

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, March 14, 2016/Phalguna 24, 1937 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 160

Problem of fire in Eastern Coalfields Ltd. in Jharkhand

1760. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the perennial problem arising out of mine fire in the Eastern Coalfields Ltd.;

(b) if so, the number of accidents, which have happened due to this problem during the last two years in Jharkhand, together with the details thereof; and

(c) the details of success achieved so far, in extinguishing the fire in these coalfields?

Meeting demand of coal by CIL

1761. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has asked the Coal India Limited (CIL) to meet the output target for the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the target set by CIL itself and how it is meeting the demand of coal for thermal power plants across the country?

Import of coal

1762. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is drastic fall in the import of coal during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of coal imported during the last five years, country-wise and quantity imported?

Coordination problems of coal and mineral

†1763. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a separate forum should be constituted to maintain better co-ordination among the Central and State Governments to resolve the problems regarding coal and minerals and if so, by when it would be constituted and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether State Governments are incurring huge losses on account of stamp and registration duties in the absence of any contract between coal companies and State Governments; and

(c) if so, what efforts are being made to repeal the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957 and to add registration provisions in the Act?

Setting up of a Regulatory Commission for coal sector

1764. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up a Regulatory Commission for coal sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be set up?

Availability of cheaper coal in Indonesia

1765. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of coal imports into the country during the last three years, year-wise, country-wise and quantity-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that recently Indonesian coal is available at a much lower price when compared to international price; and

(c) if so, how the Ministry is facilitating public and private sector power, cement, iron ore and other units to import cheaper coal from Indonesia?

Revenue generated through auction of coal blocks

1766. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal blocks auctioned since June, 2014 till 15th February, 2016;

(b) the quantum of revenue generated through sale proceeds of coal blocks; and

(c) the details of devolution of funds made out of sale proceeds of coal blocks between June, 2014 and January, 2016, State-wise?

Production from Gare Pelma Sector IV/1 coal block

†1767. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production would start soon in Gare Pelma Sector IV/1 coal block in Chhattisgarh;

(b) the difficulties being faced by the Coal India Limited in production with reference to (a) above; and

(c) the details of problems in constituting more than one State level environment impact assessment committees in Chhattisgarh and whether any action would be taken to increase their number?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Coal production

1768. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the coal output by the Coal India Limited (CIL) crossed 9 per cent over the last year's production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has set a production target of 550 MT for the PSU for the current fiscal;

(d) whether CIL has missed the production target for 2014-15 by 3 per cent, recording an output of 494.23 million tonnes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Conversion of LOAs into FSAs for power projects

1769. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sought approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs for conversion of Letter of Assurances (LOAs) given to power projects with a capacity of 30,000 MW into Fuel Supply Agreements (FSAs); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Awareness about SBM

1770. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for levying of 0.50 per cent tax on all services to fund the Swachh Bharat Mission;

(b) the total amount spent on

advertisements for the said Mission till date, since its inception; and

(c) the steps taken to educate the people living in villages and towns about sanitary hygiene apart from awareness through advertisements in this respect?

Problem of non-availability of safe drinking water

1771. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hand-pumps have become defunct in many parts of the country and do not work well also and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the problem of non-availability of safe drinking water continues in many States and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State/UT-wise;

(c) the funds sanctioned/spent for this purpose in each State/UT during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(d) whether Government is working on a Mission to provide clean tap water for drinking purposes and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Availability of drinking water in Bundelkhand

†1772. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that drinking water is not available to the people of Bundelkhand even today and the available resources of water there such as wells and ponds have dried up;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the action plan drawn up by Government till now to revive water bodies and ensuring availability of water through rivers and canals; and

(c) if not, the details of availability of drinking as well as irrigational water in Bundelkhand throughout the year?

Funds spent under SBM

1773. SHRI DEREK O BRIEN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds contributed to the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) by individuals and companies under Corporate Social Responsibility, till date;

(b) the proportion of total funds spent under the Mission represented by corporate and individual donations; and

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to increase corporate contribution to this Mission?

Problem of unsafe drinking water in Ballia

1774. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of persons who have died due to arsenic contamination in drinking water in the country, State-wise during the last two years;

(b) whether Government is aware that Ballia district in Uttar Pradesh is facing acute problem of unsafe drinking water and arsenic contamination;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the details of funds allocated, released and utilized during 2015-16, State-wise; and

(d) the fresh measures Government

would take to provide safe drinking water in Gangetic belt where arsenic is more than 100 per cent higher than the permissible limits prescribed by WHO?

Targets under SBM

1775. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the targets of the Swachh Bharat Mission for the year and the targets that remain unachieved at the end of the year, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has allocated/ plans to allocate a percentage of the Swachh Bharat Kosh towards campaigns for behavioural change and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has undertaken measures to educate individuals about hygiene and social marketing of toilets and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Drinking water crisis in Maharashtra

1776. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether drought affected districts/ areas of several States including Maharashtra are facing drinking water crisis and if so, the details thereof, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the steps taken by Government for solution of drinking water crisis in these districts/areas along with the funds allocated on priority basis to these affected areas during each of the last three years and the current year, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(c) the details of measures taken by Government to find a permanent solution of drinking water crisis in the country, particularly in many districts of Maharashtra?

(d) if so, the reasons for not providing funds to those States along with their names?

Setting up bio-toilets in village panchayats

1777. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has any proposal to set up bio-toilets in a large number of village panchayats in the country;

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

(c) whether it is proposed to expand the scheme throughout the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when all the village panchayats are likely to be covered under the scheme?

Solar power based water supply scheme in A.P.

1779. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that solar power based dual pump water supply scheme is being implemented in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) how many habitations in the above district are expected to get water supply;

(c) whether it is also a fact that no habitation has been covered since the implementation of the scheme *i.e.* 2013;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when all the identified habitations in the above district would be covered under the above scheme?

