failed to clear safety audit on various parameters;

and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the details of action taken by DGCA against those airlines?

#### **Splitting of AI**

2424. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government considers Air India financially and commercially viable; and

(b) if so, whether Government considers splitting Air India into two or three viable entities with clearly focus on thrust areas like South, North and Eastern India and thus contribute to more air connectivity?

#### **Return of leased aircrafts by Alliance Air**

2425. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Alliance Air management have decided to return the leased ATR 42-320 aircrafts, if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

#### **GPS Aided Geo Augmented Navigation System**

2426. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has launched the GPS Aided Geo Augmented Navigation (GAGAN) system which would make airlines operations more efficient and cut down costs as it reduces separation between aircrafts, increases air

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

safety and fuel efficiency, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government would encourage States and other departments to avail the GAGAN system as its use is just not confined to aviation, both civil and military purposes, but in other areas such as surface transport and agriculture, if so, the details thereof?

**Making AI the most preferred airline among flyers**

2427. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India cancelled their flights on an average of 2 per cent between June, 2014 and May, 2015;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Air India's flights were on time only 71.7 per cent of the total time, the lowest out of all the major airlines;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is a perception among passengers that Air India is still better than all other airlines in the private sector considering many flexibilities being offered by it to the travellers such as food on board, courtesy, accommodating even at the last moment of flight departure, etc.; and

(d) what are the other steps being taken by Government to make Air India the most preferred airline among the flyers?

**International airport in Chhattisgarh**

†2428. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the problem in place to declare the only airport situated in Chhattisgarh State as International Airport, and when a declaration in this regard will be made;

(b) whether it is being considered upon to increase the frequency of Air India flights from New Delhi to Raipur which is only one at present; and

(c) whether the runway available at Jagdalpur, Ambikapur and Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh State will be upgraded into airports so that regular domestic flights are operated from there?

**Development of airports at proposed Smart Cities**

2429. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Government has any plan to develop airports at the cities selected for Smart cities programme of the Government, if so, the details thereof?

**Complaints against airlines**

2430. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a massive increase in number of complaints against airlines during the last four months;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received during that period pertaining to staff behaviour, lost/damaged baggage, refund cases, poor catering, fare structure, misbehaviour with passengers, and delay of flights etc.; airlines-wise;

(c) whether complaints received from passengers are not resolved to their satisfaction and are closed; and

(d) if so, the action plans of DGCA on such complaints being resolved to the satisfaction of passengers?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Emergency landings at various airports**

2431. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some incidents of emergency landings have been reported at various airports of the country during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents reported during the said period, airport-wise along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has received any complaints regarding emergency landings due to engine failure during the said period;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the DGCA thereon; and

(e) the corrective measures taken or being taken by the DGCA in this regard?

**Issue of AEPs to non-entitled persons**

2432. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of Airport Entry Passes (AEPs) issued by the Civil Aviation (Security) during the year 2015, so far, Ministry-wise/Department-wise;

(b) the number of Airport Entry Passes (AEPs) with endorsement of Security Hold Area/Beyond Security Check Points, Ministry-wise/Department-wise; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that some Airport Entry Passes (AEPs) are issued to the Staff of Government departments and staff of some MPs, upto the Security Hold Area/Beyond Security Check Points, who are not entitled for the same, if so, the details thereof?

**Monitoring of CSR activities**

†2433. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory for the profit-making companies, under the present Company Law, to spend two per cent of their three years' net profit on the activities relating to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in every financial year, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether these profit-making companies are making contribution in CSR fund by following this law in letter and spirit and whether it is being regularly monitored, if so, the details thereof?

**Action taken by CCI on steep hikes in airfares**

2434. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Competition Commission of India (CCI) is looking into the issues of steep hike in fares during festival seasons and summer vacations by airlines, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government proposes to impose penalty on airlines found to be

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



involved in air fare cartelisation during the ensuing Diwali season, if not, the reasons therefor?

**Regulatory authority for Mutual Benefit Funds**

2435. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) who is Regulatory and Registering Authority for Mutual Benefit Funds in India;

(b) whether Ex-servicemen Mutual Benefit Fund, 152, Shivnath Shastri Road, P.O. Harinavi, South 24 Parganas, Kolkata—700148 is a duly registered body;

(c) if so, the details of profile of the said Mutual Fund; and

(d) if not, what action Government is going to take to protect the interests of the stakeholders and beneficiaries of the Fund and what actions are being initiated against the promoters of the Fund?

**Location of foreign firms in the country**

2436. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign firms functioning in the country;

(b) whether Ministry has ever observed that 91 per cent of all foreign firms in India are located in just five States;

(c) whether it is also a fact that undivided Andhra Pradesh has one of the poorly located foreign firms;

(d) whether it is also a fact that after bifurcation, the residency State of Andhra

Pradesh is almost at the bottom of the table as far as having foreign firms are concerned; and

(e) if so, how the Ministry would help Andhra Pradesh in getting foreign firms as it has geographical, manpower and other advantages?

**Investigation in complaint against DDCA**

2437. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Serious Fraud Investigating Office (SFIO) has received any complaint regarding Delhi District Cricket Association (DDCA); and

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

**CSR funds of ONGC**

2438. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of Corporate Sector Responsibility (CSR) funds made available by ONGC Gujarat and name of the trust or NGO who were granted the above fund during Financial Years 2013-14 and 2014-15?

**Fratricidal incidents in the Armed Forces**

2439. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of fratricide have increased in the Armed Forces due to stress level specially in Army;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor during each of the last three years and the current year, Service-wise;

(c) whether Government is taking steps to spread awareness among defence personnel and their families about various psycho-social issues that affect their mental health resulting in their violent behaviour;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated and released for the purpose during the said period; and

(e) the effective measures taken/being taken by Government to address the issue?

