

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, December 17, 2018/Agrahayana 26, 1940 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Defence; Drinking Water and Sanitation; Earth Sciences;
Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Information and Broadcasting;
Mines; Panchayati Raj; Parliamentary Affairs; Road Transport and
Highways; Rural Development; Science and Technology; Shipping;
Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation;
Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions — 160

Violation of ceasefire in Jammu and Kashmir

641. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH
TOMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE
be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken
by Government for continuous violation
of ceasefire by Pakistani troops in Jammu
and Kashmir areas, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any message has been
conveyed by Indian Government to
Pakistani Government about consequence
of these ceasefire violations; and

(c) whether any assurance has been
given by Pakistani Government to stop
such activities along Indian Borders and if
so, the details thereof?

Draft Defence Production Policy

642. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA:
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased
to state:

(a) whether the provisions of the Draft
Defence Production Policy, 2018 apply
retrospectively;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) with respect to the upcoming
purchase of 114 new planes, will the New
Defence Production Policy, 2018 be
applicable in the determination of eligible
Indian Offset Partners; and

(d) if so, details of the applicable
provisions?

Modernisation of Armed Forces

643. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will
the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to
state:

(a) the details of allocation of budget
and actual expenditure incurred on
modernisation of Armed Forces during the
last three years;

(b) whether Government has any
proposal to allow the private sector to play

a major role in the production of weapons for the Armed Forces;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for the modernisation of Armed Forces in view of constant military threats by our neighbours?

Air Force base in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh

644. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air Force has asked Andhra Pradesh Government to provide land in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh for setting up an Air Force base;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Chief Air Marshal of IAF's Southern Command has also met Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal and response of Andhra Pradesh Government thereon?

Foreign companies in defence sector under Make in India programme

645. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are proposal to establish defence production units of foreign companies under Make in India programme;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether shares of any public sector defence units or units as a whole have been sold out to private units or are in that process, if so, details thereof?

Expenditure for widows and dependant of martyred soldiers

646. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) details of expenditure on the scheme for widows and dependant of martyred soldiers; and

(b) whether there is any current scheme/project for education and empowerment of martyred soldiers' daughters?

Recruitment of women in Air Force

†647. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to recruit women in medical branch of Air Force;

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

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

Defence Minister's visit to France

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

(a) details of the Defence Minister's visit to France during the last one year;

(b) purpose of each visit of Defence Minister to France made during last one year;

(c) details of the Indian Defence Minister's visit to Dassault plant in France during last one year; and

(d) reasons/purpose of all such visits of Indian Defence Minister's visit to Dassault plant in France made during last one year?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Ammunition manufactured by private players for Army

649. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 41 Ordnance Factories, Army Base Workshops, Depots and Military Farms have been directed to wind up or put to alternative use of the production facilities and Government has decided to give licenses to 222 private companies for defence manufacturing and to ease the license policy, with 100 per cent FDI being allowed for products including those being manufactured by Ordnance Factories;

(b) the reasons for not reviving Government factories and privatizing them; and

(c) whether there are any plans for revival of these factories, especially Gun Carriage, Vehicle Factory, Ordnance Factory, Khamaria and Grey Iron Foundry?

Transfer of Defence land to State Government

650. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chief Minister of Karnataka wrote a letter to the Ministry for transfer of Defence land to State Government for construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Road Under Bridges (RUBs), metro line etc.;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal received; and

(c) status of transferring Defence land to Karnataka Government?

Transfer of defence property to successor

651. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 487 given in the Rajya Sabha on 30th July, 2018 and state:

(a) whether the Ministry will transfer the property at 9, Guru Gobind Singh Marg, HOR to Legal Heirs Trust as per rules and Lucknow Civil Courts Succession Orders;

(b) if so, by when and if not, reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the property has been encroached by AFMSD and MEPTA for basketball/volleyball/unauthorised cycle/car parking, if so, by when shall these encroachments be removed?

Loyalty test for recruitment in Army

†652. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to take a loyalty test before making recruitment in Army;

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

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

Delay in production and delivery of Tejas Aircraft by HAL

653. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a delay in

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

production and delivery of the indigenous Tejas light combat aircraft by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL);

(b) if so, the details of the order placed with HAL for production of Tejas and if there is delay in the delivery, the details and reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to resolve the problem?

Alleged theft of ECHS data by private company

654. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a possible theft of data of 50 lakh ex-servicemen by a private vendor;

(b) if so, whether the data were safely handed over to Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) by a vendor without retaining a copy and the vendor shared the data with a third party on termination of contract; and

(c) the reasons as to why the Ministry instead of ordering a probe into the matter asked ECHS to get a confirmation from the vendor?

Government to Government contracts

655. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) details regarding Government to Government contracts that have taken place since May 2014; and

(b) details of the countries with which India has entered into a Government to Government contract for defence purchases?

Procurement of milk for Armed Forces

656. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government takes stock of the number of animals *viz.* cow, dog, horse, camel reared by Defence Forces;

(b) if so, amount of milk and number of cows which have been sold to public in recent months;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether alternative arrangements have been made to fill the gap by procuring milk for Armed Forces?

Provisions under Defence Procurement Procedure

657. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the requirements to be met by an Indian company to qualify as an Offset Partner for the purposes of Offset Credits claimed under the Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP), 2013 and any other applicable regulations, policies and laws;

(b) details of all applicable regulations, policies and laws;

(c) list of defence procurements which have taken place in line with the above-mentioned criteria; and

(d) details of changes, if any in these requirements in subsequent iterations of the DPP and any other applicable laws, policies and regulations?

Reduction in production targets of ordnance factories

†658. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to change in the Defence policy, the production target for 2018-19 of 41 ordnance factories has been reduced to Rupees ten thousand crores, whereby indigenous micro, small and medium size private factories engaged in manufacturing of defence equipments have been pushed to the verge of closure; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the supplies by these factories in May, 2018 against the orders placed in February, 2018 were refused and their orders were cancelled all of a sudden causing huge loss to these units?

Condition of labourers under BRO

659. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lakhs of casual paid labourers under Border Roads Organisation (BRO) do not have good living conditions with required minimum basic amenities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that labourers working under BRO contracts are not getting due wages and arrears since 1st April, 2017;

(c) whether it is also a fact that labourers are also not having social security and other medical benefits; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and plans

to disburse arrears of wages and implement leave proposals with other benefits for casual labourers including women workers?