Funds for drinking water and sanitation

†1778. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided funds to the States for drinking water and sanitation campaign in the financial year 2015-16;

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

(c) whether there are such States to whom funds have been allocated under the said head but the same was not released; and

Underground water level in Telangana

1780. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attentions has been drawn to the reports relating to underground water level that has fallen by about three meters across Telangana;

(b) whether Government proposes to help the State in overcoming drinking water problem during the summer months; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Exemption of tree cutting permission
for PWD of Delhi**

1781. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any request from the PWD of Delhi that it should be exempt from applying for tree cutting permission for projects which involves cumbersome and time consuming procedure and results in delay in projects;

(b) whether PWD has suggested bringing about changes in the Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994 which would then enable the agency to only inform the forest department of the number of trees that have to be felled for a particular forest; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

Non-release of funds under IFM

1782. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state the reasons for non-release of funds under the Integrated Forest Management (IFM) Scheme by Government?

Action plan to save wildlife

1783. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has worked out an action plan to save wildlife in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the status of saving the elephants in the elephant corridors; and

(d) how it has been controlled?

**Action plan for formulation of
national parks**

1784. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to formulate any new action plan for development of National Parks to protect wild animals in the country; and

(b) if so, the number of such National Parks for which Government has formulated such schemes?

Diversion of forest land

1785. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 2,500 hectares of forest land is being diverted across the country and especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of wildlife to be affected in the process; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure compensatory afforestation and maintenance *in lieu* of the diverted forest land across the country?

**Effect of water pollution in mining
areas**

1786. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to address

the effect of water pollution in mining areas due to release of different toxic metals like arsenic, mercury, chromium, nickel etc. from the coals and mine spoil heaps;

(b) whether it is a fact that a full inventory of water resources has not been undertaken for Jharkhand yet;

(c) whether an assessment of water quality in terms of chemical indicators, biodiversity indicators, quantification of contaminants, etc. has been done in case of Jharkhand; and

(d) what steps are being taken to address these issues?

Guidelines to study behaviour of tigers

1787. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has laid down guidelines to study the behaviour of tigers in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has radio-collared the tigers during the last one year;

(d) whether some tigers have died due to laceration wounds allegedly due to radio collar; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

Noise and air pollution

1788. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the data on noise and air pollution recorded in major cities of the country

during different festivals during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether Government proposes to issue guidelines to fireworks companies regarding production of crackers which produce low noise and low level of air pollution;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of policy formulated to control noise and air pollution effectively during festivals?

Commercialization of GM crops

1789. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the Ministry's stand on commercialization of Genetically Modified crops, the details in this regard;

(b) which GM crops have been approved and which ones have not; and

(c) the rationale therefor?

Afforestation projects

1790. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing any afforestation projects and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of funds spent by Government for implementation of these projects in each State including Odisha;

(c) to what extent the afforestation projects have achieved their objectives; and

(d) whether afforestation activities have been reduced to mere eyewash in the

country due to lack of monitoring efforts by Government and if so, the details thereof?

Environment nod for hydel projects on Ganga

1791. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has given nod for five hydel projects on river Ganga;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any study was undertaken by the Ministry before approving the project regarding the environmental consequences it could have on river Ganga; and

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

Treatment of electronic wastes

1792. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has become a destination to dump electronic wastes generated in developed countries;

(b) how much electronic wastes was imported into the country during each of the last three years and current year;

(c) whether India has sufficient facilities to treat this electronic waste imported and if so, the details thereof and if not, how the e-waste is treated;

(d) whether any study has been done to ascertain the harmful effects of e-waste on environment and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of steps taken by Government to treat the electronic waste?

Carbon pricing *via* taxes

1793. DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money raised from carbon pricing *via* taxes or emissions trading systems; and

(b) how much of this amount is used for conservation efforts or reversing the effects of pollution, and the details of the programme thereof?

Air pollution in Delhi and other big cities

1794. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to control air pollution in Delhi and other big cities ever since it assumed office; and

(b) whether it is a fact that air quality in aforesaid cities continue to deteriorate despite measures/steps taken by Government to control it?

Industries polluting rivers

1795. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of industries polluting rivers identified by the Central Pollution Control Board in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of industries which have been shut down, as on date by CPCB during the last two years, State-wise; and

(c) the details of such industries which are still in operation, State-wise?

Pollution due to burning of corpses

†1796. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that burning of dead bodies or corpses leads to air pollution;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps to address this;

(c) whether the National Green Tribunal or the Supreme Court has issued any directions in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Deaths due to air pollution

1797. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deaths caused due to indoor and outdoor air pollution during the last three years and the amount spent by Government on air pollution health-related costs during the last three years;

(b) whether Government has held awareness drives to inform citizens using biomass thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has undertaken measures to provide solar cookers to households to reduce the incidence of indoor air pollution and if so, the details thereof

and the distribution undertaken State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

Monitoring of Himalayan glaciers, forests, water and land

†1798. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Himalayan glaciers, forests, water and land are being monitored under the National Mission on Himalayan studies functioning under the Ministry;

(b) if so, the detailed report of the said monitoring so far and the threats likely to emerge in future; and

(c) the action plan formulated on the basis of this report to deal with the threats caused by climate change?

Environmental clearances to mining projects by CIL

1799. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) how does Government intend to meet its targets stated in the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions if it is granting environment and forestry clearances to more mining projects by Coal India Ltd.;

(b) whether Government is doing anything to offset the pollution caused by thermal power plants; and

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Pollution norms for industrial units

1800. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the environmental standards norms stipulated by Government for compliance by the industrial units in the country;

(b) whether Government has imposed moratorium on clearances for all projects in some of the industrial clusters during each of the last three years and the current year;

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

(d) whether Government has deferred green nod for projects in some of such industrial clusters in the recent past and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the other corrective steps taken/being taken by Government in the direction?

Illegal sand mining on river beds

1801. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of illegal sand mining along the river beds;

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

(c) whether the indiscreet sand mining would affect the life and course of rivers; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken to save the rivers?

Withdrawal of direction given to GPCB

1802. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by the Ministry on the representation received from Gujarat Pollution Control Board(GPCB) to withdraw directions given to GPCB regarding Final Effluent Treatment Plant (FETP), Ankleshwar and to allow GPCB to issue Consent to Operate (CTO) to industries with total additional discharge of 10 MLD; and

(b) whether the Central Government has conducted any study in this regard, and if so, the action taken in this regard?