#### **Piling up of military cases in civil courts**

2440. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cases involving military matters have been piling up in civil courts, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government has constituted any committee to look into these complaints, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Killing of BSF Jawan by Pakistani troops**

2441. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistani troops fired at a forward border post in North Kashmir on 9 July, 2015 killing a BSF jawan;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this is the second killing by Pakistani troops involving BSF jawans; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the BSF personnel retaliated in which some casualties were reported on the other side of the Line of Control, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Injury of Indian soldiers during military exercise in the UK**

2442. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian soldiers were injured in the Salisbury Plains in South-West England, while returning from a joint Indo-UK counter-terrorism exercise, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) what lessons the Ministry has drawn from such accident and what future steps Government is taking to avoid it?

#### **Signing of defence deals**

2443. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of defence deals signed, agreed upon and executed in the last one year;

(b) the dates on which these deals were signed and/or agreed upon;

(c) the types of equipments involved in these deals;

(d) the countries with whom these deals have been signed or agreed upon;

(e) the deals which were signed in the presence of the Defence Minister;

(f) whether Government has re-introduced middleman in defence procurements and other deals; and

(g) the policy in place on middleman?

**Recruitment in the Army from LWE districts**

2444. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Army personnel in all the different wings of the Indian Army, State-wise details thereof; and

(b) whether the Ministry has any plan to recruit tribal boys and girls, particularly from the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts of the country, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Disparity in applicability of Army Act on MNS**

2445. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Military Nursing Service (MNS), a part of the uniformed Defense Services is governed by the same Army Act;

(b) if not, whether any part of the Army Act is not applicable to them along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Army Act is fully applicable on the Women Commissioned Officers of other corps;

(d) if so, why there is disparity in applicability of Army Act between women commissioned officers of MNS and other commissioned officers; and

(e) whether the Minister is aware of such disparities, if so, the action taken to remove the disparities in order to restore tranquility in the MNS?

**Implementing of OROP scheme**

2446. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any reservations about the contributions and the sacrifices made by our defence personnel, if so, what are those reservations;

(b) if not, why the One Rank One Pension (OROP) scheme has not been implemented by Government, despite its concurrent assurances and promises during the last General Elections; and

(c) by when the OROP scheme will be implemented?

**Production of aircraft by TATA-Airbus consortium**

2447. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has favoured single vendor by clearing TATA-Airbus consortium of ₹ 11,930 crore for production of transport aircraft, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether the guidelines of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) in procuring material with proper tendering system have been ignored to favour TATA-Airbus Industries if so, the reasons therefor?

**Integration of Indian Systems of Medicine in Armed Forces**

2448. DR.CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Army's base hospitals at Delhi, Pune and Jamnagar have Ayurveda Kendras and satellite Ayurveda clinics are functioning at units of Army and Navy at Valsura, Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for misleading statement by DGAFMS that Ayurvedic treatment is not

approved within the services in an NSG commando case for reimbursement of Ayurvedic treatment expenses; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to integrate Ayurvedic and other Indian Systems of medicine in the Armed Forces?

**Collaboration with USA for building aircraft carriers**

2449. SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has a proposal to collaborate with the United States of America (USA) for building Light Aircraft Carriers in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the manner in which such technological collaboration will help Indian Air Force to compete with military preparedness of other countries?

**Amendment in Benami Act**

2450. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to amend the Benami Act; and

(b) what would be the status of Power of Attorney sales once the proposed amendments to the Act are passed and will such transactions be considered benami thereby inviting stringent provisions of this act?

**Grants to J&K**

2451. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH MANHAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) various grants provided to Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) during the past three years and in the current year so far;

(b) the reasons for mounting financial problems of this State, specially the big increase of the liabilities of J&K, along with the steps being taken to overcome these difficulties; and

(c) the reasons for delay in releasing certain grants of J&K?

**Provision of crop loan**

†2452. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a provision to provide crop loan to the farmers in the country, if so, the names of the institutions/agencies through which the crop loan is provided by Government and the rate of interest at which such loan is provided;

(b) the details of crop loan disbursed in the last one year, State-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that loans of farmers are also waived off by Government under certain circumstances, if so, the details thereof ;

(d) the details the loans waived off in the last one year, State-wise; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that large amount of agriculture loan is outstanding, if so, the amount thereof, State-wise?

**Tax refund to export import traders**

2453. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

is initiating all steps that the exporters get their tax refunds in timely manner, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the representation made by the Association of Indian Exporters and Importers in this regard; and

(c) the incentives and other reliefs being offered to exporters and importers?

#### **Reining of chit fund companies**

†2454. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to rein in illegal business of the ponzi schemes and the chit fund companies, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the action taken so far with regard to the ponzi scam related to chit fund business and the number of investors whose money have been returned, State-wise; and

(c) the efforts being made by Government to establish co-ordination among investigating agencies and to authorise States for monitoring them at State level, as far as the chit fund cases are concerned?

#### **Preparation of DBT readiness index**

2455. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to soon rank States and Union Territories (UTs) on their readiness to roll out Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme for all subsidies;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this move to come up with a ranking is aimed at

generating awareness among States and UTs to help them plug the gap in the delivery system and spurring competition among them to vie for the top slot; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the DBT Mission has entrusted the task of preparing a DBT Readiness index to the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), if so, the details thereof?

#### **IT Litigations**

2456. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are about 7000 direct tax related disputes pending in various High Courts involving an amount of ₹ 18,000 crore as per official data, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the IT Department has given Chief Commissioner of Income Tax (CCIT) the power to decide whether or not to appeal against a tribunal decision in the High Court without having to consult their peers or superiors, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the move is expected to cut delays in decision making and other officers to promptly comply with Tribunal ruling, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Response of recently launched pension and insurance scheme**

2457. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has implemented Atal Pension Yojana, Prime Minister Suraksha Bima Yojna and Prime Minister Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana as announced in the Budget;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the response such as number of people taken policies, age-group, premium collected, insurance companies involved in issuing such policies, etc., on each scheme, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has set a target of 12 crore policies by March, 2016, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also not a fact that there have been demands to relax the age for pension scheme; and

(e) if so, whether Government is thinking in that direction?