Procurement of Very Short Range Air Defence

660. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether allegations of procedural deviations continue to be levelled against the Army's multi-billion dollar deal for Very Short Range Air Defence (VSHORAD) in which Russia was declared the lowest bidder recently;

(b) whether two other contenders, MBDA of France and Sweden's SAAB protested as the announcement was made, alleging deviations to favour Russia; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to pacify other contenders by giving justification for the selection of Igla-S from Rosoboronexport?

Solar power based pump water supply schemes

661. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of solar power based pump water supply schemes in the country, State-wise and district-wise;

(b) the number of habitations which are covered and proposed to be covered under the scheme in the country, particularly Punjab;

(c) whether there is a delay in implementation, if so, the reasons therefor; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether there is any proposal to extend solar based pump water supply scheme to other areas in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Safe drinking water to all habitations

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

(a) whether a large number of people living in the rural areas of the country have no access to safe drinking water;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the fully covered, partially covered and quality affected areas, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the details of the schemes launched for providing safe drinking water and the steps taken to provide drinking water in all habitation of the country?

Allocation of fund for construction of toilets in Gujarat

†663. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed to construct toilets in Chhota Udaipur district of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof for last two years and the extent to which these targets have been achieved; and

(c) the funds allocated and utilised during the last two years towards construction of toilets in said district, year-wise?

R.O. system for purifying drinking water

664. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIHAH: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lakhs of people are forced to consume unsafe water in various parts of rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto indicating the presence of any Central Government's monitoring agencies for water quality in the country;

(c) whether Government is considering any proposal to provide RO system operating through solar power for purifying and filtering contaminated water to avoid water-borne diseases in various rural areas of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Problem of drinking water

665. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that problem of drinking water has been aggravated by the competing pressures of the eco-systems, the agriculture, industry and energy sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has formulated any scheme to earmark specific area/location including water bodies as a water resource for drinking purpose in proportion with the population of habitation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Performance of drinking water schemes

666. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reviewed the performance of drinking water schemes and if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(b) whether Government has conducted any survey regarding funds required for various States/Union Territories, including Karnataka to provide safe drinking water for all and if so, the details and the findings thereof?

Open Defecation Free Mission

667. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the improvements made in the Open Defecation Free Mission of Government, during the last one year;

(b) the data of toilets constructed in each State, district-wise;

(c) the details of amount spent in this mission and the average amount spent in constructing a toilet, State-wise;

(d) whether Government has any plan of action in achieving the mission of open defecation free country status year-wise and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether there is any joint programme with International Organisation and private

agencies to achieve this mission and if so, the details thereof?

Utilisation of water for drinking and sanitation purposes

668. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that quantity of drinking water used for sanitation purposes in almost all the toilets that have the flushing system is more than the amount used for drinking purposes;

(b) whether the Ministry is considering to segregate drinking water from sanitation water and supply it to the areas where there is scarcity of drinking water, for better utilisation; and

(c) if so, the cost for taking up such an exercise for the whole country?

Allocation for utilisation of Solar Energy

669. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state whether the Ministry is considering to increase allocation for utilisation of Solar Energy, in Drinking Water Infrastructure, in rural areas?

Provision of clean drinking water

670. SHRI VIJAYPAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the problem of non-

availability of safe drinking water continues in many States including Uttar Pradesh;

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

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

(d) whether Government is working on a mission to provide clean tap-water for drinking purposes; and

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

Impact assessment of NRDW Mission

671. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an impact assessment study of National Rural Drinking Water (NRDW) Mission since its inception;

(b) if so, the results thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not undertaking such a study?

Access to clean, safe and reliable toilets

672. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether around 732 million people in India do not have access to clean, safe and reliable toilets, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether Swachh Bharat Mission has generated significant interest in addressing

the urgent sanitation issue in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has set target of 100 per cent open defecation free in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(d) the names of the States which are lagging behind in achieving the target; and

(e) the remedial measures taken by Government to achieve the target?

Providing toilet to every houses

†673. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to provide a toilet to every house under Swachh Bharat Mission in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of toilets constructed so far in Bihar and the number of those which are under construction; and

(d) whether Government is aware of the fact that funds meant for construction of toilet is being misappropriated on a large scale at block level?

Project proposal for fostering research collaboration

674. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry had invited project proposal during June, 2018 aimed at fostering research collaboration among various R and D institutions, academia and organisations in the country to adopt cross cutting multi-disciplinary, multi-organisational approach, while addressing

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

any scientific problem falling under overall mandate of National programme;

(b) if so, whether Ministry had received project entitled 'Climate change database for impact assessment and development: adaptation and mitigation options for Kerala' — a multi-disciplinary simulation and modeling, during 11th June, 2018;

(c) if so, whether this project consists more than 25 research organisations of Universities, National Institutes, including IIT Kharagpur; and

(d) if so, present status thereof?

Potable water from Sea

675. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated or proposes to formulate any policy to make sea water potable, keeping in view the problem of shortage of drinking water in various States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any plant has been set up in Government sector to make sea water potable and if so, the utility of the same;

(d) whether Government also proposes to take any step for converting impure water other than sea water into potable water; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Climate change impact assessment projects for Kerala

676. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that 100 scientists from about 28 research organisation of the country are

developing Climate Change Adaptation Programmes and Decision Support to assess climate change impact in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether the above report states that the Minister of Earth Sciences, will consider the project entitled 'Climate change database for impact assessment and development: adaptation and mitigation options for Kerala' — a multi-disciplinary simulation and modeling, amounting to ₹ 79 crores, to study climate change impact in Kerala State: and

(c) if so, details of present status of the project?

Cyclone Warning Centre at Thiruvananthapuram

677. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to set up a Cyclone Warning Centre in Thiruvananthapuram, with several incidents of tropical cyclones and severe weather events striking over Kerala and Karnataka coasts in the recent times;

(b) whether the Ministry is also planning to set up another C-Band Doppler Weather Radar at Mangalore; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the scheduled time-frame?

Exemption in EIA process

678. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has notified exempting real estate projects with a built up area of upto 50,000 square metres, from the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and from obtaining a prior environmental clearance;

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

(c) its impact on the groundwater or surface water resources and pollution in the area?