Death of big cats in reserved forests of Maharashtra

1803. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, of late, the number of deaths of big cats in the reserved forests of Maharashtra has increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government has taken in the matter and what action Government proposes to take to prevent such incidents?

Definition of climate change

1804. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided any definition of climate change;

(b) whether Government has any plans to control the climate change in the country during 2015-16; and

(c) the details of steps taken to control climate change during the last three years?

Air pollution in Delhi

1805. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the National Green Tribunal has recently took note of air pollution level reaching the poisonous level and the quality of air in certain areas of Delhi deteriorating further;

(b) if so, whether Government has issued any warning to school children, aged and sick people for exercising caution as was done by China;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what remarks have been made by NGT in this regard and the action taken by Government so far to make the environment around Delhi clean and habitable?

Allowing commercial cultivation of Mustard DMH-11

1806. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has deferred a decision on allowing commercial cultivation of Mustard DMH-11, a transgenic crop developed by the Centre for Genetic Manipulation of Crops at Delhi University;

(b) whether the DU team's creation of a

viable hybridization system in mustard using GM technology, claims to give 25-30 per cent more yield than the currently grown variety named Varuna; and

(c) whether since the controversy around Bt. Brinjal in 2009, Government has been trying to form an independent biotech regulatory authority to replace the multiple committees that form the current regulatory structure?

Development of degraded forests under PPP mode

1807. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to launch a new scheme to develop degraded forest land under PPP mode;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to grow local species of plants and trees on such land for sustainability of flora and fauna?

Attack on tourists by animals

1808. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of attack by animals on the tourist have been reported by the national parks and wildlife sanctuaries;

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

(c) the number of tourists who have been injured and killed by the attack of animals during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the details of steps taken by Government to protect and afford adequate security to the tourists visiting the wildlife sanctuaries and national parks?

Endangered species

1809. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY:
SHRI MD. NADIMUL
HAQUE:

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

(a) the details of endangered species including animals, birds, fisheries in the country;

(b) the details of steps taken by Government to protect the aforesaid species from being extinct; and

(c) the details of funds allocated and released for the conservation of the aforesaid species during the last three years, State-wise and species-wise?

Demand for cost effective and accessible technology for reducing climate change

1810. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether developing countries including India have demanded for cost effective and easily accessible technology for reducing emissions in the conference held in the recent past on the climate change;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that incremental cost of low carbon investment in developing countries would be to the tune of 22 to 30 billion dollars per year; and

(d) if so, whether developed countries are ready to provide any kind of subsidies to the developing countries?

Review of clearances to lake bed and eco sensitive projects

1811. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would review all clearances given to lake bed and ecologically sensitive projects in Bengaluru on the basis CAG's Performance Audit tabled on 29th June, 2015 confirming violation of lake buffer zones as the natural ecosystem of lakes in the city has been destroyed by unbridled commercial and vested interest;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of wetlands under the National Wetland Conservation Programme (NWCP), State-wise; and

(d) the details of proposals submitted by Karnataka and the financial assistance provided to the State under the NWCP during the last five years?

Safety and protection of migratory birds

†1812. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government for safety and protection of migratory birds coming to various parts of the country from other countries; and

(b) the details of funds allocated by Government during the last three years for development of places where these birds flock together, State-wise?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Local committees to control pollution

†1813. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to set up local committees to control pollution caused by construction and other activities throughout the country;

(b) whether Government is also considering to co-opt the local people's representatives into these committees;

(c) if so, since when and the details of rights of these committees; and

(d) if not, the Government's views thereon?

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

(a) the details of schemes to encourage wind power generation in the country;

(b) the details of the total generation of wind energy in the country, *vis-a-vis* total power generated from other sources of renewable energy during the last five years State/UT-wise;

(c) the ratio of contribution made by wind energy to the total energy consumption in the country during the above period; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to augment wind power in the country including technological advancements made in this direction?

Air Pollution in metropolitan cities

1814. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many metropolitan cities in the country are suffering from very severe air pollution;

(b) if so, what action the Central Government has taken to mitigate it; and

(c) what steps Government has already taken or is in the process of taking for a sustainable solution?

Schemes for encouraging wind power generation

1815. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI:
SHRI K.C. TYAGI:
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
KUMARI SELJA:

Micro grid in Dharnai village

1816. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of Dharnai, a small village in Jehanabad district of eastern Bihar which has its own solar powered micro-grid to provide electricity to the village;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government intends to adopt Dharnai model of solar power generation for villages in rural India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Solar park in Phullera, Rajasthan

1817. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether in-principle approval has been accorded for the development of a solar park in Phullera, Rajasthan;

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

(c) by when final approval would be accorded;

(d) the details of areas around Phullera which are proposed to be covered under the proposed Solar Park; and

(e) by when this project is expected to start?

Funds for R&D of new and renewable energy technology

1818. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds allocated for research and development (R&D) of new and renewable energy technology during each of the last three years, and the current year, head-wise;

(b) the details of actual expenditure for R&D of new and renewable energy technology, year-wise and head-wise;

(c) the amount of money paid towards subsidy to promote new and renewable energy; and

(d) the details of steps taken by Government to promote use of renewable energy among the public?

Cost of solar power generation

1819. DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the median cost of generating one

unit of electricity using solar power in the country;

(b) the total land area that needs to be utilized for generation of 1GW of solar power; and

(c) whether there is any of the existing solar power facility or the one under consideration planned on fertile or agricultural land and if so, whether there are provisions prohibiting such facilities in those areas?

Solar energy in Rajasthan

†1820. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the position of Rajasthan with regard to solar energy in the country;

(b) whether Government has approved any solar power generation schemes in the State and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of companies and places/districts of the State for which approval has been given; and

(d) whether Government has provided any financial assistance to Rajasthan Government for promotion of solar energy and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Solar energy generated in the country

1821. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of solar energy generated in the country during the last five years;

(b) how far it has helped in curbing the level of energy scarcity in the country; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the details of major initiatives taken to increase the generation of solar energy in the country?

