RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Tuesday, July 21, 2015/Asadha 30, 1937 (Saka)

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

Total number of questions — 160

Initiatives under NAM in AP and Telangana

- 1. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) the new initiatives taken up under the National Ayush Mission (NAM) particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and
- (b) whether there is any tribal sub-plan component thereunder; if so, the details thereof?

Uniform rules for licences and testing facilities for Avush medicines

- 2. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government proposes to

formulate uniform rules with regard to grant of licenses for manufacturing Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathic drugs and to ensure their safety, quality and standards across the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of the existing drug testing institutions/laboratories along with the steps being taken for their upgradation and also for setting up new testing facilities to ensure safety and quality of these drugs indicating the funds earmarked and allocated for the purpose, State/Union Territory-wise?

Money earmarked for promotion of Yoga

- 3. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government is aware that

International Yoga Day was celebrated throughout the country on 21 June, 2015, in many cities;

- (b) if so, how much money has been earmarked for promotion of Yoga in the country and abroad and how much was spent on various events on that day by the Ministry; and
- (c) whether Government intends to make Yoga compulsory in schools and recruit the Yoga instructors in a big way, and if so, the details thereof?

Educational institutions teaching Yoga therapy

- 4. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of educational institutes where the course on Yoga thereapy is being taught in the country along with the number of students likely to be graduated therefrom in the current year, State-wise; and
- (b) whether Government has finalised any standard curriculum to teach Yoga therapy in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Creating awareness to make Yoga a part of daily routine

- †5. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has formulated any plan to create public awareness to make Yoga a part of the daily routine in view of the fact that the

International Day of Yoga was recently observed worldwide; and

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

Success of Yoga Day in foreign countries

- †6. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of programmes organised under the universal programme on the occasion of International Yoga-day, Statewise, and the information regarding success of this programme organised in other countries; and
- (b) the plans and programme to make Yoga and Naturopathy programme popular and acceptable to all?

Conservation of endangered medicinal plants

- 7. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of medicinal plants that India have;
- (b) whether National Medicinal Plant Board is conserving, cultivating, processing and storing all the available medicinal and aromatic plants;
- (c) if so, the details of plants that are conserved, cultivated, processed and stored, plant-wise; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that many medicinal plants are becoming endangered,

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

if so, the details of endangered medicinal and aromatic plants and efforts being made to conserve them?

Funds to States for organising Yoga programmes

- †8. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of people who participated in the Yoga programme organized at Rajpath situated in the capital of the country on 21 June, 2015;
- (b) the details of total amount spent on this sponsored/organised Yoga programme in Delhi and other States;
- (c) whether such Yoga programme will be organised every year; and
- (d) if so, whether the States would be provided funds for oganising the Yoga programme?

Task force on AYUSH system of medicines

- 9. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has formed a Task Force comprising experts of different systems of treatment including Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy to study infrastructure and manpower availability in various streams in the country;
- (b) if so, the composition of the Task Force along with the time by which it is likely to submit its report; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to chalk out a road map to cater to the need of Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres and district hospitals across the country and act accordingly?

Action plan for Yoga promotion

- 10. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has prepared any ambitious action plan on the promotion of Yoga and for tapping the ancient form of exercise in various parts of the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of fund allocated for the promotion of Yoga programmes in the country during the last one year; and
- (c) the details of Government programmes and schemes currently in operation for the promotion of Yoga in the country?

Opening of dedicated Yoga learning centres

- 11. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government was the major sponsor of International Day of Yoga across the world;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with total amount spent on this occasion;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government had provided funds to specific organizations for organising Yoga session on the occasion of International Yoga Day in the country;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (d) if so, the details of all such organisations along with total money sanctioned to them, organisation-wise;
- (e) whether Government is providing special grant for opening of dedicated Yoga learning centres, across the country; and
- (f) if so, the State-wise details of such planned centres and total amount sanctioned for this?