Clean Technologies Training Programmes

679. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any training programme has been organised for adoption of clean technologies under the Clean Technology Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there exists any mechanism by which the impact of such training programmes is assessed; and

(d) if so, an appraisal of the effectiveness of such programmes?

Approval by NBWL in Gir sanctuary

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

(a) whether it is a fact that National Board of Wild Life (NBWL) had allowed limestone mining on 417.35 hectares of the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of Gir sanctuary, even though the Gujarat High Court has put a stay on final notification of Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of Gir protected area; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Standing Committee recommended the proposal without even conducting a field visit or assessment of the impact of mining on 417 hectares of land within 10 kms. of Eco-Sensitive Zone?

Abatement of pollution in rivers

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

(a) the details of the most polluted rivers in the country, State-wise;

(b) the major reasons for the pollution in the rivers in the last three years;

(c) steps taken by Government to curb and decrease pollution in the water bodies and the rivers in the country; and

(d) whether Government has implemented the guidelines given under the National River Conservation Plan and if so, the details and results thereof?

Draft India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP)

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

(a) whether the draft India Colling Action Plan (ICAP) provide for an approach towards design and construction of housing to enable cooling for the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and Low Income Groups (LIGs), if so, the details of measures envisaged;

(b) whether the ICAP provide for retrofitting guidelines for existing buildings, infrastructure and services, if so, guidelines developed therefor; and

(c) whether the ICAP will be integrated with Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment and the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana?

EIA study for environment clearance to redevelop South Delhi

683. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Environment Impact Assessment study was carried out before granting clearance to NBCC to fell 16,500 trees for redevelopment of South Delhi areas, as Delhi suffers from some of the worst air pollution in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for granting the same despite hazardous air quality in Delhi; and

(c) efforts that were proposed and conditions imposed to replenish the lost green cover, if such clearance for felling trees was indeed granted?

Diversion of forest land

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

(a) when was the request from Karnataka Government received in the Ministry for diversion of 595 hectares of forest land in Karwar, Yellapura and Dharwad division for Hubli-Ankola Railway Project;

(b) whether it is a fact that Regional Empowered Committee (REC) has cleared the proposal and is now before the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife; and

(c) if so, the present status of the issue and by when the Ministry will give its final clearance to start the work on the above line?

Pollution free Delhi and other cities

†685. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan to make Delhi and other cities pollution free, considering cleanliness campaign being a priority of Government;

(b) if so, the details of these plans; and

(c) by when these cities will become free from pollution, details thereof including current status?

Ban on use of animals for circus

686. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to ban animals for entertainment purposes like circus;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number and name of animals/birds which can be reared by public;

(d) whether it is a fact that recent orders for regular check up of pet animals and birds drew criticism among public; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Melting of ice at Antarctica

687. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate at which Antarctica continent is losing ice has doubled since 2012;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether any study was made to assess its impact on environment and rise in sea-level; and

(c) whether any long-term planning is being made to deal with the situation, if so, the details thereof?

Cases of death of tigers

688. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of tiger deaths are rising in various National Parks and Tiger reserves due to poaching, road and rail accidents;

(b) the details of the tiger deaths during the last three years including killing of tigers in Maharashtra and Odisha;

(c) whether safe corridors for animals have been built alongside these reserves, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has any proposal to relocate the villages from the outskirts or near the boundaries of such reserves/National Parks?

Restriction on use of plastic in packaging

689. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of that large-scale use of plastic in packaging industry which is hazardous to the environment and human life;

(b) action Government proposes to take to reduce use of plastic in packaging of water and food items which are difficult to be recycled their thickness is lesser than 40 micron;

(c) whether Government proposes to put restrictions on packaging industry for not using plastic in packaging of food and water by suggesting appropriate alternative material; and

(d) whether Government has done R&D to identify an alternative to plastic for use in packaging industry?

Death of lions in Gir forest, Gujarat

690. SHRI JOGINIPALLY SANTOSH KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the recent deaths of Asiatic Lions in Gir forest of Gujarat, the Central and the State Governments have stepped up their efforts for conservation of the rare wild cat;

(b) whether Government has begun work on a proposal for conservation of the rare species including translocation of the lions to a new home within Gujarat and monitoring of the ecology; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Corporate Environmental responsibility charges for infrastructure projects

691. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) whether Ministry has decided to charge corporate environmental responsibility charges against development of infra, mining, power, Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) projects at the time of environmental clearance;

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

(c) details of funds managed and utilised, project wise; and

(d) whether Government had devised any robust mechanism to monitor expenditure of such funds?

EIA for construction of a dam of Mullaperiyar

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

(a) whether the Ministry granted Terms of Reference for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study in Mullaperiyar for construction of a new dam by Kerala Government which are in violation of the orders of the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry received any prior consent from Tamil Nadu Government for base data collection to prepare EIA report, if so, the details thereof?

Status of infrastructure projects in Amaravati

693. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) has rejected eight proposals from the Andhra Pradesh Government entailing the diversion of about 3,300 hectares of forest land for infrastructure projects in the new capital city Amaravati;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will consider giving approval to aforesaid proposal, as an exceptional case, taking into consideration

the huge amount of investment made by Andhra Pradesh Government in constructing the new Capital;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Forest cover targets in Rajasthan and Gujarat

694. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of actual forest cover against the targets fixed during the years 2015 to 2017 in the States of Rajasthan and Gujarat;

(b) the details of the area where deforestation and denudation of forest has taken place during the last three years, alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by Government to check further denudation of forest area in the country;

(d) whether Government proposes to launch a new initiative involving local-level institutions and private sector to expand forest cover in the country, especially in rural areas; and

(e) if so, the details and the efforts made by Government?

Impact of air pollution on crop yield

695. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the air pollution lowers crop yield in India and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that cleaning up the air can have positive benefits for agriculture and food security; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to reduce the air pollution in the country during the last three years?

Launch of PARIVESH

696. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched PARIVESH (Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub) for Environment, Forest, Wildlife and CRZ clearances; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Ban on use of thermocol cutlery

697. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government has any proposal to consider banning the use of thermocol cutlery made from non-biodegradable material in the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any State Government has issued notification in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) efforts made by Government to ensure that the environment is not polluted with this kind of non-biodegradable materials in the country?