#### **Implementation of DBT scheme**

2458. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what success Government could get since implementation of DBT scheme;

(b) the details of pitfalls that it is facing with the scheme and how it is planning to address such pitfalls;

(c) whether it is not a fact that identification of BPL has become a challenge; and

(d) to what extent Jan Dhan Yojana, Aadhaar and Mobile (JAM) helps to implement DBT scheme more effectively?

#### **Overdraft facility under PMJDY**

2459. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria laid by Government to avail overdraft facility under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY);

(b) how many account holders were eligible to avail and how many have availed the overdraft facility till 30 June, 2015 under PMJDY;

(c) what percentage of NABARD's ₹ 1000 crore guaranteed fund has been utilized for provisioning the overdraft facility;

(d) whether that fund will be sufficient to accommodate overdraft requirements for the next five years or need to add to the existing fund to provide the overdraft facility to the account holders; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and what will be the source for such funding?

#### **Overloading of SBI**

2460. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India (SBI) is reported to have become overloaded on account of most of Government funds being released through it, if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(b) whether Government/Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has any proposal to release Government funds through other nationalised banks, if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Parameters for splitting of GST revenue between Centre and States**

2461. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the parameters on the basis of which Goods and Service Tax (GST) revenue will be split between the Centre and various States, have been finalised, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the GST shall be charged at the manufacturing stage or at the sales stage; and

(c) the overall GST charged in comparison to combined Excise, Customs, Sales and VAT?

#### **Signing of Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act with US**

2462. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has signed the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) with the United States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that under the said Act, the US will have to provide information about Indian account holders to the US Government's Internal Revenue Service, which will forward the information to the Indian Government; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Indian Government will provide similar information to the US, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Customs duty collected from ports**

2463. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Custom Duty collected from Major Ports in relation to export and import and storage, etc. of cargos through major ports, port-wise for the year 2012-13 and 2013-14; and

(b) what is the amount of Custom Duty collected from private operated ports and State Government owned ports in relation to export and import and storage, etc. of

cargos through them port-wise for the year 2012-13 and 2013-14?

#### **Capital infusion in weak PSBs**

2464. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to infuse about ₹ 20,000 crore into Public Sector Banks which show weak performance; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for improving the performance of the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) of the country?

#### **Encouraging small saving investment**

2465. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are proposals under consideration/approved by Government to encourage small savings and increase the rate of interest on their savings for the poor and needy people of the country including the senior citizens; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of the various schemes formulated by Government recently in this regard?

#### **Disposal of non-core assets by PSBs**

2466. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Finance Minister and the RBI has asked the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) for disposal of non-core assets to

raise liquidity and to support loan growth, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government and RBI proposes to improve the financial health of banks by recapitalisation of the PSBs to improve the liquidity of the banks, if so, the details thereof?

**Fall in value of rupee against dollar**

2467. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:  
SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of rupee against dollar in the last three years and the current year, month-wise;

(b) the reasons for sharp fall in rupee against dollar and the steps taken to arrest the downfall of rupee;

(c) what impact the 'slipped rupee' will have on imports, current account deficit, economy and also on various projects going on in the country; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to arrest the free fall of rupee?

**Waiver of loans of drought affected people in Maharashtra**

2468. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been done on borrowers who are unable to repay and those who have defaulted in payments in the wake of successive droughts in different parts of the country, particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of borrowers and total amount

of loan in the above category, State-wise, category-wise, as on date; and

(c) whether above loans will be waived as a relief measures to the farmers, if so, the details thereof?

**Credit to agriculture sector**

2469. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how much total credit was given to agriculture from all sources during the financial year 2014-15, source-wise amount; and

(b) how much of this credit was given to the marginal farmers, source-wise?

**Employment of sports persons in Deptt. of Custom & Excise**

2470. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry have sports policy to recruit the eminent sports persons who have won medals in various international events;

(b) if so, how many such players are employed in the Deptt. of Custom & Excise;

(c) whether Ministry follows promotion policy framed by DOPT in promoting sports persons and also granting out-of-turn promotion to sports persons who have won Gold & Silver medals in various international events during the course of employment in the Department; and

(d) if so, how many such sports persons promoted and how many have been left out along with their names and reasons therefor?



**Participation of insurance companies in recently launched insurance and pension schemes**

2471. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has no participation in recently launched Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal Pension Yojana (APY) in the country, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) which insurance companies have participated in these schemes, company-wise enrolments so far; and

(c) whether Government is considering to give first priority to LIC or any other Government's insurance companies like The New India Insurance, GIC, etc., if not, the reasons therefor?

**Total gold available in the country**

2472. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has account of the total quantity and value of gold in Government's possession and in Markets for domestic consumption as well as in public possession as on date;

(b) if so, the details thereof viz. the total quantity and value of gold in Government's possession, in markets for domestic consumption and in public possession as on date and the comparison with developed countries in possession of gold;

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

(d) the various measures taken by Government to control and steady the gold in Government's possession, in markets for domestic consumption and in public possession as on date?

**Shortage of staffs in PSBs due to retirement**

2473. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly two lakh employees and officers of the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) will retire by the end of the next year which will create serious shortage of staff in these Banks if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what action Government proposes to take in this regard?