Yoga in school curriculum

- 12. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
 - (a) Government's policy regarding Yoga;
- (b) whether Government proposes to make Yoga compulsory in schools, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has sufficient Yoga teachers to teach Yoga in schools?

Future celebrations of International Yoga Day

- 13. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the expenditure incurred by Government in celebrating the first International Yoga Day across the country;
- (b) whether Government had issued any instructions to the State Governments regarding celebration of Yoga Day by State Governments; and
- (c) the details of the course of action formulated and adopted by Government

for future celebrations of International Yoga Day?

Periodical training programme for AYUSH practitioners

- 14. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has taken or proposes to take any step for periodical training and updation of medical knowledge of practitioners under the Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) systems of medicine: and
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to address various concerns in this regard?

New Airport at Dwarka in Gujarat

- 15. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has announced to build a new airport at Dwarka in Gujarat; and
- (b) whether the construction work has already started; if not, by when it will be started?

Upgradation of passenger facilities at airports

- 16. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the present status of major passenger facilities upgradation works recently started by Airports Authority of India (AAI) at various airports in the country; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred thereon and the details of facilities upgraded, so far?

Development of airports in Uttar Pradesh

†17. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has taken a decision in the last month of June for the development of Jewar Airport in NOIDA; if so the details thereof;
- (b) the number of proposed airports in the country including Uttar Pradesh, whose development is a serious concern for the Ministry, and action taken so far in this direction; and
- (c) the progress made in the construction work of the proposed airport at Kushinagar and by when the international flights are aimed to be operated from this airport?

Credit points for airlines to fly abroad

- 18. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Ministry's mandated credit points for airlines to fly abroad has been implemented;
- (b) if so, the details of credit points accrued by each of the airlines since implementation of the scheme, airlinewise;

- (c) how many airlines have become eligible to fly abroad; and
- (d) the details of unserved areas connected to get credit points and the flights that have flown to such destinations since inception of this system, airlinewise?

Allocation of profitable and nonprofitable routes to airlines

- 19. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of sectors in which flights are being operated by all the aviation companies in the country;
- (b) the details of the profitable and non-profitable routes on an annual basis; and
- (c) the system of allocation of the profitable and non-profitable routes amongst national carrier and the private carriers?

Proposal for a second airports in the National Capital

- 20. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has cleared a proposal for setting up a second airport in the National Capital; if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that, as per the existing rules, a new airport cannot be built within 150 km. radius of the existing one; and
- (c) if so, whether Government plans to amend the existing rules?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Flights to Leh and Ladakh

- 21. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Flights to Leh-Ladakh almost never meet all the safety requirements, as set by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and this is one of the worst kept secrets of Indian aviation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto;
- (c) whether the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association (ICPA) has raised questions to fly towards Leh-Ladakh airport; and
 - (d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

Opening of more Uran Akademies

- 22. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the task assigned to Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA);
- (b) whether the Akademi's infrastructure matches contemporary international standards, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government intends to open more such training academies in the country, if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

Streamlining of Air India

- 23. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is inefficiency, mismanagement, mal-

- administration and corruption in Air India:
- (b) if so, the complaints received in this regard during the last two years and the current year so far;
- (c) the details of action taken in this regard;
- (d) whether Air India is not in a position to compete with private Airlines and that the losses are attributable to the above mentioned factors; and
- (e) the steps being taken to streamline Air India?

Preferential treatment to VVIP's and their staff members by AI

- 24. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that several incidents have been brought to the notice of Government for de-boarding of passengers from Air India to accommodate VVIPs during the last one year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the erring officials for de-boarding of passengers;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that several Air India flights are delayed due to late arrival of VVIPs or their staff members; and
- (d) if so, the details of such incidents during the last one year and action taken against officers obliging VVIPs and their staff members for preferential treatment to VVIPs and their personal staff?