Implementation of NAPCC

698. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether implementing the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) has borne any positive results so far;

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

(c) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

Drought in Wayanad, Kerala

699. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Wayanad, an area of Western Ghats in Kerala, is facing severe drought conditions for the past few years;

(b) whether the Ministry has developed any plan to protect the flora, wild animals and also human beings dependant on it;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has prepared a long term action plan to avoid irreparable damage to such areas and living beings considering this trend in wide variation in availability of rains?

E-waste generated in Delhi

†700. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at present Delhi has more than eighty-five thousand

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

metric tons of e-waste while only two per cent is being recycled;

(b) whether it is also a fact that e-waste is harming the environment extremely;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government for disposal of e-waste to the maximum and not allowing the foreign e-waste to enter into the country; and

(d) the results thereof?

Compensatory afforestation in degraded forests

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

(a) whether it is a fact that while the Central Government has allowed the compensatory afforestation to be taken up in twice the area of degraded forests, for forest diversion proposals of Central Government Public Sector Units (PSUs), but similar provision has not been allowed for the forest diversion proposals for the projects of State PSUs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Odisha Government and other State Governments have requested for similar dispensation for State PSUs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and decision taken on these requests?

Impact assessment study of NRCP

702. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an impact assessment study of National River

Conservation Programme (NRCP) since its inception;

(b) if so, the results thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Compensation for conversion of dense forest for NH 26 in Lalitpur

†703. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the area of forest land given to NHAI by forest department for non-forest use by converting the National Highway No. 26 in Lalitpur district into four lane along with the date of the conversion;

(b) the details of areas of non-forest land handed over by NHAI to forest department, as compensation along with the details and date thereof; and

(c) if the non-forest land has not been handed over to the forest department by NHAI as compensation, the reasons therefor along with the action to be taken by Government against NHAI?

Expansion of reserve forest

704. SHRI G.C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the locations where Supreme Court has given direction to Government to acquire private projects adjacent to Western Ghats reserve forest in Sakleshpura Taluk, Hassan District, Karnataka;

(b) whether the funds for Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) be

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

utilised to expand the reserve forest so as to conserve and protect wild life; and

(c) whether the elephant corridor would be connected in villages near Sakleshpura, which are Arani, Mavinoor, Boranamane, Betta Kumari, Bajemane, Yathahalla, Yade Kumbri and Balehalla?

Green Skill Mission

†705. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has started 'Green Skill Mission' under which a certain number of technicians and people are to be trained during the next three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the implementation of the said 'Green Skill Mission' is going on as per target and whether the progress made so far in this regard is positive and as per expectations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Adoption of environment protection measures

†706. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether specific policy measures adopted by India with regard to environment protection during the last four and a half years have been appreciated at international level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the 'Champions of the Earth' award has been given for policy leadership capacity in the area of protection of environment during the last four and a half years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Action plan for increasing forest cover

†707. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the total forest cover, in percentage, at present in the country;

(b) whether Government has drawn any action plan to increase this forest cover;

(c) if so, the nature of such action plan; and

(d) if not, whether Government is considering to do so?

Pollution in Delhi due to crop burning

708. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures taken by the Ministry, to ensure that crop burning does not happen in areas surrounding Delhi;

(b) details of the extent of crop burning in Haryana, since 2013; and

(c) the plans of the Ministry, for curbing pollution this year?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Forest cover under NFP-1988

709. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Forest Policy, 1988 prescribed that a minimum of one-third of the total land area of the country should be under forest or tree cover to ensure environmental stability; and

(b) steps taken by Government to conserve/increase forest areas?

Direction to States to increase forest cover

710. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to increase the forest area in the States to maintain minimum forest;

(b) whether any direction has been given to the States in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Health impact of thermal power plants and mines

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

(a) whether communities living within 5 km. radius of coal mines and thermal power plants have been suffering from health issues; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has decided to feature effects on human health and environment as part of mandatory

clearances necessary to grant environment clearances for new thermal power plant; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has specified new conditions for a baseline health status within the study area; if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether there is a need of full health impact assessment granting environmental clearances; and if so, the steps taken by Government?

Stubble burning in areas surrounding Delhi

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

(a) details of the steps taken by Government to decrease the incidents of stubble burning by farmers which cause pollution in Delhi and surrounding areas;

(b) amount of fund, spent by Government for procurement of machines for *in-situ* management of crop residue and the response of the concerned State Government and farmers on the issue; and

(c) the problem and reasons for stubble burning not getting reduced to the desired extent?

Expenditure incurred in 'Mann Ki Baat'

713. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of episodes of 'Mann Ki Baat' programme of the Prime Minister which were broadcasted/telecasted by

Government and by private radio stations/ TV channels;

(b) the details of total expenditure with break up incurred in said programme of the PM; and

(c) whether payment to any private broadcaster was ever paid for above programme and the details thereof?

AIR coverage at Thiruvananthapuram

714. SHRI SURESH GOPI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the area and population covered by Thiruvananthapuram station of All India Radio at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that the medium wave transmitter at Thiruvananthapuram has become very old and is unable to cover the required geographical area; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to install high wave transmitter and other latest gadgets in all AIR and Doordarshan stations for better broadcast and telecast in the State of Kerala?

Fixing of time-limit for advertisement by TRAI

715. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has fixed maximum time-limit for showing advertisements and promotion clips during an hour of programmes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government on the TV channels and radio channels which violated the rules, since it was framed?

Use of Indian Satellites for broadcasting overseas

716. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the private channels, that beam content overseas to shift from foreign to Indian satellites;

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

(c) whether Government has received representation from the broadcasting industry in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government on the said representations for protecting the interest of the Indian channels operating abroad?

Vacancies of ADG and DDG in Prasar Bharati

717. SHRI SURESH GOPI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the status of sanctioned strength of posts of Additional Director General and Deputy Director General in Prasar Bharati;

(b) the number of posts lying vacant at present;

(c) whether Government proposes to promote senior level program personnel with more than 25 years experience, recruited through UPSC and Staff Selection Commission, against the vacant posts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Request for Press Conferences by PM

718. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the list of requests for press conferences by the Prime Minister from various journalistic houses and the PMO's responses during the last three years along with details thereof;

(b) the reasons for not accepting the invitations to the conferences; and

(c) the list of press conferences held by the Government during the last three years?