Renewable energy projects

1822. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Solar Energy Corporation of India is engaged in implementing a number of renewable energy projects including setting up of 2,750 MW solar power projects under Viability Gap Funding (VGF) in association with other organizations;

(b) whether it is also a fact that consumer awareness has improved significantly in the rooftop segment and both business and residential consumers are keen to tap rooftop solar power;

(c) whether the rooftop market is expected to grow at over 50 per cent during the next few years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Under-utilization of NCEF

1823. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF) which is created for funding research and innovative projects in clean energy technologies is severely underutilized;

(b) whether many projects recommended for NCEF support in renewable energy are still awaiting allocation; and

(c) if so, the details of funds collected and utilized during the last three years?

Energy generation using new and renewable energy sources

1824. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Central Government to improve energy generation by both public and private sector companies using new and renewable energy sources;

(b) the energy generated by Public and Private sector companies through various new and renewable energy projects during the last five years;

(c) whether Government has provided adequate logistics and technological support to these new and renewable energy projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total project support, subsidy and other financial support provided to new and renewable energy projects of both public and private sectors during the last five years?

Capacity of solar energy

1825. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity of solar energy that Government hopes to install by 2022;

(b) the details of current capacity of solar energy, State-wise;

(c) the funds that would be required for the completion of this project; and

(d) the details of method for generating the funds for this project?

Funds for development works of Panchayats in Himachal Pradesh

†1826. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government has in pursuance of 14th Finance Commission recommendations released second instalment of ₹ 97 crore to Himachal Pradesh Government for developmental work of Panchayats and an amount of ₹ 57 crore was also released earlier;

(b) if so, the details of these funds disbursed, district-wise and year-wise and the funds provided to each panchayat therefrom; and

(c) whether the Central Government has constituted any special committee to check misappropriation in allocation of funds, so that these funds may be monitored from time to time?

Schemes for improvement of administrative capabilities of Panchayats

1827. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes for improving the administrative capabilities of Gram Panchayat Office bearers;

(b) the details of support system that Government provides to the elected members of the Panchayat in order to discharge their official responsibilities in a smooth manner; and

(c) the details of funds provided, if any, to the Panchayat Office bearers to run and maintain their offices?

Reservation in PRIs

1828. KUMARI SELJA: SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to bring a legislation to enhance the reservation of women to fifty per cent in the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and if so, the details and the present status thereof;

(b) the details of States which have introduced fifty per cent reservation for women in PRIs;

(c) whether Government proposes to double the tenure of wards reserved for women in the Panchayats and if so, the details and the present status thereof; and

(d) whether Government has assessed the performance of PRIs *vis-a-vis* objectives set and if so, the outcome thereof, State/UT-wise?

Complaints of women Sarpanchs

1829. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) how many women Sarpanchs are there in the country as on 31st January, 2016;

(b) whether any complaint of harassment or non cooperation has been received from women Sarpanchs; and

(c) if so, how many such complaints have been received and what action has been taken by Government?

Functions of the Ministry

1830. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether the Ministry of Planning is existing;

(b) if so, the justification of its existence after abolition of the Planning Commission;

(c) what are the functions of this Ministry; and

(d) what policies it has suggested during the last two years?

Efficient Management of Public Expenditure

1831. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a High Level Expert Committee on Efficient Management of Public Expenditure has been constituted by the Niti Aayog;

(b) if so, the broad terms of references of the Committee;

(c) whether the committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the broad recommendations of the Committee; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken on the recommendations accepted by Government?

Bihar Package

†1832. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Bihar package announced by Government during Bihar Assembly election held recently;

(b) the details of these projects and their association with various Ministries and the

total expenditure likely to be incurred in implementation of these schemes;

(c) the details of head-wise fund allocation made by different Ministries for implementation of the said schemes; and

(d) by when the financial package is going to be implemented?

Reduction of assistance under CSS

1833. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reduction of funds by Government related to amount of assistance being provided to the States for the centrally sponsored schemes such as Indira Awas Yojana, MGNREGA, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana, etc. has impacted the implementation of the said schemes and affects the developmental works in certain States including Kerala;

(b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard; and

(c) the action plan of Government for balanced development of all regions in the country and to bring down inter-State disparity?

Social inequality

1834. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether, according to 68th National Sample Survey Organisation, the poorest 10 per cent living in the country spend on an average only ₹ 16.8 per day to survive and half the rural population spend less than ₹ 35 per day, while in urban India, the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

poorest 10 per cent on an average spend ₹ 23.4 per day while the richest 10 per cent spend ₹ 255; and

(b) if so, what steps Government has taken to reduce the social inequality amongst the rich and the poor and to reduce rising poverty in both rural and urban areas of the country?

Annual growth rate of States

1835. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of annual growth rate of those States which are at the bottom of the list in terms of economic and social indices;

(b) the details of Central assistance given to these States under various legislations for correction of imbalance since 2014, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the names of sectors for which Central assistance was provided and the growth rate achieved as a result thereof?

Allocations to erstwhile Planning Commission

1836. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the allocations made to erstwhile Planning Commission during the last fifteen years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that renamed Planning Commission *i.e.* Niti Aayog has been allocated ₹ 20,000 crores for 2015-16;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the purpose for which money has been allocated;

(d) how Niti Aayog is different from the earlier Planning Commission; and

(e) what is the present mandate of Niti Aayog and what was the mandate of the Planning Commission?

Scrapping of NDC

1837. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is all set to scrap the National Development Council and entrust its powers to Niti Aayog;

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

(c) whether any consultations with the Chief Ministers have been held in this regard; and

(d) if so, the views of each CM in this regard?

Location for setting up power projects in view of One Nation One Grid

1838. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether one National one Grid has become a reality on ground;

(b) if so, whether there is no need any longer to transport the raw materials like coal for long distances since it would be possible to transport the final product, the power; and

(c) if so, whether the siting of power projects in future would be confined to pit heads?