**Increase in allocation for deep sea fishing**

2474. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state would the Ministry increase allocation of ₹ 20000 crores for schemes approved by Niti Aayog to consider funding specific projects to encourage deep sea fishing including replacing trawlers with tuna long-liners, desalination projects for supplying uninterrupted water supply to Chennai City and viability gap funding for Chennai Monorail Project?

### **Encouraging electronic transactions**

2475. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to encourage electronic transactions including income tax benefits for payments made through debit or credit cards, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government also proposes to make it mandatory for all transactions above rupees one lakh to only be conducted electronically, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has sought comments from the general public and other stakeholders in this regard, if so, the details of the views expressed by the public and the action taken/likely to be taken by Government thereon?

### **Educational loans**

2476. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number and amount of educational loans given in the last two years particularly to the poor students of the country and the total amount outstanding;

(b) the total number of applications received and the number of applications for loans rejected; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure that all the eligible applicants avail the loan?

### **Banking facilities in rural area of Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal**

2477. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly one third of gram panchayat areas in Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal are outside the purview of formal banking operations, if so the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to set up banks in all the rural areas which are not catered by the banks across the country, especially in West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh?

### **Violation of guidelines for reservation of SC & ST by CBEC**

2478. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry is aware that the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) has violated the directions of DOPT on reservation for SC & ST;

(b) whether the DOPT circular no. 36012/4/2005-ESTT (res) dated 7 January, 2014 for reservation of SC & ST would be implemented; and

(c) whether Ministry would inquire why CBEC has resorted to adhoc promotions for Group A posts since 1997 onwards without approval from UPSC?

### **Policy to reduce cash usage**

2479. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has chalked out any policy to reduce cash usages in the system and incentivise cashless transactions if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for ensuring safety and security in usage of electronic methods of transactions as well as rationalisation of charges for debit/credit card transactions?

**Foreign Exchange reserves of the country**

2480. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether country's foreign exchange reserves are at a reasonable level;

(b) whether it is a fact that in the first week of July the reserves declined substantially;

(c) whether it is also a fact that it touched a high of US \$355.46 billion in the fortnight ending on 19 June, 2015; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that during last fiscal, Government added US \$ 61.4 billion to the reserves against US \$15.5 billion in the previous fiscal, if so, the details thereof?

**Notification of amendments to FEMA**

2481. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has not yet notified the amendments to the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) that were incorporated into the legislation after the President's assent in May, if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether it is also fact that a number of FEMA cases are pending including that involved the former IPL chief Lalit Modi due to delay in the notification, if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

**Penalty for late filing of VAT returns**

2482. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to reduce penalty for late filing of VAT returns; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof, State/UT-wise?

**Duplication of bank account under PMJDY**

2483. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many unique new accounts have been opened by account holders who did not have a bank account previously under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) scheme till June 30, 2015;

(b) how many accounts have zero balance till 30 June, 2015;

(c) whether there has been any incidence of duplication of bank accounts that have come to the notice of Government, if so, what action does Government plan to take on duplicate accounts; and

(d) whether Government has a mechanism in place to ensure that there is no duplication of accounts in future, if so, the details thereof?

**Rate of interest on loans to animal husbandry sector**

2484. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note that the interest rates of bank loans being

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

granted to meet requirements in animal husbandry sector are higher than other loans, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is considering to standardise the rate of interest for granting loans to animal husbandry at a reasonable rate, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Unspent funds on schemes**

2485. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that funds allocated for many schemes in the Budget 2014-15 remained unspent, if so, the names of the schemes and the reason for money remaining unspent; and

(b) whether Government has decided not to continue with some of the schemes announced in 2014, if so, the reasons therefor?

#### **Probe into nexus between officers and brokers in LIC**

2486. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is probing the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) for an alleged nexus between its officials and brokers to make gains at the cost of institution;

(b) whether the assets under management of LIC stand at over 16 lakh crores and a system should be in place to eliminate operational risks;

(c) whether the allegations revolve around brokers making a killing when LIC bought shares at the higher end of price band, sharing spoils with LIC officials; and

(d) whether the Canadian funds follow a liberal compensation package for its officials and long term performance bonus as its policy for incentivising honesty unlike LIC?

#### **Development of cancer drugs in the country**

2487. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH:  
SHRI K.C. TYAGI:  
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that India is still behind in the field of drug discovery for combating the menace of cancer which is spreading widely in the country;

(b) if so, the latest status of developing cancer therapies in the country;

(c) whether Government has any plan to collaborate with the foreign nations already doing research in this field; and

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

#### **Study on health impact of e-cigarettes**

2488. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study on the health impact of e-cigarettes, if so, the details and findings thereof; and

(b) whether Government will bring any regulation for use and sale of e-cigarettes in India, if so, the details thereof?

**Lifting of samples of processed foods for check on compliance**

2489. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent upheaval exposing the health hazards of branded noodles was sparked off by the vigilant State food control laboratories even as Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) relegated as a moot and toothless watchdog;

(b) whether most developed countries prescribe and enforce safe levels of salt, sugar and fat in processed foods like noodles, pasta and macaroni; and

(c) whether Food Safety Commissioners in States are in the process of lifting samples of all 33 approved brands of noodles, pasta and macaroni for lab check-up on compliance of prescribed standards, if so, the details thereof?

**Amending Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006**

2490. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether Government has proposed or is planning to introduce any amendments to the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 or the Rules framed thereunder, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Educating people on precautionary practices against vector borne diseases**

2491. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of dengue,

chikungunya and swine flu deaths reported in the State of Tamil Nadu for the last three years;

(b) the steps taken by Government to address the incidence of vector borne diseases across the country; and

(c) whether Government is planning to educate people on best precautionary practices against these diseases, if so, the details thereof?

**Spreading of infections by white coats worn by doctors**

2492. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether long sleeved coats worn by doctors spread infection and lead to avoidable harm and cost to patients as per study published in the journal 'The BMJ', if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Ministry is considering to ban doctors and medical students from wearing white coats to reduce the harm and cost that results from hospital acquired infections?