Agreement for broadcast of hockey world cup

719. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) when did Prasar Bharati sign the agreement for broadcast of hockey world cup; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in signing the agreement, if any?

Plan for social media monitoring hub

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

(a) whether Government plans for a social media monitoring hub involving mass surveillance of citizens of the country;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken to protect the privacy of the citizens?

Permit for electric vehicles

721. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering exemption from permits for electric vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the exemption from permit will be a game changer as a restricted permit regime is a major concern; and

(d) whether it is a fact that growth of e-rickshaws is attributed to the permit exemption and there is scope to extend the exemption to e-buses, e-taxis, e-autos, e-bikes?

Modernisation of Highways

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

(a) whether Government is considering to modernise highways in the country for better connectivity and also planning to construct new highways in various parts of the country, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of highways which are under construction in different States particularly in the State of Andhra Pradesh and the status thereof?

Increase in axle load

723. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to increase the axle loads after taking into consideration the qualitative and quantitative changes in National Highways as well as reforms in heavy automobiles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the automobile technology and road construction quality has improved considerably;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is a need to harmonise axle loads with international standards; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Land Compensation for Defence
Airport, Srinagar**

724. MIR. MOHAMMAD FAYAZ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the people whose land is being used for Defence Airport, Srinagar, have been paid due compensation according to fixed rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the rate which was fixed between farmers and Government in the year 2017-18 has not been given to the farmers as yet;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by when Government plants to provide fixed rates to the farmers?

**Violation of contractual norms for toll
collection**

725. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of instances of violation of contractual norms by private highway developers for toll collection;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Maintenance of National Highways

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

(a) whether Government has signed any agreement with Macquarie Group regarding maintenance of National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main features of the agreement and highways which are being maintained by the Macquarie Group?

Diversion of forest land

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

(a) whether Government is frequently receiving requests from various State Governments for diversion of forest for one purpose or other;

(b) if so, the details of the requests received from various State Governments in this regard and the purpose for which the request has been made during the last three years;

(c) whether any decision has been taken on such requests including the diversion of forest land to State Governments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Foreign Investments for
infrastructure project**

728. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has invited

investments from Foreign Investors for infrastructure project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has received any response in this regard?

Kannur-Mysore NH project

729. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of Kannur-Mysore National Highway project;

(b) whether any funds have been allotted for the project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Road connectivity for Amaravati

730. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to provide road connectivity from the new Capital, Amaravati, to Hyderabad and other important cities of Telangana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry is also considering to provide connectivity to Rayalseema Districts;

(d) if so, the status thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Irregularities in construction of NH-29

731. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1386 given in the Rajya Sabha on 30 July, 2018 and to state:

(a) whether the quality of work

undertaken for four laning of NH-29 from Varanasi to Gorakhpur, Package-II, is as per the specifications of the Ministry, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is aware that from kilometre 13 to 16.9 at Dubakiya, Varanasi and from kilometre 67 to 69.4 at Fateullapur, district Ghazipur, sand stone chips have been used on both sides;

(c) if so, the reasons as to why Government has not initiated inquiry by CBI despite specific corruption in above project in connivance with officials of NHAI; and

(d) the action Government would take in this regard?

Road projects in Punjab

732. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the Road Projects undertaken by various agencies including NHAI in Punjab at present; and

(b) the status of each project?

Digital Documents for vehicle

733. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a person can drive a vehicle in India with vehicle's document and driving license in digital format, in Digilocker facility of UMANG App;

(b) whether a person needs to carry the vehicle's documents and driving licence in physical format, although he is carrying these documents in digital format in the Digilocker; and

(c) whether the possession of documents in digital format only are legally valid, if so, under what provisions?

Status of road infrastructure

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

(a) whether it is a fact that road infrastructure has improved across the country and Government has started and completed number of works as per schedule;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether five big projects were executed and completed as per schedule under National Highways Authority of India (NHAI); and

(d) total funds utilized in these projects under Central Road Fund (CRF) and any other fund, and if so, details thereof?

Load carrying capacity of heavy vehicles

735. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the load carrying capacities of heavy vehicles, including trucks, have been increased by 20 to 25 per cent which is at par with global standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this would help in reducing logistic costs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Black spots on National Highways

736. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase

in the number of black spots identified on National Highways year after year;

(b) if so, the details thereof as well as the reasons therefor, Highway-wise;

(c) the number of accidents which happened in these black spots on National Highways in the last three years, year-wise and Highway-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to fix these black spots?

Central Road Fund

†737. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money deposited and the amount of money allocated to States from the Central Road Fund in the financial year 2014-15 to 2017-18, the details thereof along with the amount spent by States;

(b) the names of projects started in hilly and North-Eastern States under Central Road Fund and details of budget allocated to the projects alongwith the current status of the projects; and

(c) the details of total amount spent from Central Road Fund on road safety related works in States/Union Territories, State-wise?

All India permit for tourist buses

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to roll out an all India permit for tourist buses on the lines of National Permit for trucks in order to improve inter-State connectivity;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of an annual authorization fee which will allow them to ply across States seamlessly;

(c) the time-frame for rolling out the proposed plan; and

(d) the details thereof?

Construction of highways in West Bengal

739. SHRIMATI ROOPA GANGULY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) details of number of new road/highways construction projects commenced in West Bengal in last three years;

(b) details of contributions and proportion of State and Government funds in these projects;

(c) whether the Ministry has come across any incidents of destruction of public property, such as roads, in West Bengal in last three years;

(d) if so, details thereof and total loss/damage incurred therein; and

(e) whether the Ministry has any mechanism to mention the contributions on the sites of development, to generate awareness, which would help people realise before they destroy public property?

Toll plaza on Jhansi-Lalitpur section

†740. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) distance in kilometres and places at which toll plazas were proposed to be set up as per Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the construction of Jhansi-Lalitpur section of NH-26;

(b) whether location and distance in kilometres for toll plazas have been changed after widening of the road, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) rules and procedures in place to change the locations and kilometres proposed in the DPR of the construction of the road; and

(d) whether the prescribed rules and procedures were followed while changing locations of toll plazas in the said section, and if so, the details thereof?