Action against defaulter pilots and airlines

- 25. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the results of the DGCA's audit of training facilities for 2014;
- (b) whether the Ministry is taking enforcement actions against the defaulter pilots and airlines, if so, the details thereof?

Mechanism for capping of economy and business class airfares

- 26. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is considering the formulation of a mechanism for the capping of economy and business class airfares, to curb the predatory pricing of passenger tickets by ailines; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

VRS scheme for Air India employees

- 27. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Air India proposes to introduce VRS for its employees, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether financial crunch of Air India comes in the way of implementing this scheme, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

International flights from Biju Patnaik Airport

- 28. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the announcement pertaining to starting international flights from Biju Patnaik International Airport, Bhubaneswar has still not been implemented;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the State Government and the Chief Minister of Odisha has written and continuously pursued the matter with the Ministry; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

Transparency in regulating airfare

- 29. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has taken note of various malpractices being indulged into including arbitrariness in fixing airfares by private operators and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has taken action in this regard against such erring private airlines:
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken or being taken by DGCA to bring in transparency in regulating airfares of airlines including private airlines?

Air services run by private companies from Darbhanga in Bihar

- †30. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that air services are being run by private companies from Darbhanga in Bihar to Patna, Purnea and Kolkata:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when it will be decided to run flights of Air India in view of the tremendous increase in passenger traffic as Darbhanga is located in between all the districts including Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Sitamarhi, Darbhanga, Supaul, Saharsa, Madhepura, Araria and Katihar and the details thereof?

Zero baggage fare

- 31. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether in a sort of cartelisation attempt, the no-frills carriers have sought introduction of 'zero' baggage fare to reward those choosing to travel light; and
- (b) if so, whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is considering a proposal to allow airlines to charge for cabin baggage and also check-in baggage even within the erstwhile free-limit of 15 kgs, if so, the details thereof?

New airport at Arunachal Pradesh

- 32. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government has planned

to build a new airport at Arunachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Privatisation of major airports in the country

- 33. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any proposal and plans to privatize some of the major airports in the country including Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Ahmedabad etc., if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has unveiled any new plans to increase revenue generation from the Communication, Navigation, Surveillance (CNS) and Air Traffic Services (ATS) in the domestic and international airports in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the total revenue generated from these airports in the last three years, year-wise, airportwise?

Status of crews and ground staffs of Kingfisher Airlines

- 34. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the fleet of Kingfisher Airlines has been grounded for good; and
- (b) if so, the number of crews and ground staffs who have lost their jobs?

Cap on air fare during festive seasons

35. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (a) whether it is a fact that after reducing check-in luggage from 20 kg to 15 kg the domestic airlines are in the process of adopting new techniques of charging check-in luggage;
- (b) if so, the complete details of proposal of the air carriers and reaction of Government thereto:
- (c) whether it is also a fact that domestic airlines charge exorbitant rates during festival seasons; and
- (d) if so, the details of steps Government proposes to take to cap the air fares during festival seasons?

Corporatising of Airports Authority of India

- 36. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is considering a proposal for corporatising and listing the Airports Authority of India on the bourses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and at what stage is the proposal?

Audit of Indian airlines sector by US Federal Aviation Administration

- 37. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the audit report of the Indian airline sector by US Federal Aviation Administration;
- (b) whether the Ministry is taking the requisite steps to hire more flight operation inspectors and carry out recertification of all scheduled airlines, non-scheduled operators and flying training organisations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Regulatory authority to review airfare

- †38. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the process for determining the airfare for Y Category seats;
- (b) whether it is a fact that private airlines increase the airfare by 400 percent during the tourist seasons; and
- (c) if so, whether Government proposes to rein in the arbitrary tendencies of such airlines by constituting a regulatory authority?

The balance sheet of aviation companies

- †39. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government aviation companies are running in loss;
- (b) if so, the details of their earning, expenditure and assets for the last three years; and
- (c) the expenditure incurred on advertisement, publicity, passengers facilities, and infrastructure during the said period, company-wise?