**Delay in supply of indented Unani medicines in CGHS**

2493. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that undue delay is taking place in supply of indented/local purchase medicines by CGHS Unani Centres, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken to remove the deficiencies and correct the system?

**Aid for trauma patients at AIIMS,  
Delhi**

2494. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per study conducted by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi, poverty kills 50 per cent of patients, admitted of head injuries at Trauma Centre after their release for lack of funds for continuing such a treatment in their places, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is proposed to develop some medical system, where such poor patient can get treatment to help recover from this illness, to ensure survival of bread-winners in the families, if so, the details thereof?

**Violation of safety norms by Maggi  
noodles**

2495. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maggi noodles violated the safety norms;

(b) whether test showed presence of lead and high levels of monosodium glutamate;

(c) if so, the details of action taken in this regard;

(d) whether Government would bring other brands under its scanner in the interest of the health of the children and others in the country; and

(e) if so, by when, if not, the reasons therefor?

**Achievement of targets set under  
NHM for rural areas**

2496. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any report on the performance of National Health Mission-NHM (formerly National Rural Health Mission-NRHM) in the tribal areas;

(b) if so, whether there is any betterment in basic health indicators like Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR), Total Fertility Rate (TFR), institutional delivery and immunisation in tribal areas as targeted in the NHM, if so, the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the steps taken by Government to achieve targets under NHM in the tribal areas?

**Action plan to handle cancer incidents**

2497. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether Government's attention has been drawn to reports that there could be 500 per cent increase in cancer incidents by 2025, if so, how does Government plan to address the issue?

**Revising guidelines for clinical trials**

2498. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether Government is planning to revise the guidelines for clinical trials with a view to further tighten the standards, if so, the details thereof?

### **National Programme on Epilepsy**

2499. SHRI DEREK O BRIEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people suffering from epilepsy in India over the past five years, and the number who received treatment;

(b) if there is a gap, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that many epilepsy patients face stigma in their workplaces due to their symptoms, if so, the measures taken by Government to tackle this problem; and

(d) whether a national programme on epilepsy is in place, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Financial assistance to States for improving hospital services**

†2500. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received by the Central Government as on date from various State Governments including Maharashtra for financial assistance to improve services in hospitals during the last three years;

(b) the details of the action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) whether Government proposes to allocate more funds to State Governments for this purpose in the current Five Year Plan?

### **Making essential drugs available to all**

2501. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is making essential drugs available for all including poor persons and at hospitals also; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds sanctioned/spent for this purpose during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Penalty and prosecution on failed food samples by laboratories**

2502. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of samples tested and failed in the food testing laboratories functioning in the country in the last year and in the current year, State/UT-wise;

(b) the number of cases taken up for penalty and prosecution in the said laboratories in the last year and in the current year, head-wise and State/UT-wise; and

(c) the State-wise details of the ratio of Food Safety Officers to population in the country?

### **Regulating prices of medical devices**

2503. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will regulate the prices of medical devices to make it affordable;

(b) whether the price control is also being planned for expensive devices like stents implants; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to make applicable the CGHS rates across India to bring down costs, if so, the details thereof?

**Steps for ensuring free distribution of essential drugs**

2504. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether Government had initiated steps to ensure adequate free distribution of essential drugs at public health facilities during 2013-14 and 2014-15, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Increase in smoking habits despite disincentives**

2505. DR. K. KESHA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidence of smoking had gone up in recent years, despite disincentives;

(b) whether the Ministry is aware that on increasing the tax on cigarettes, the lengths of the cigarettes have been reduced to check mate the tax hike;

(c) whether a WHO report on Global Tobacco Epidemic states that cigarettes have become 15 per cent cheaper in India between 2008 and 2014;

(d) if so, what steps the Ministry envisages to counter these; and

(e) whether the Ministry is aware of the 'plan packaging laws' of Australia which disincentivises smoking?

**AIIMS-like institute in Goa**

2506. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an institute on the lines of All India Institute of Medical Sciences is proposed to be built at Goa;

(b) whether the land for the purpose has been acquired or identified;

(c) the quantum of land proposed to be acquired or be made available for the project; and

(d) the total amount expected to be spent on civil, electrical, medical equipments and other selected items and the details thereof?

**Rehabilitation of mentally challenged patients**

2507. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mentally challenged medical patients in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of various Government and non-Government hospitals specialising in the care of mentally challenged patients in the country, State-wise;

(c) the details of funds allocated for special care for mentally disadvantaged patients, State-wise; and

(d) whether Government has any schemes running to rehabilitate mentally challenged patients back in society after the recovery?



**Proposal of State Government of Karnataka on medical education**

2508. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether four proposals on health and family welfare were submitted to the Ministry by the State Government of Karnataka regarding establishment of one AIIMS type super speciality hospital cum teaching institution, establishment of similar facility at Bellary and Hubli, tertiary Care Cancer Centre and strengthening and upgradation of existing Government (State and Central) hospitals;

(b) if so, whether these proposals were examined by the Ministry; and

(c) by when the State Government will be advised in the matter?

**Increase in rabies cases**

2509. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a steady increase in the cases of rabies due to stray dog bites in the country;

(b) what step the Ministry has taken to treat the stray dogs affected by rabies; and

(c) how many cases of deaths have occurred and reported due to rabies during the years 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15?

**Testing of fast foods of various brands**

†2510. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

is contemplating to conduct tests on fast foods of various brands;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to take any steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when those steps would be taken and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Release of funds for medical education and infrastructure in Chhattisgarh**

†2511. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount recommended by the Thirteenth Finance Commission for allocation to Chhattisgarh under the head, 'Strengthening of Health Infrastructure', for the years spanning from 2011 to 2015, have still not been provided, if so, by when it will be released; and

(b) by when the additional grant for establishment of Rajnandgaon Medical College and approval for opening super-speciality hospital at Jagdalpur will be provided and by when the amount would be made available?