Average construction of NH per day

†741. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length in kilometres of National Highways being constructed per day in the country before 2014;

(b) whether Government has made any enhancement in the said average;

(c) if so, the extent of enhancement; and

(d) in view of the present average, the total length of National Highways, in kilometre, likely to be constructed by the year 2020?

Loss to GDP caused by road accidents

742. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN:

SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR:

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

(a) whether according to the erstwhile Planning Commission of India, road accidents in India caused a 3 per cent annual loss to GDP;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, annual loss to GDP in percentage and absolute terms due to road accidents since 2014, year-wise;

(c) whether Ministry also collects this information, State-wise, as per State GDPs; and

(d) if so, details thereof, State-wise, and if not, reasons therefor?

Status of Setu Bharatam scheme

743. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of railway crossings identified for building bridges over them, since the 'Setu Bharatam' scheme was launched in 2016;

(b) the number of bridges that have been sanctioned by the Ministry and were given necessary approvals for construction;

(c) the number of bridges that have been completed and are operational;

(d) whether the Ministry have an action plan to streamline the process of implementing the scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Deregistration of old vehicles

744. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has ordered to deregister all diesel and petrol vehicles older than ten and fifteen years respectively; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to remove all the old vehicles from the roads and action taken against the vehicles still plying on roads against the orders?

Four laning of Highways in UP

745. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to convert highways in Uttar Pradesh into four lanes;

(b) if so, the names of these highways; and

(c) by when the work will commence and likely date of completion?

Battery driven rickshaws

†746. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of battery driven rickshaws in the States of Delhi and Rajasthan;

(b) the steps taken by Government to encourage battery driven rickshaws;

(c) whether permanent Stands for battery rickshaws have been set up; and

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

Death due to potholes

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

(a) whether it is a fact that potholes took a deadly toll in 2017, claiming 10 lives daily with annual fatalities in the country adding upto 3597;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this was 50 per cent more than the fatalities in 2016; and

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Bengaluru Peripheral Ring Road Project

748. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka sought Central assistance for Bengaluru Peripheral Ring Road (BPRR) Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government considered and approved for sanctioning the requisite assistance to the Karnataka Government; and

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

Road accidents due to potholes

749. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) details of the number of road accidents, lives lost and people injured during the last three years, State-wise, year-wise;

(b) details of budgetary allocation for repair and maintenance of National Highways during the last three years, State-wise, year-wise;

(c) whether Ministry has facilitated a Central platform for citizens to report potholes;

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

(e) whether measures have been taken by Ministry to hold civic authorities accountable for faulty road design and engineering and poor maintenance of roads; and

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

Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin)

750. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the houses constructed under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) during the last two years, *vis-a-vis* the year-wise targets, State/UT-wise;

(b) the details of the construction of incomplete houses under PMAY-G in the last two years, year-wise and State/UT-wise;

(c) the details of houses under construction as part of PMAY-G across the country, State/UT-wise;

(d) the details of funds allocated, released and utilised under PMAY-G in the last two years, State/UT-wise; and

(e) the challenges faced by Government during implementation of PMAY-G as well as the steps taken to address them?

Distribution of houses to homeless rural families

†751. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of homeless families including Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe families living in kutcha houses in rural India;

(b) the total number of houses to be constructed every year under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin) and the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

number of houses being constructed, State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to increase the amount being given for construction of house due to increase in the cost of construction, details thereof; and

(d) whether Government also proposes to provide electricity in the houses with solar energy under the said scheme, details thereof?

Construction of link roads in Himachal Pradesh

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

(a) the status of link road Bakhuli-Nandla and Jalwari-Kallu in Chirgaon Tehsil in Shimla District of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that construction of these link roads are behind their schedule;

(c) the status of Jangla-Nandla link road and by when construction will start;

(d) the status of metalling of Magwani-Nandla and Nandla-Jangla Road in Chirgaon Tehsil in District Shimla of Himachal Pradesh; and

(e) whether Government will ask Himachal Pradesh Government to take necessary action against concerned official/contractor for delaying the construction work/remetalling/metalling work?

Status of PMAY-G in Maharashtra

753. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dwelling housing units allocated for construction, actually constructed and allotted in Maharashtra

under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin) during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the targeted housing units in the State have been completed and allotted;

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

(d) by when the targets are likely to be achieved?

Implementation of MGNREGA in States

754. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has awarded the States with the total number of demanded hours of labour under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the method by which Government has cut short the demanded hours of labour under MGNREGA for States in the last three years;

(c) whether Government has been dispersing the wage payment to MGNREGA workers on a timely basis, if so, the total amount spent in the last three years; and

(d) the total amount paid by Government to States during the last three years as compensation due to delays?

Convergence of Central and State Schemes in adopted villages

755. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether convergence of the schemes

of the State and the Centre have taken place in the adopted villages;

(b) if so, the village-wise financial details of the convergence and deployment of all the schemes thereof;

(c) details of operational difficulties faced during implementation; and

(d) details of the performance audit report of the developed Adarsh Grams?

Increase in working days under MGNREGS in A.P.

756. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to increase the number of working days under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has sent any proposal requesting Government in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government has taken any decision on such proposal?

Status of implementation of Adarsh Gram Yojana

757. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that implementation of Adarsh Gram Yojana has not met the desired objectives; if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of number of villages adopted by each MP;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are some MPs who have not yet adopted a village under this scheme and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the present status and the steps being taken by Government for proper implementation of Adarsh Gram Yojana to get desired results?

Road Projects under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

†758. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to link all villages having a population of 500 persons, under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of incomplete roads under PMGSY in Samastipur district of Bihar which could not be completed on schedule; and

(d) the action taken against the contractors who failed to complete roads as per schedule?

Construction of roads under PMGSY

†759. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and the length of roads (in kilometres) constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in various States of the country during last three years; and

(b) the number of roads constructed along with length (in kilometres) particularly in all rural areas of State of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Rajasthan and details of expenditure incurred thereon?

Consultants for RD Ministry

760. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has hired consultants for carrying out various works of the Ministry; and

(b) if so, details of the project for which the consultants have been hired, the corresponding consultants and the fees paid to them during the last three years?