Operation of flights to Tier-II cities

- 40. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has or had any schemes which require for domestic airlines to operate more flights to Tier-II cities;

- (b) whether Government has plans to formulate any schemes for development of airports in Tier-II cities; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with its likely impact on the airlines especially the new airlines?

Study on problems faced by Civil Aviation sector

- 41. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any study has been conducted regarding various financial and administrative problems faced by the Civil Aviation sector in the country in general and Air India in particular in last three years; and
- (b) the details of measures taken/ proposed to be taken by Government to address the problems in Civil Aviation sector especially, Air India?

CSR activities undertaken by PSUs

- 42. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have allocated funds under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) head;
- (b) if so, the details of funds allocated and utilised by such companies during the last three years; and
- (c) the nature of projects being undertaken in this regard and their present status?

Easy Exit Scheme for defunct companies

- 43. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the number of defunct/ inactive companies in the country, including Maharashtra, have risen over the years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;
- (c) whether Government has announced the 'Easy Exit Scheme' for defunct companies to get their names struck off by the Registrar of Companies (ROC);
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the companies thereto; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

Progress on Rafale fighter aircraft deal

- 44. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the progress made in 'Rafale fighter' deal between India and France; and
- (b) the tentative date by which Rafale fighter aircraft will be inducted in the Indian Air Force?

Procurement of bullet proof jackets

45. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had announced last year to procure fifty thousand new

bulletproof jackets for the army; if so, the details thereof;

- (b) the reasons for emergency procurement of fifty thousand bulletproof jackets not being materialized, so far;
- (c) whether as on date the army lacks 1.86 lakh bulletproof jackets; and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) by when actual procurement is likely to be made?

Making SSC more attractive

- 46. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Ministry has received any proposal from the Army Chief to make Short Service Commission (SSC) more attractive:
- (b) if so the details thereof and the response of the Ministry thereto; and
- (c) the number of SSC officers recruited and officers left during the last five years and in the current year, year-wise and gender-wise?

Overhauling of DRDO and Defence PSUs

- 47. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Ministry acknowledges the need to overhaul the functioning of the DRDO and the DPSUs in order to realise Make in India programme targets for the Defence sector; and
- (b) if so, the detailed plan and roadmap for the same?

Shortage of essential kit items with Army

- 48. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the essential kit items provided free of cost to the Army Jawans and Officers in the Indian Army;
- (b) the details of the essential kit items that have not been supplied due to shortage during the years 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 with reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by when Government proposes to clear the backlog of the short supplied kit items of the previous years?

Delay in acquisition of bulletproof jackets

†49. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in 2009, it had been decided to purchase 1.86 lakh bulletproof jackets for soldiers;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Request for Proposal (RFP) had been issued to 39 bulletproof jacket manufacturing companies and out of them 6 such companies have submitted their sales proposal; and
- (c) if so, the reasons for delay in acquisition of bulletproof jackets for soldiers, till date?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Status of implementation of OROP

50. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI AVINASH RAI
KHANNA:
SHRI ARVIND KUMAR
SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether delay in the implementation of One Rank One Pension (OROP) to all the Ex-servicemen has been protested by army veterans recently in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the present status of the implementation of One Rank One Pension to all the Ex-servicemen in the country; and
- (c) the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be announced and implemented?

Compensation to the families of deceased Army Jawans

- 51. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that many Army Jawans were killed recently by militants in an ambush in Manipur, if so, the details thereof:
- (b) compensation and other relief provided by Government to the families of the late Jawans; and
- (c) what action Government has taken against the militants who ambushed the Army Jawans?

Suggestions on OROP scheme

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

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposal regarding the One Rank One Pension (OROP) scheme for the military pension-holders is under the consideration of the Ministry, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether suggestions have been invited from different organizations/ individuals regarding One Rank One Pension, if so the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by when the retired military pension-holders are likely to get their due pension, which these pension-holders have been demanding?