**Ensuring quality control of packaged food available in market**

†2512. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the person(s)/agency(ies) responsible for ensuring quality control of packaged food available in the market;

(b) the reasons for not undertaking tests/investigations earlier for the

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

poisonous substances contained in Nestle Maggi which continue to be sold out in the market for a long time;

(c) whether a consumer can get the test done to find out the ingredients present in any food item, if so, the places where such investigation can be undertaken in the country; and

(d) the details of steps being taken by Government to check the recurrences of such incidents in future and to punish the offenders?

**Action on products rejected by Food Safety Commissioners**

2513. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India held its Central Scientific Advisory Committee meeting in Delhi in June, 2015, if so, the details of the deliberations held in the meeting; and

(b) whether the Food Regulator handed over a list of 500 products rejected by it to Food Safety Commissioners of States, if so, the action taken by the Commissioners in this regard?

**Adequate technical and non-technical staff in PHCs**

2514. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that technical staff in Primary Health Centres (PHCs) especially in rural areas are very less and even such staff are not posted; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with

the steps taken by Government to provide adequate technical and non-technical staff in Primary Health Centres in the country?

**Stringent punishment for manufacturers and suppliers of spurious medicines**

2515. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that spurious medicines are being sold in the market which are adversely impacting human health;

(b) if so, the number of cases of spurious, inferior quality and adulterated medicines, separately, coming to light during the last three years, State-wise, along with the action taken thereon; and

(c) whether in view of the gravity of the issue, Government contemplates amending relevant rules to include stringent punishment for manufacturers and suppliers of such medicines, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Check on infants' deaths due to malnutrition**

†2516. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of infants taking birth in Delhi every year;

(b) whether it is a fact that out of these new born children, 15 per cent die before reaching one year age, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check the deaths caused due to malnutrition?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Provision for healthcare services in remote rural areas**

†2517. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATTYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken to provide healthcare facilities to the remote rural regions and the villages and colonies without any approach roads;

(b) the State-wise number of villages in the country without the facilities of healthcare services or without approach roads and the number of working healthcare mobile vans; and

(c) the measures taken to provide appropriate healthcare services to the poor in urban and rural areas in the country?

**Availment of benefits under RAN**

†2518. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:  
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

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

(a) the quantum of amount granted from Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) for the treatment of patients along with their number for the last three years;

(b) the number of patients, receiving aids from this fund, died in last few years due to lack of money for their further treatment;

(c) whether the Ministry would consider to take any initiative which could provide long term treatment to those patients suffering from serious diseases free of cost who are not able to bear the cost themselves; and

(d) the prescribed State-wise income

criteria for availing grant from this fund for treatment and when it was changed, and the details thereof?

**Shortage of human resources in healthcare sector**

†2519. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:  
SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

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

(a) the details of demand and shortage of human resources in the field of healthcare services in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the details of vacant posts of doctors along with technicians and other employees in the country at present under the Ministry and the steps taken by Government to fill them during the last one year?

**Institutional deliveries in the country**

2520. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of institutional deliveries in India, State-wise details thereof;

(b) the number and ratio of normal versus caesarean deliveries in the country, State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken note of unnecessary caesarean deliveries in private as well as Government hospitals in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(d) how many Government hospitals have specialised neo-natal facilities, State-wise details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) the instances of deaths of the child and/or mother during delivery, State-wise details thereof and major reasons therefor?

**Study on child health and under-five mortality rate**

2521. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a proposal to conduct a study on child health and mortality rate below five years, if so, Government guidelines thereon, and how the study will help the paediatricians?

**Special quality inspection team to check packaged food products**

†2522. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has banned the sale of Maggi noodles in the country as such food product is not good from the health point of view;

(b) if so, whether Government has constituted/has proposed to constitute a Special Quality Inspection Team to check packaged food products regularly, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has advised the States to ensure testing of the quality of food products at State level, if so, the details thereof?

**Suitable healthcare arrangements for the ailing elderly**

2523. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether healthcare infrastructure for the elderly is almost non-existent in our country and consequently, the elderly are sharing healthcare facilities along with general public which is causing extreme hardship to them;

(b) whether elderly are more prone to diseases and disabilities and by virtue of decline in physical ability and increasing susceptibility to diseases, they need dedicated healthcare facilities;

(c) if so, the steps taken to make suitable healthcare arrangement for the ailing elderly; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to allow use of physiotherapy services at home to disabled CGHS beneficiaries, if not, the reasons therefor?

**Opening of trauma centres on the highways**

2524. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether to control deaths in road accidents in the country, it is proposed to speed up development of trauma care centres/hospitals on the highways, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it would be a Centrally funded project, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how many persons have died in such road accidents during the last three years, State-wise details thereof?

**Achievements under immunisation programme**

2525. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) the details of the immunisation programme initiated by Government;

(b) whether any progress has been achieved by Government under the programme;

(c) the number of children immunised under the programme; and

(d) whether it has brought down the infant mortality rate and under-five mortality rate, if so, the details thereof?

**Monitoring Committees for ensuring food safety**

2526. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government noticed various hazardous objects such as chemicals, bacteria, viruses, etc. in food items and what are the steps taken to regulate toxic contaminants in various food items including the packaged commodities; and

(b) whether there is any effective mechanism such as monitoring committees at various levels to ensure food safety by implementing the regulations of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India?