Effectiveness of measures by Bureau of Energy Efficiency

1839. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the measures initiated by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has yielded any desirable and tangible results;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these measures would be of any use to Government in achieving its noble vision of providing 24x7 power to all households in the country by 2019; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Expediting transfer of funds

1840. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that transfer of funds from regulatory pool to Power System Development Fund (PSDF) and then to public accounts take a lot of time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to expedite such a transfer in future?

Electrification of villages

1841. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has electrified 20 per cent of villages that were without power at the start of this financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in July last year, Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana aimed to provide round the clock power to rural

households and adequate electricity to agricultural consumers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Finances of State electricity discoms

1842. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of profits or losses faced by State electricity discoms during the last five years, State-wise;

(b) the reasons the Ministry has identified for State power utilities not increasing their electricity generation capacity;

(c) whether Government is considering to recast loans of State power discoms; and

(d) if so, the amount of debt restructuring proposal and if not, the reasons therefor?

Fund for rural electrification

1843. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of villages which have been electrified during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of funds used and sanctioned for rural electrification during the above period;

(c) the steps taken by Government to reduce the losses it might incur due to heavily subsidized tariff that is being charged for electricity in rural areas; and

(d) whether subsidies are being provided to the States including Maharashtra for various renewable energy sources for rural electrification and if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Funding for procurement of energy meters

1844. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) and the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) Ltd. are funding the State Electricity Boards and distribution companies for procurement of energy meters;

(b) if so, the details of funding by REC and PFC to State Electricity Boards/ distribution companies during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) what is the mechanism to ensure that funds released by REC and PFC are properly utilized?

Power theft

1845. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any study to assess power theft which is rampant across the country;

(b) if so, the details of power theft detected and reported during the last five years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to curb rampant power theft across the country?

Modalities for distribution of electricity to villages

1846. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
KUMARI SELJA:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken up the work of rural electrification under its National Rural Electrification Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of villages electrified thereunder, State-wise;

(c) the number of villages proposed to be covered under the scheme during the ensuring year, State-wise;

(d) whether Government has worked out the modalities regarding the distribution of electricity to villages under the scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure uninterrupted power supply to villages?

Use of LED lights

1847. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is promoting Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to release more funds for promoting LED lights;

(c) whether Government has any data of less power consumption by LED lights; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Reforms in power sector

1848. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated reforms in power sector recently in view of massive losses being suffered by discoms country-wide;

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

(c) how many and which State electricity distribution units are running into losses and the reasons behind such losses; and

(d) what corrective measures have been taken to make discoms viable?

Target of biogas plants

1849. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) what is the targeted number of biogas plants that the Ministry has planned to install by the end of 2015-16;

(b) how many family biogas plants have been set up, so far as part of the National Biogas and Manure Management Programme, year-wise and State/Union Territory-wise; and

(c) how many toilet linked biogas plants have been set up under this scheme so far, year-wise and State/Union Territory-wise?

Supply of full quota of power to Bengaluru

1850. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is Bengaluru's total electricity supply quota per day from State and Central Generating stations, at present;

(b) whether the city is being supplied its full quota from the State and Central Grid;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what specific steps, if any, the Ministry has taken to resolve the huge power deficit crisis being experienced by the city?

Revitalising of NTPC plant at Kayamkulam

1851. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC plant as Kayamkulam in Kerala is practically closed down due to high price of naphtha;

(b) whether it would be opened now that naphtha price has come down due to fall in oil prices;

(c) whether LNG would be made available to rerun it as 500 MW or 750 MW station so that Kerala could get power at reasonable price; and

(d) if not, whether there is any plan to relocate the plant?

Re-auction of Tilaiya Ultra Mega Power Project in Jharkhand

& 1852. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry is planning to re-auction the Tilaiya Ultra Mega Power Project which was surrendered by Reliance Power and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Reliance Power has been fined for not starting the project in time and if so, the action taken by Government against the company; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to resolve the issues pertaining to land acquisition, captive coal block linkage, etc. faced during the last five years?

& WITHDRAWN

Free pump sets to farmers

1853. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to release funds to replace all pump sets of the farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, the target set for achievement during the present financial year, State-wise; and

(c) the quantum of funds earmarked and released in this regard, so far?

Private thermal plants in Punjab

1854. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether Punjab Government signed agreements to set up private thermal plants in the State, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of power purchase agreements entered into between the two parties;

(c) whether all units of Lehra Mohabbat Thermal Plant are closed due to which the State is forced to purchase power from private thermal plants at higher price;

(d) whether Punjab Government requested for the Central Government help to set up more thermal plants in the State sector; and

(e) whether any complaint has been received regarding the functioning of power sector in the State and if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

Construction of outer ring road around Amaravati

1855. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has agreed for upgradation of State Highways into National Highways and construction of outer ring road around new capital city of Amaravati in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the estimated cost for this project and the source of funding; and

(d) the schedule of completion of these projects?

New Delhi-Katra expressway

1856. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to build 600 Km. expressway between New Delhi and Katra, the base for pilgrims going to the holy shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the status thereof;

(c) what would be the total cost involved to build this longest ever corridor;

(d) whether the expressway would reduce the road travel time between New Delhi and Katra and if so, how much; and

(e) what percentage of the total cost of the project, the Central Government is likely to bear?

Implementation of BS-VI norms

1857. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has decided to directly implement Bharat Stage (BS)-VI by April, 2020 to check vehicular pollution and skip BS-V altogether;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government would make available BS-VI fuel in the country by April 1, 2020?

Fourlaning of Jammu-Poonch highway

1858. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH MANHAS: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan of fourlaning the highway from Jammu to Poonch in Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) if so, when it would be started, which agency has been assigned the work and what would be its completion period and the reasons for the delay, if any; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Status of proposals received from Madhya Pradesh

†1859. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the latest position regarding approval and implementation of proposals received from Madhya Pradesh on National Highways sanctioned in annual plan 2015-16?

Termination of PPP contracts

1860. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started terminating those contracts under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode which are not delivering desired results;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of contracts terminated, so far;

(c) the number of details of projects stuck due to one reason or the other; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to expedite work on such projects?