Phasing out of MIG aircrafts

53. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: SHRI ANIL DESAI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether three squadrons of the ageing MIG-2 and MIG-27 fighter jets are being phased out, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the manner in which the IAF plans to impart training to its officers in the absence of MIGs; and
- (c) the alternate fighter aircraft in IAF hangars?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

US-India Defence Framework Agreement, 2015

54. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY: SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and the US, during the visit of the US Secretary of Defence, signed the 2015 US-India Defence Framework Agreement to deepen bilateral defence cooperation in several security related areas, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether some pathfinder projects have also been identified for joint development and production, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the benefits likely to accrue to the country as a result thereof; and
- (d) the time by which all the decisions agreed upon by the two nations would be implemented?

Relaxation of Offset Clause for defence procurement

- 55. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the policy on Offset Clause for the acquisition of Defence equipment from foreign manufacturers;
- (b) whether the stated objectives of the Offset Clause is to promote the domestic manufacturing, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government is considering the relaxation of the Offset Clause requirement in defence equipment procurement and the reasons therefor?

Bulletproof jackets for the Army

- †56. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government feels the necessity for bulletproof jackets for the Indian Army;
- (b) if so, whether the Army also has requested to provide bulletproof jackets to soldiers:
- (c) if so, the date when this request was made;
- (d) whether the Army especially the Army personnel deployed at the borders have been provided bulletproof jackets; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor and by when bulletproof jackets will be made available to the Army?

Increasing the number of NCC units in the country

- 57. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the present number of units of National Cadet Corps (NCC) in the country;
- (b) whether Government proposes to increase the number of NCC units in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government to expand the Corps' presence in naxal affected areas as well as coastal and border areas and simultaneously encourage youth of such areas to join the mainstream as NCC cadets?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Chinese submarine along Indian coastline

- †58. MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether China had sent a submarine to Pakistan through Indian coastline in June, 2015:
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the main reason therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to stop such misadventure in future?

SC/ST persons employed in Defence PSUs

- 59. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the PSUs under the administrative control of the Ministry;
- (b) the details of SC/ST persons employed in various groups in these PSUs;
- (c) the details of SC/ST Employees' Welfare Associations formed by SCs/STs working in these PSUs;
- (d) the details of the facilities extended/ provided by Government/DPSUs for the SCs/STs Welfare Association *viz*. Office Accommodation, etc.; and
- (e) the ways and means in which DPSUs/Government involves SC/ST Welfare Association in the administrative activities/developmental activities/management of these PSUs?

Replacement of ageing aircrafts with the IAF

60. SHRI K. C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of fighter aircrafts with the Indian Air Force (IAF) are nearing the end of their operational life, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the measures taken to replace these ageing aircrafts of the Indian Air Force; and
- (c) the number of ageing aircrafts of the Indian Air Force involved in accidents due to technical defects during each of the last three years?

Implementation of OROP scheme for paramilitary forces

- †61. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the difficulties being faced by Government in implementing One Rank One Pension (OROP) scheme and by when it will be implemented;
- (b) the quantum of financial burden on the budget of the Ministry of Defence after the implementation of this scheme;
- (c) the legal hurdles being faced by the Ministry in implementing this scheme; and
- (d) whether Government is formulating any policy for implementing this scheme for the paramilitary forces also?

Funding of Defence R & D

- 62. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the expenditure made under the Technology Development Fund announced in the Budget 2014-15 to support R & D in defence systems;
- (b) the achievements made by this Fund, so far;
 - (c) whether the expenditure on R & D

in defence systems as a percentage of total defence expenditure is decreasing, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of all fully indigenous built defence equipments, aircrafts, ships, tanks or other machines commissioned in the service in the past one year?