**Regularisation of services of employees of IDVC project, Chennai**

2527. SHRI A. V. SWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has regularised the services of some employees belonging to the Integrated Disease Vector Control (IDVC) Project at Chennai and nine other such Field Units on the basis of Court order;

(b) whether the similarly placed employees posted at IDVC Project,

Rourkela Field Unit have requested for similar benefits of regularisation of their services with reference to Order passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court; and

(c) what is the time-frame within which the similarly placed IDVC employees at Rourkela, Odisha would be regularised to meet the ends of justice?

**Child immunisation in North Eastern Region**

2528. SHRI DEREK O BRIEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives taken by Government to ensure that the North Eastern States come at par with the national average in achieving full child immunisation;

(b) whether Government has taken steps to increase the number of Primary Health Centres, Sub-Centres and Community Health Centres in the region, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government has taken measures to improve facilities available in these centres?

**Increase in incidents of cancer in the country**

2529. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons that incidents of cancer are going up as per the latest 2013 figures,

(b) whether it is a fact that 50 per cent of world cancer cases are reported from India;

(c) whether it is also a fact that death rate due to cancer is coming down, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that women are the vulnerable group in cancer incidents in the country, if so, how the Ministry is planning to address this?

#### **Destruction of banned instant noodles**

2530. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Safety and Standards Authority of India recently directed Nestle to recall all nine variants of Maggi instant noodles from market, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if so, whether Nestle recalled all such Maggi packets and destroyed those and the details thereof;

(c) whether destruction of the banned Maggi packets has been carried out under direct supervision of Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not destroyed under Government supervision, the reasons therefor?

#### **Assistance to beneficiaries registered under JSY**

2531. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of beneficiaries registered under Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) in the country;

(b) whether Government is providing assistance such as Direct Benefits Transfer and payment through core banking solution to the beneficiaries and the amount disbursed in the last three years in each category; and

(c) the details of financial and technical support given to States for implementation of JSY?

#### **New guidelines for regulating drug quality**

2532. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is now set to draft a new set of guidelines to regulate drug quality in India, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Health Ministry and the Central Drug Standards Control Organisation jointly plan to study the guidelines of global health regulators, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Super speciality blocks in medical colleges in Rajasthan**

†2533. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals have been sent to Government by the State Government of Rajasthan to set up super speciality blocks in the medical colleges situated at Jaipur, Jodhpur and Ajmer, if so, by when approvals will be accorded to the said proposals; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the second installment of funds in respect of the construction of the medical colleges at Bharatpur, Churu, Barmer, Pali, Bhilwara and Dungarpur in Rajasthan is to be issued by the Central Government, if so, by when the second instalment will be issued and the reasons for delay in issuance of second installment of funds?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Restraining of rise in number of quacks**

†2534. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of quacks in different parts of the country is continuously on the rise, if so, whether Government is contemplating to restrain it; and

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

**Strategy to meet demand of doctors by 2020**

2535. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India faces an acute shortage of doctors and lags far behind from the WHO standards of availability of doctors;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the backward, tribal dominated and rural areas are the worst sufferers on account of shortage of doctors, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) what is the long term strategy and planning of Government to meet the expected demand of about four lakh doctors by 2020?

**Instances of contravention of rules for approving new drugs**

2536. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions/guidelines laid down by Government with regard to approval of new drugs and grant of licences for import, manufacture and sale of drugs in the country;

(b) the mechanism put in place by Government to ensure the compliance of these provisions/guidelines in the country;

(c) whether instances of approval to certain new drugs by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation/Drugs Controller General of India in contravention of the prescribed rules have been reported in the country; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

**Shortage of doctors and equipments at AIIMS, Delhi**

†2537. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of doctors and test equipments in comparison to the number of patients in AIIMS, Delhi if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the pressure of patients on AIIMS has come down after AIIMS in Bihar came into operation, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the doctors as well as the test equipments are likely to be provided as per the ratio of number of patients in AIIMS, Delhi and the details thereof?

**Setting up of Research and Telemedicine Centre at Keylong, HP**

2538. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) proposes to set up its Research and Telemedicine Centre at Keylong in Lahaul-Spiti in Himachal

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



Pradesh, if so, the aim and objectives of the Centre;

(b) the time by when the Research and Telemedicine Centre would be set up; and

(c) the funds allocated by Government for setting up the Research and Telemedicine Centre at Keylong?

#### **Creation of Indian Medical Services**

2539. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 116 given in the Rajya Sabha on 15 July, 2014 and state:

(a) the updated status of action taken by the Ministry on the two representations referred therein on the subject;

(b) whether the Ministry has sought comments of the State Governments and other stakeholders like MCI and IMA, etc. on the issue ;

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

(d) whether Government would take initiative and call upon State Governments to explore the possibility of creating a separate cadre—Indian Medical Services, so as to facilitate availability of quality medical personnel in the States, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Regulating of prices charged by hospitals on medical devices**

2540. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that medical devices like stents, pacemakers, valves, artificial joints and titanium plates for fractures etc. are not available in the open

market and as such patients cannot check prices of these items;

(b) whether it is a fact that hospitals are looting patients by forcing them to buy these medical devices from hospitals and pay double or even triple the price for medical devices at hospitals; and

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to constitute a regulatory authority to regulate and prescribe ceiling rates that hospitals can charge for medical procedures and devices?

#### **Fees charged by banks on issue of credit cards**

2541. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER:  
SHRI SALIM ANSARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that RBI have issued guidelines/circular from time to time to scheduled commercial banks stating therein that high fees being charged for issue of credit cards is not justifiable and permissible;

(b) if so, the details of guidelines issued to banks including private sector banks in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a Private Bank is charging ₹ 2 lakhs for their "Credit Cards" from customer without any benefits and by flouting RBI's norms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken by RBI against the Bank for charging exorbitant ₹ 2 lakh on false promises?