Private highway developers

1861. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the private highway developers to provide equity in road projects or a share of toll collection to farmers whose land is acquired for building and expanding highways;

(b) whether Government has also asked private highway developers to take up new projects since Public Private Partnership (PPP) is the preferred mode for highway sector, else Government has enough of budget to build roads on its own; and

(c) if so, the response received by Government from private highway developers in this regard?

Land for construction of roads in West Bengal

1862. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has not received any land from West Bengal Government during the last 4-5 years for road construction;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when NHAI last received land from the State Government for construction of roads?

Call centres to help commuters

1863. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has invited bids for setting up of six round the clock call centres to help commuters in case of crisis including road accidents;

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

(c) the details of locations of these call centres; and

(d) the progress made in setting up of these centres?

Accident prone black spots on National Highways

1864. SHRI DEREK O BRIEN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accident prone 'black spots' identified on National Highways since 2011, and the number of such spots fixed each year;

(b) the number of accidents that occurred on these spots and the number of fatalities and injuries sustained, year-wise since 2011; and

(c) the steps taken to fix these black spots?

Completion of Delhi-Amritsar National Highways

1865. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several projects for construction/augmentation of new roads and highways in Punjab and UT of Chandigarh are pending with Government for approval;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that Delhi-Amritsar National Highway is still under construction even after a period of 10 years; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to complete this project on priority basis?

Review of provisions relating to hit-and-run cases

1866. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has expressed deep concern about the increasing number of hit-and-run accident cases in the country and suggested to review the relevant sections including section 304A of the Indian Penal Code;

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

(c) whether Government proposes to make laws more stringent to check such cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time frame by which such amendments would be made?

Special status to Himachal Pradesh to solve road problems

1867. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals from Himachal Pradesh seeking special status in order to solve the problems of roads;

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

(c) by when Government proposes to grant special status to the State and to provide funds therefor?

Repair works on NH-8 at Majhigam, Chikhli

1868. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 66 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd March, 2015 and State:

(a) the updated status of the action taken and efforts made by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for completion of pending work for repairing the dilapidated stone pitched toe wall for protection of slope of the high embankment in front of Pattidar Samaj Community Hall at 313 km. of Surat-Dahisar section of NH-8 at Majhigam, Chikhli; and

(b) by when the repair work at the above said junction would be completed?

National Highways in Puducherry

1869. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether three National Highway projects were sanctioned to Puducherry in 2012-13, one in 2013-14 and two in 2014-15;

(b) if so, the details of each of these NHs sanctioned;

(c) the status of each of the above project and by when they are likely to be completed; and

(d) the amount, so far, sanctioned and spent on each of the above project?

Resolution of issues relating of stalled highway projects

1870. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has self-imposed a deadline for resolving issues stalling highway projects worth ₹ 30,000 crore, including funds crunch;

(b) whether projects are struck due to a plethora of reasons such as land acquisition, forest and environment clearances, litigations and financial problems;

(c) whether, while efforts are in the pipeline to revive most of the struck projects, Government has also made up its mind to terminate 41 contracts, alleging collusion between developers and their bankers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Construction of roads under EPC model

†1871. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has adopted the earlier and proven Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC)

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

model to accelerate the road construction sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the pace of road construction sector has gained desired momentum with the adoption of this model; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Use of jute and coir geo-textiles in road construction

1872. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Road Congress has formulated any specifications for use of jute and coir geo-textiles in construction of roads;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for enhanced use of non-conventional materials or technology such as jute or geo-textiles in road construction across the country?

Accidents on National/Express Highways

1873. SHRI K. C. TYAGI:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

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

(a) whether Government is aware of increase in the number of accidents on various National/Express Highways in the country;

(b) if so, the number of fatal accidents reported during the last three years on

various National/Express Highways in the country;

(c) the action taken by Government to prevent such road accidents along with the steps taken to provide compensation to victims;

(d) whether the Committee on Road Safety and Traffic Management has suggested various measures for improving road safety; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

Upgradation of State highways to National Highways in Karnataka

1874. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proposals by Karnataka Government for upgrading State Highways to National Highways have been pending with the Central Government;

(b) if so, how many such proposals have been received so far from the Karnataka Government;

(c) the status of all the pending proposals and the reasons for delay in their approval; and

(d) by when these proposals would be approved by the Ministry?

Implementation of Panchayati Raj

1875. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Panchayati Raj is implemented fully in all the States;

(b) if not, the details of anomalies found, State-wise; and

(c) the action Government is planning for the complete implementation of Panchayati Raj?

safety principles and to examine whether further changes are needed to prevent crashes?

Stringent norms for private highway concessionaires

1876. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to declare private highway players as non-performers if they fail to infuse equity in ongoing works and delay in disbursement of loans;

(b) whether there are some other conditions put on concessionaires to complete the work within the stipulated time and save themselves from being debarred from bidding for new projects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Guidelines for Safe Traffic System design

1877. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has framed guidelines for Safe Traffic System design to prevent road traffic deaths and serious injuries and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is any proposal to prevent pedestrians and cyclists from accessing motorways and preventing motor vehicles from entering pedestrian zones to minimize contact between high-speed traffic and unprotected road users; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to conduct road safety audits to check that the road design, etc. are consistent with

Feasibility studies for new road projects

1878. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted feasibility studies to go ahead with new road projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(c) the measures taken by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to mobilize funds for speedy completion of pending and incomplete projects;

(d) whether there is progress in Public-Private Partnership projects during the last five years in the country, State-wise and NH-wise; and

(e) the total expenditure incurred during the last five years to execute National Highway projects under Public-Private Partnership across the country?

New Project under PPP mode

1879. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has lined up projects worth ₹ 50,000 crore to be awarded under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode during 2016-17;

(b) whether this would be the largest chunk of highway projects to be awarded by Government under PPP mode in a single financial year;

(c) whether Government plans to award close to 5,000 km. to private companies during the next fiscal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Bypasses on NHs in Uttar Pradesh

1880. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals from Uttar Pradesh for construction of bypasses on National Highways (NHs) in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the present status of construction of bypasses in the State?