Curbing indirect import reliance by DPSUs/OFs

- 63. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether reports published by the Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses that Defence PSUs and Ordnance Factories (OFs) rely on imports for the manufacturing of indigenous products are correct;
- (b) if so, the details of the percentage of indirect import reliance of all DPSUs and OFs for the last three years;
- (c) the impact of high indirect import reliance of DPSUs and OFs on Make in India targets for the Defence sector; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government in order to ensure that indirect import reliance is curbed?

New aircrafts for the IAF

- †64. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware that the Pakistani airforce has added 4 squadrons of aircrafts in their defence fleet;
- (b) if so, whether the Indian Air Force (IAF) has demanded an increase of three squadrons in its fleet in view of the rising strength of the Pakistani airforce;

- $\label{eq:continuous} \textbf{(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto;} \\ \text{and} \\$
- (d) by when Government would take steps to acquire new fighter aircrafts?

Defence agreements with foreign countries

- †65. MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any defence agreement valid for ten years has been signed between India and America in June, 2015;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether it is proposed to enter into a defence agreement with any other country in the near future?

Attack on Army convoy in Manipur

- 66. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether 17 soldiers were killed and 16 wounded as militants attacked an army convoy with IEDs, rocket-propelled grenades and heavy gunfire in Manipur's Chandel district;
- (b) if so, whether the incident points to an intelligence failure; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure that such type of intelligence failure may not take place in future?

Expansion of Ordnance Factory, Eddumailaram, Telangana

67. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to expand the ordnance factory in Eddumailaram, Medak District, Telangana to provide more employment to the local; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof?

Strategic importance of Vizhinjam Terminal

- 68. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Indian Navy considers the proposed Vizhinjam International Container Transshipment Terminal very essential in terms of their strategtic positioning in the Indian Ocean region, coastal security and international diplomacy, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Navy and the Coast Guards sought berth space in the Port; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Corporate loans of PSBs

- 69. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the total amount of outstanding corporate loans of the Public Sector Banks (PSBs);
- (b) the number of corporate loans exceeding $\overline{\xi}$ 5000 crore, bank-wise details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and PSBs to recover these debts?

Outstanding agricultural loans

- 70. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the average loans outstanding against the farmers in the country during the last three years and the current year, bank and State/Union Territory-wise including Jharkhand and Gujarat;
- (b) whether Government proposes to waive off loans of farmers amounting to rupees one lakh or more, especially in Jharkhand and Gujarat; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Performance of newly launched insurance and pension schemes

- 71. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Prime Minister has launched two insurance schemes and one pension scheme particularly for the poor; if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that these schemes have not attracted the people/ workers so far as was expected; if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) if not, the details of the targets fixed in this regard for the current financial year and the targets achieved so far?

Discontinuation of Zero per cent interest scheme on credit cards

- 72. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has barred Zero per cent interest

schemes offered by the banks to credit card holders in the recent past;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the reaction of Government thereto; and
- (c) whether any retailers have conveyed their dissent to the RBI in this regard, if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the RBI thereto?

Financial allocation made for short term credit structure

- †73. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the amount which was to be provided by the Central Government to Madhya Pradesh for short term credit structure under the recommendations of Vaidyanathan Committee, the amount which has been provided out of it and by when the remaining amount will be provided; and
- (b) the last date for the amount to be provided by the Central Government to Madhya Pradesh for short term credit structure under the recommendations of Vaidyanathan Committee?

Difficulty in auction of seized assets by banks

- 74. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether weighed down by bad loans which has now reached the 3 lakh crore mark, the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) are finding it tough to recover through auction of seized properties because of slowdown in economy, legal hurdles and problems related to acquisition of land;

- (b) whether prospective buyers stay away despite price cut by 10 per cent in each subsequent auctions; and
- (c) whether restructured assets of banks are now close to ₹4 lakh crores and whether credit rating agency Fitch has predicted that the proportion of impaired assets will rise to 13 per cent of the total advances by 2016?