#### **Implementation of NPCB in Maharashtra**

2542. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is



implementing National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) in Maharashtra and rest of country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government provides spectacles free of cost under NPCB to the poor patients who can not afford it, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Registration numbers of print periodicals**

2543. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Registrar of News Papers of India (RNI) allots registration numbers to print periodicals;

(b) if so, the details such as title, periodicity of publication, name and address of publisher and printer, name and address of editor and cost of single copy of publications with Registration Numbers 4596/1957, 7090/1963, 7093/1963, 7092/1963, 59223/1994, 59222/1994, 23966/1972, 16312/1964, 63800/1996, 23885/1972, Deleng/2002/6718, 28743/1976, 4512/1957 and 59284/1994 publication-wise as on date; and

(c) whether above publishers have published form IV, annually, if so, the details thereof and if not, the action taken in this regard?

**Controlling agency for DTH services in the country**

2544. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how many agencies like Tata-Sky are there in the country;

(b) whether the Ministry monitors such agencies;

(c) if not, who controls and monitors their services and who determines the price charged by them; and

(d) the number of existing Tata-Sky connections in the country, State-wise?

**Non operational private satellite TV channels**

2545. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private satellite TV channels which have been granted permission in the country, so far;

(b) the details of spectrum being used by each of these television channels to uplink or downlink their respective signals, channel-wise; and

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of channels have not started broadcasting despite obtaining necessary permission, if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken by Government against them?

**Contracts for endorsing DD Kisan Channel**

†2546. MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ: SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has entered into any contracts with some artists/ persons for endorsing the DD Kisan Channel, if so, the details thereof, name-wise; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the details of the period of contract and the honorarium fixed therefor?

**Launching of DD educational channel**

2547. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether Government is planning to launch any DD channel especially for the purpose of education for the children of the country like the Kisan Channel of DD, and if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Honoring of eminent musicians by Prasar Bharati**

2548. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Prasar Bharati has prepared a list of eminent musicians to be conferred National Artist status based on complaints that an earlier list prepared by it did not include some eminent musicians;

(b) if so, whether Prasar Bharati has fixed the date on which persons in the new list are to be honoured; and

(c) if not, whether Ministry will intervene to expedite it so that more artists in the list do not expire before they are honoured with the award?

**Security clearance for private TV channels**

2549. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of

private TV channels in the country do not possess security clearance from the Ministry of Home Affairs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is granting licence renewing licences of these TV channels despite Ministry of Home Affairs denial of security clearance to these TV channels, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

**Record of employees in Prasar Bharati who joined before 1996**

2550. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the records of Clerks and Stenographers working in Prasar Bharati who joined the Government service between 1978 and 1996 are available;

(b) if so, sequestered details of the employees recruited through Staff Selection Commission as well as the ones recruited through the other agencies, year-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, Department-wise;

(d) whether records of these employees recruited prior to 1996 in various Departments have been found missing, if so, the details thereof, Department-wise; and

(e) whether Government has received any grievances in this regard, if so, the details thereof and steps taken to resolve the problem?

**Films on development stories**

2551. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether films on news/development

stories in video format are being produced on Flagship Programmes of Government, if so, the details thereof;

(b) how far these videos are used both by Government as well as private channels; and

(c) whether there exists any official guidelines on this issue, if so, the details thereof?

**SPV for delivering contents of various Ministries through DTH**

2552. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) under the aegis of Prasar Bharati for delivering the educational contents of various Ministries through DTH channels, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to use SPV route to broadcast other social and public awareness materials also?

**Assistance to unemployed youth belonging to minority communities**

2553. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided any direct assistance to the unemployed youths belonging to minority communities for their self-employment, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the number of such beneficiaries during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

**Revision in criteria to determine minority status**

2554. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has revised the criteria to determine the minority status in each State;

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

(c) the demands of each State in this regard?

**Socio-economic and educational status of Muslims**

†2555. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government considers that economic conditions of Muslims have improved after implementation of Sachar Committee's recommendations eight years ago, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the details of socio-economic and educational status of Muslims in the country, at present?

**Low Budget allocation for minority welfare schemes**

2556. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the budget allocation and expenditure on schemes for upliftment of minorities in the country is very low;

(b) whether Government proposes to increase the budget allocation for minorities

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

under various schemes and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any requests from State Governments regarding implementation of welfare schemes for minorities is pending with the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken thereon, State-wise?

#### **Separate budget for 15 Point Programme**

2557. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no separate budget is allocated for the implementation of the 15 Point Programme, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 15 Point Programme is on paper only and no worthwhile work is done thereunder; and

(c) what is Government's plan in this regard?

#### **Religion-wise scholarships for minority community students**

2558. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of scholarships

given to minority students across the country under various schemes and the details thereof for the last three years; and

(b) the details of these scholarships, religion-wise and State-wise?

#### **Miserable conditions of minorities**

†2559. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the socio-economic and educational status of minorities is miserable, if so, the measures adopted by Government to improve the same?

#### **Aid to societies and NGOs by MDC**

2560. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the loans given to societies and NGOs for welfare of minorities across the country by Minority Development Corporation (MDC) in 2014-15;

(b) the details of the amount given to various societies and NGOs, religion-wise; and

(c) the total yearly expenses of MDC including salaries and other expenses of the staff?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 5th August, 2015*  
*Shravana 14, 1937 (Saka)*

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,  
*Secretary-General.*

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

## I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

<b>Ayurveda, Yoga &amp; Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)</b>	:	2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408,
<b>Civil Aviation</b>	:	2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432,
<b>Corporate Affairs</b>	:	2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438,
<b>Defence</b>	:	2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449,
<b>Finance</b>	:	2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2541,
<b>Health and Family Welfare</b>	:	2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2542,
<b>Information and Broadcasting</b>	:	2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552,
<b>Minority Affairs</b>	:	2421, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560.