Funds sought by NHAI for building infrastructure

1881. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a proposal from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for approving works worth ₹ 11,000 crore to build infrastructure such as underpasses, flyovers and foot over bridges for safety of pedestrians, cyclists and other vulnerable road users;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government on the said proposal;

(c) whether in many cases, when NHAI undertook expansion of highways, these safety features were deleted only to make the projects financially viable; and

(d) if so, whether Government is considering to rethink on such steps?

Use of space technology to monitor highway work

1882. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has signed MoU with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the North East Centre for Technology Application and Research (NECTAR) to use space technology to monitor the progress of highway work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any projects have been identified to begin with the use of technology; and

(d) if so, the details of those projects, with particular reference to Telangana?

Construction of bridge across Mathred river

1883. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any representation forwarded by the Prime Minister's Office regarding construction of bridge across Mathred river to connect village Nandla and other villages in Chirgaon tehsil, district Shimla, Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government would ask the State Government to include the bridge under PMGSY/NABARD assisted schemes as the bridge is not in a good condition;

(c) whether Government would give special attention to construct this bridge on priority basis; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Implementation of SAGY in
Jharkhand**

†1884. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is laxity in implementation of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) in Jharkhand; and

(b) whether Government has fixed any time limit for completion of this scheme, if so, the details thereof?

**Implementation of Village Knowledge
Centres Programme**

1885. SHRI SHADILAL BATRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Village Knowledge Centres (VKC) programme being implemented by Government is achieving its targeted goals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of VKCs established, so far, and their working along with the details of nodal agencies thereof; and

(d) whether some banks are providing details of the programme to farmers and if so, the details thereof?

**Compensation to dalits displaced due
to Polavaram Dam**

1886. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that dalit landless poor at Pydipaka and Ramaihpet, Tekuru in Polavaram Mandal at Polavaram Dam have not been given any land or other legal

entitlements;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the National Monitoring Committee is examining petitions on Polavaram Dam issues related to relief; and

(c) if so, what steps would be taken to enquire into the refusal to extend financial aid and land-for-land to dalits of Pydipaka and Ramaihpet villages in Polavaram Mandal?

**Scheme for building modern
infrastructure in rural areas**

1887. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched or plans to launch any comprehensive scheme for building modern infrastructure in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the details of Government's plans to provide better facilities in rural areas?

Allocation for MGNREGA

†1888. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Finance is considering to provide an amount of ₹ 5,000 crore for the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the amount spent by the States out of funds allocated under MGNREGA, State-wise; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether there is demand of more work under MGNREGA due to agricultural crisis and if so, the number of additional persons provided with work as compared to the last year?

Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme

1889. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated, released and utilised along with beneficiaries reached and financial assistance provided under Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme during the last two years, State-wise along with district-wise details for West Bengal;

(b) the details of blocks identified for implementing the scheme, State-wise;

(c) the details collected in Livelihood for Employment survey of households interested in becoming self-employed, State-wise;

(d) whether Government is aware that there is an overlap between the current scheme and Start-up India programme; and

(e) if so, the reasons for continuing two schemes of similar nature?

Implementation of draft National Land Utilisation Policy

1890. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the current status of implementation of draft National Land Utilisation policy;

(b) which States have framed their own land use policies in accordance with the

Draft Policy;

(c) what steps are being taken by the Ministry to request States to frame their own land use policies;

(d) what is the total percentage of land under different land uses currently in India—agricultural, forest, industrial, residential, Government owned, private owned and wasteland; and

(e) the corresponding percentages for Maharashtra?

Priority to rural job guarantee scheme

1891. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether ahead of the budget, eminent citizens across the country wrote an open letter to Government to accord highest priority to the rural job guarantee scheme; and

(b) if so, Government's response thereto?

National Land Records Modernization programme

1892. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made under the National Land Records Modernization (NLRM) programme and the details of land records digitized, so far, State-wise;

(b) whether the Ministry proposes to move from presumptive titles to conclusive titles;

(c) whether the Ministry proposes to provide title insurance wherein the State would indemnify against defect in title;

(d) whether the Ministry proposes to amend existing legislations to being required changes in land titling system; and

(e) whether the Ministry proposes to undertake systematic selective titling of new properties?

Beneficiaries under IGNWPS in U.P.

1893. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of beneficiaries identified in Uttar Pradesh under the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS);

(b) the details of funds released to the State for this scheme during the last five years;

(c) the number of SC/ST widows among the beneficiaries identified under this scheme from the State; and

(d) the details of pension amount given to SC/ST widows during the last five years?

PMGSY works in Assam and Uttar Pradesh

†1894. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds released for construction of roads, culverts and bridges and the details of work done in Assam and Uttar Pradesh under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b) whether many proposals of these two States are pending with the Central Government for approval;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of complaints received regarding quality of connecting roads in these two States under PMGSY and the action taken thereon?

Construction of roads in Himachal Pradesh

1895. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines for construction of roads under PMGSY/NABARD assisted schemes by Government in the country particularly hilly and rural areas;

(b) the details and names of roads constructed thereunder during the last five years in Himachal Pradesh; and

(c) whether it is a fact that most of roads are not completed within the stipulated period and if so, the action taken against the concerned officials for delay in the work?

Shortage of funds for MGNREGA

1896. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proper implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is not being done in many States due to lack of funds;

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

(c) the reasons why Government has stopped releasing funds to such States under MGNREGA; and

(d) by when Government intends to release adequate funds under MGNREGA to such States?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Works undertaken under SAGY in Aali village

†1897. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the works proposed to be done in Aali village in Delhi under the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY);

(b) the types of work which are given priority in Adarsh Grams under SAGY;

(c) whether the Prime Minister or the concerned Ministry is monitoring it and if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether additional guidelines have been issued by the Prime Minister's Office or the concerned ministry for speedy implementation of SAGY, if so, the details thereof?

Outcome of schemes to eliminate poverty and unemployment in rural areas

†1898. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of schemes are being implemented to eliminate poverty and unemployment in the rural areas of the country but broadly, these schemes have not been able to meet their target as per expectations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to integrate all these schemes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Assessment of SAGY

1899. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) has been made and if so, what are the achievements as per its mandate, State-wise; and

(b) whether any implementing lacuna has been noticed and if so, how Government is going to rectify the same?