Progress of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana

761. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of model villages that have been developed under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana in each stage, State-wise;

(b) the total amount of funds utilised during the last three years for the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, State-wise, through MPLADS, CSR activities and otherwise;

(c) whether there are any Operational Guidelines for the model villages, particularly in light of the requirement of the cooperation of the local administration in running the scheme; and

(d) if so, the number of villages which have fulfilled these requirements, and if not, reasons therefor?

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin)

762. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin) along with its present status;

(b) the details of funds allocated, sanctioned and utilised under the scheme in the last three years, in each State/UT including the State of Punjab;

(c) the reasons behind the slow progress made in completion of houses as compared to sanctioned houses; and

(d) steps taken by Ministry to reach the target of one crore houses set by the Prime Minister?

Welfare schemes in rural sector

763. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has initiated many welfare schemes particularly in the rural sector; if so, the details of such schemes, the amount allocated and amount which remained unspent on these schemes; and

(b) whether any monitoring mechanism is in place to oversee these schemes and details of feedback on the popularity of such schemes?

Research on effectiveness of Marijuana in cancer treatment

764. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an initiative has been taken

up by the CSIR- Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM) and the Tata Memorial Centre in Mumbai to research the effectiveness of strains of Marijuana in cancer treatment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the research would be made transparent so that the public could understand the possible benefits of medical Cannabis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Commercial launch of technological products

765. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Science and Technology institutes have commercially launched their technological products in the market during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any special step has been taken by Government to encourage research projects to provide commercial benefits to the scientists and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has launched or proposes to launch any product with the collaboration of research institutions of foreign countries and if so, the details thereof?

Establishment of cruise terminal in Visakhapatnam Sea Port in Andhra Pradesh

766. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a

decision to develop Visakhapatnam Sea Port as tourist spot and is planning to establish a cruise terminal at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the facilities that are being provided in the cruise terminal; and

(d) the quantum of funds earmarked and released so far for this project?

Connectivity for ports in West Bengal under Sagarmala

767. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any project has been undertaken so far as regards the ports in West Bengal under the Sagarmala programme;

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

(c) the amount allocated for the current financial year for the entire country, and the percentage of the amount that has been spent on connectivity through National Highways and Rail network to ports in West Bengal so far?

Waterways for movement and creation of small ships and cruise for goods

†768. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cities for which the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Ministry is making efforts to establish waterways for movement and operation of small ships, cargo vessels and cruises for transportation of goods and the names of rivers which would be used as waterways;

(b) by when movement through the said waterways would be possible and to which places;

(c) the amount likely to be spent on it;

(d) whether the cost on traffic and transportation of goods through waterways would be cheaper than those through other modes or it would be costlier; and

(e) the details thereof?

Construction of river ports

769 SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that logistics cost in India was 18 per cent, which is quite high as compared to other nations;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to construct river ports like airports;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government expects only the allocation of land from the States to construct river ports and no other assistance from the States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Green recycling for Alang units on Gujarat coast

770. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether currently only 72 out of 120 ship breaking units at Alang on Gujarat coast are certified for green recycling

standards set by International Hongkong Convention (HKC);

(b) whether with only 10 to 12 ship breaking yards with HKC certification, there is stiff competition among the ship-breakers for buying vessel, with lesser number of ship-owners looking for green recycling facilities; and

(c) whether many ship-breakers at Alang are now eyeing for EU Certification, so that all EU flagged ships can be dismantled at Alang?

Status of all projects under NGP

771. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pollution levels in the river Ganga are higher than the levels recorded before the Namami Gange Programme (NGP) was launched;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the present status of all the initiatives and projects under the NGP; and

(d) the details of the funds allocated and the funds utilised for the project?

Nomination of Chairmen to Krishna and Godavari Boards

772. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the posts of Chairmen to Krishan River Management Board (KRMB) and Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) have become vacant and there is delay in appointment of new Chairmen;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in appointing the new Chairmen, in view of the frequent differences on sharing of Krishna and Godavari waters between A.P. and Telangana?

CAG report on irregularities and corruption in Polavaram Project

773. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry is aware of the CAG remarks in its recent report on irregularities and corruption in the Polavaram Project by Andhra Pradesh Government;

(b) whether the Ministry benefited a particular company in Head Works contract, though there has been no tangible progress in the work;

(c) the reasons why A.P. Government has not constituted quality monitoring division, until it entered into agreement with Central Soil and Material Research Station; and

(d) the present status of rehabilitation and resettlement of Polavaram affected people?

Waste generated and dumped into Ganga river

774. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of waste generated and

dumped into river Ganga from cities adjoining this river;

(b) the city which generated and dumped the largest amount of waste into Ganga; and

(c) the status of Ganga cleaning, the details of the methods and expertise used in the effort and the expenses incurred so far in cleaning Ganga?

Cleaning of Ganga river

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is yet to formulate a plan towards cleaning of Ganga river; if so, the details thereof;

(b) by when the task of cleaning the Ganga river would be accomplished; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred on this campaign being run for the last 40 years and the extent to which Ganga has been cleaned?

Artificial recharge of groundwater

776. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) steps have been taken since 2014 to promote artificial recharge of groundwater in Maharashtra and other States;

(b) number of rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge structures which have been built under the Central Ground Water Boards Master Plan, details thereof, State-wise, year-wise since 2014;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the steps which have been taken to promote Community-driven decentralised groundwater management;

(d) details of inter Ministerial coordination in addressing depleting groundwater and monitoring States' progress on conservation of groundwater in mission mode; and

(e) the status of Model Bill to conserve groundwater and Draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016?

Construction of barrages in Mahanadi basin

777. SHRI PRATAP KESHARI DEB: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Major, Medium and Minor irrigation projects (including barrages) in the Mahanadi basin catchment area in Chhattisgarh; and

(b) the names and status of the sanctional projects, if any?

River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation projects

778. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the administrative delays, poor contract management and lack of monitoring has led to cost escalation of more than ₹ 49,800 crores in five national projects undertaken under River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the physical progress of these projects are far below the target with the shortfall ranging from 8% to 99% in some cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Inter Linking of Rivers

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

(a) the progress made under the Inter Linking of Rivers (ILR) programme;

(b) whether the implementation of the programme has led to any benefits;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has any plans to interlink the rivers in the State of Haryana, specifically Yamuna, Ghaggar and Markanda; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

National River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Conservation and Management) Bill, 2018

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

(a) the status of the National River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Conservation and Management) Bill, 2018; and

(b) the status of the proposed and underground hydropower projects on the Alaknanda, Dhauliganga, Mandakini, Nandakini and Pindar rivers?