Baseline survey under SAGY

1900. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any expert agencies have been appointed in villages adopted under the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) for conducting a baseline survey under Guideline no. 10(1) of the scheme;

(b) if so, the total number of agencies appointed, State-wise along with the names of agencies thus appointed and the corresponding village/gram panchayat; and

(c) if not, the details of functionaries conducting baseline surveys for the preparation of Village Development Plan in villages adopted by MPs?

Downtrend in attention and expenditure in certain fields

1901. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the criticism that Government's attention and expenditure in rural infrastructure, rural housing, rural health care, etc. have come down after the abolition of the Planning Commission; and

(b) if so, the real facts thereof and how Government proposes to counter this trend?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Sagarmala Project

1902. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to execute a project called Sagarmala to cover coastal States;

(b) what is the alignment of the project and through how many States the project would be executed;

(c) the total length in kilometers and total area in square meters to each of the States;

(d) whether all clearances required for the projects including environmental clearance have been obtained;

(e) the cost of the project; and

(f) the mode of financing including by the Central Government, State Governments and private parties?

Joint meeting to expedite Sagarmala Project

1903. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a joint meeting on ports, security and development has been held to develop islands and to expedite the ambitious Sagarmala Project;

(b) if so, the details of decisions taken in the above meeting; and

(c) the steps taken to implement them?

Implementation of interlinking of river

1904. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special committee meeting has been held with the various State

Governments for the implementation of Interlinking of River (ILR) programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the current stand and views of various State Governments on the implementation of the programme; and

(d) whether Government has fixed any deadline for the implementation of the programme for enhancing water and food security of the country?

Kadwan reservoir on river Ganga in Bihar

1905. DR. C.P. THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of Kadwan reservoir on the river Ganga in Bihar which was supposed to provide water to Singareni Coalfields Ltd.;

(b) whether it was also decided long back that the water would be used for irrigation purposes; and

(c) whether Government has planned or taken steps to use the water of this reservoir for those purposes?

Pollution at Polavaram dam site

1906. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a notice no. 309/2015 from the National Green Tribunal dated August 12, 2015 directing the Polavaram Project Authority to conduct joint inspections for reducing the pollution generation at Polavaram dam site;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken so far in this regard;

(c) whether the Polavaram Project Authority has been in touch with Polavaram Panchayat in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

SPV on clean Ganga project

1907. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) on clean Ganga project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how it would help in maintaining the river Ganga clean?

Outcome of GAP

†1908. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) and the outcome thereof, so far;

(b) whether the outcome has been satisfactory, so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Improvement of irrigation facilities

1909. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of irrigated agricultural land in the country for the last fifty years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the total area of partially irrigated, farm land in the country, State-wise;

(c) the total area of non-irrigated agricultural land in the country, State-wise;

(d) the number of irrigation projects under construction in the country, State-wise; and

(e) whether Government is planning to improve the irrigation facilities in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Rejuvenation of Ganga

1910. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) how much money has been spent on cleaning of the Ganga;

(b) what is the progress of cleaning up the Ganga and by when this project would be completed;

(c) whether the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has argued for the construction of six hydel projects on the upper Ganga; and

(d) what impact this would have on the Ganga rejuvenation drive of the Central Government?

Sharing of Krishna waters

1911. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telangana Government has complained to the Central Government and the Krishna River Management Board against Andhra Pradesh for sanctioning Rajolibanda Diversion Scheme (RDS) Right Canal;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of the complaint; and

(c) what steps the Central Government is taking to resolve the dispute and to ensure that both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are not deprived of their rightful share of Krishna waters?

Progress of clean Ganga Mission

1912. SHRID. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the clean Ganga Mission has commenced;

(b) if so, the details of work undertaken, so far, and the amount spent thereunder, work-wise;

(c) the year-wise details of targets fixed along with the details of monitoring system thereof; and

(d) whether Government is contemplating to clean other rivers also and if so, the details thereof?

PPP model in implementation of Namami Gange programme

†1913. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

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

(a) whether the Public Private Partnership (PPP) model has been adopted for implementation of the 'Namami Gange' programme;

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

(c) whether one of the main objectives behind adopting the PPP model is to make waste water useful and to create a market for it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Declaration of Bargi Diversion Project as National Project

†1914. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high-powered steering committee of the Ministry has recommended that the Bargi Diversion project in Madhya Pradesh be declared a National Project and if so, the present status thereof; and

(b) by when it would be declared a National Project?

Functioning and maintenance of water recharging structures

1915. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many water recharging structures have been made with the support of Government during the last five years; and

(b) whether Government has any mechanism to monitor the functioning and maintenance of the aforesaid water recharging structures?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Per capita availability of water

1916. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of plans/schemes formulated and implemented to conserve water together with the present status of those plans/schemes;

(b) whether India has 18 per cent of the world's population but has only 4 per cent of total usable water resources;

(c) whether annual per capita availability of water is decreasing drastically and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether 90 per cent of waste water discharged in rivers fails to meet environmental norms and 65 per cent rainwater runoff goes into the sea and if so, the steps taken to check the wastage of water; and

(e) the measures taken for making water conservation a national obsession?

Pollution in Yamuna river

1917. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of funds earmarked by the Ministry to reduce the pollution in Yamuna river during the last two years;

(b) the details of amount spent during

that period;

(c) whether Government is satisfied with the results achieved, so far; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Status of ground water aquifers

1918. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of ground water aquifers of the country, State-wise; and

(b) the details of districts whether ground water has fallen to the most alarming levels?

Alternative for construction of Pancheshwar dam

†1919. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government keeps the option of building dam at any other place in the district in case of unforeseen circumstances emerging in the construction of dam at Pancheshwar with Nepal;

(b) if so, the names of that place and river where it may be possible to construct the dam; and

(c) whether Government considers that place a safe option?

NEW DELHI;
The 8th March, 2016

Phalguna 18, 1937 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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