**Construction of dam at Garudeshwar,
Gujarat**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a weir *viz.* a low dam across the river, is being constructed at Garudeshwar in Gujarat in order to facilitate the creation of a boating lake around the Statue of Unity;

(b) whether Government is aware that six villages near Garudeshwar have already lost land to the weir and that once the weir is complete, land in seven more villages will be submerged; and

(c) steps taken by Government to compensate the affected agriculturist who depend on this land for sustenance?

**Irrigation facilities to farmers in
Bihar**

†782. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds proposed to be earmarked for allocation to Bihar Government to provide irrigation facility to the farmers in Bihar; and

(b) by when Bihar will become self-reliant in terms of irrigation?

**Allocation of funds for Namami
Gange Project**

783. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds involved,

commencing date, allocated budget, time line for completion of Namami Gange Project;

(b) whether it is a fact that ₹ 20,000 crores was allocated for Clean Ganga project, if so, utilisation of the funds since the commencement of this project till date; and

(c) whether the Ministry is pursuing private sector to use its CSR funds for Clean Ganga project, if so, details of the firms approached and the ones which have used their CSR for this project along with the work/action/event/programme that was carried out and if not, the reasons therefor?

Projects approved under NGP

784. SHRIMATI ROOPA GANGULY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Executive Committee (EC) of the National Mission for Clean Ganga has approved any projects under the Namami Gange Programme (NGP) in year 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are any projects for West Bengal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Inter Linking of Rivers

†785. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the rivers which have

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

been included in the project, under the scheme of "Linking of Rivers" in the country; and

(b) the details with regard to implementation of the projects so far and the action plan thereof?

Atal Bhujan Yojana

786. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched Atal Bhujan Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has earmarked any scheme component for the State of Rajasthan; and

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

Report on quality of Polavaram project works

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that quality of Polavaram project works, are not up to the prescribed standards, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is taking sufficient caution to check the quality of the works of project and details of the existing mechanism in place to check the quality of the works;

(c) whether any authority has found any discrepancy in the quality of works of

Polavaram till date and rectifications suggested therein; and

(d) the details of works where no progress have been made for want of funds?

Progress of Polavaram project works

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the progress of Polavaram project works were severely hampered due to delay in approval of revised Detailed Project Report (DPR) and release of funds to the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (LA, R&R) expenditure on Polavaram increased manifold compared to the earlier estimates to recent estimates;

(d) whether LA, R&R is being considered as part of irrigation component of the Project; and

(e) whether it is a fact that LA, R&R works have made no progress for want of funds?

Allegation against BCCI officials

†789. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the woman cricketers has made an allegation

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

against some officials of Board of Cricket for Control in India (BCCI) about partial treatment towards her which led to an adverse affect on the performance of woman cricket team of India and discouragement to the players;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry for transparent action on the allegations; and

(d) the action being taken by the Ministry to ensure that such incidents do not occur in future?

Workshops for youth to instill constitutional values

790. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had conducted any training or workshops for the youth to enlighten them with scientific temper and constitutional values like secularism; and

(b) whether Government has any programme apart from observing "Sadbhavana Diwas" to enlighten youth against the growing menace of religious fanaticism?

Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth Development

791. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided financial support and infrastructure facilities for Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth Development (RGNIYD) in Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated in the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether Government has taken any efforts to fill up the key vacant positions in RGNIYD including the Vice-Chairman's post, which is lying vacant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's, stand on this?

Multi-agency delegation of sports administrators

792. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a multi-agency delegation of sports administrators, led by Sports Authority of India officials will travel to the Japanese capital, where they will recce venues and also check the facilities that would be provided to the Indian athletes in terms of food and stay;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the team is expected to note even the minute details that can impact the performance of Indian athletes; and

(d) whether it is a fact that this is being done to avoid previous mishappenings?

Indian football team in Asian Games

793. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has relaxed its selection norms for the Indian football team's participation in the Asian Games;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government will accept late entries by the organisers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Development of competitive sports in the country

‡794. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the special measures taken to develop competitive sports, upgradation and selection of talents in various fields of sports in the country;

(b) the special measures taken to implement the action plan for collection of National Sports Development Fund and the details of achievements till date; and

(c) the effective policy and programme to implement "Hum Honge Kamyab" in international competitions?

Anti-competitive practices by All India Chess Federation

795. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the competition Commission of India has penalised the All India Chess Federation and directed it to cease and desist from anti-competitive practices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the ruling has come on a complaint filed by four chess players; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Development programme for Indian sportspersons

796. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes

to initiate any long term development programme for improving the performance of Indian sportspersons, including women competing in various international sporting events; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for improving the performance of Indian sportspersons including setting up of sports science centres in various parts of the country?

Age fraud in football

797. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether age fraud is pervasive in the football sport;

(b) the percentage of professional football players who have been found guilty in the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the All India Football Federation to strengthen the age verification procedure?

Indoor Stadium in Nellore

798. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has submitted a proposal to construct an Indoor Stadium in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh with an estimated and sanctioned cost of ₹ 8 crores but only ₹ 2 crores have been released;

(b) if so, details of proposal including date of approval and submission of proposal;

(c) whether the State Government has submitted Utilisation Certificates for ₹ 2.5 crores released so far, but Ministry is

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

yet to release further amounts to take up works;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) details of targeted date for completion of the work and present status thereof?

Action plan to stop stubble burning

†799. SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that due to burning of stubble by farmers of nearby States of Delhi, air quality around Delhi, deteriorates every year in October-November, despite various agencies making action plans and spending huge amounts on public awareness without any satisfactory result; and

(b) if so, whether Government would advice the concerned Departments and agencies to procure paddy with stubble from farmers and make a policy thereof, so that the income of farmers can increase and environmental pollution due to stubble burning can be reduced?

Mens World Boxing Championship

800. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Boxing Association is likely to reopen bids for hosting Mens World Boxing Championships in the year 2021;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken up the matter with the Boxing Federation of India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 11th December, 2018
Agrahayana 20, 1940 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

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