Regulation of ponzi schemes

- 75. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government agrees with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) that in the absence of regulatory framework and lack of co-ordination between watchdogs and investigative agencies, there are growing number of incidents of ponzi schemes defrauding millions of citizens;
- (b) whether it is a fact that ₹ 80,000 crores is locked up in ponzi schemes being investigated by CBI;
- (c) whether such schemes are being run mainly in Tier II and III cities of the country; and
- (d) if so, how Government is planning first to have regulatory framework, quicken the investigation and concentrate more on Tier II and III cities;

Circulation of dirty/torn currency notes

- †76. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a large number of dirty/torn/ deformed notes are in circulation in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof and the

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

manner in which the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposes to tackle the circulation of such notes in the country; and

(c) whether the RBI has launched/ proposed to launch any awareness drive in this regard; if so, the details thereof?

Increase in financial allocation to States

- †77. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is substantial increase in the gross financial transfer to the States by Government in the current financial year in comparison to the last year; if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Central Government has provided the highest amount to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in the current year; if so, the details thereof?

Amendment in procedure for appointment of non-official Directors of PSBs

- 78. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has amended the procedure for appointment of non-official Directors on the Boards of Public Sector Banks (PSBs), financial institutions and insurance firms; if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government has set up a portal where those interested in the positions could apply; if so, the details thereof?

Printing of currency notes on indigenous paper

- †79. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously contemplating to print one thousand rupee currency note only on indigenous paper;
- (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?

Fall in deposits made by Indians in Swiss Bank

- 80. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the reaction of Government to the reported fall of over 10 per cent in deposits by Indians in Swiss banks at a time when foreign funds in Swiss banks have swelled to 1.5 trillion in 2014 as compared to 2013;
- (b) whether this is the impact of black money law passed by Government recently; and
- (c) the further steps taken by Government to tighten the screws on black money generated within the country?

Appointment of gold appraisers for Gold Monetisation Scheme

- 81. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any proposal to appoint gold appraisers at

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

nationalised banks to carry forward Gold Monetisation Scheme: and

(b) if not, the details of plan of Government to appoint personnel who can check the quality of gold deposited under Gold Monetisation Scheme?

Erosion in Central Government's holding in PSBs

- 82. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there has been any erosion in Central Government's holding in Public Sector Banks (PSBs) during last three years; if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether some PSBs are trading at 0.3-0.5 times their book value instead of 1.3-1.5 times in previous years;
- (c) how much these PSBs and Government have lost notionally or in real terms in this way; and
- (d) whether Government intends to prevent this erosion, if so, the details thereof?

NPAs of nationalised banks

- †83. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of banks are increasing continuously, if so, the details of NPAs of nationalised banks:
- (b) the details of percentage of NPAs to the total amount of loans disbursed by the banks and the percentage of loans for which time has been given for restructuring; and
 - (c) the details of percentage of NPAs

and restructured loan amount out of the total loan disbursed during last two years?

Extension of time period to open PMJDY bank accounts

- 84. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is planning to extend the period of opening of bank accounts by the people under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY); if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) if not, whether Government is proposing to introduce another phase of the scheme for the common people of our country to open bank accounts under the scheme?

Beneficiaries of newly launched insurance and pension schemes

- †85. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of people who have enrolled themselves under the three schemes launched recently *viz*. Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Atal Pension Yojana respectively and are availing the benefits thereunder;
- (b) the number of the people who have adopted all the three schemes in the country, State-wise details thereof; and
- (c) whether any person has received benefits under these three schemes in the country till date; if so, the detail of the beneficiaries?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Recovery of amounts from willful defaulters

- 86. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is keen enough and willing to impose strict deadline for the recovery of amounts from the Non-Performing Asset (NPA) accounts and willful defaulters;
- (b) the concrete measures and action taken by Government to recover the ₹ 2.5 lakh crores loaned to various customers, declared NPA by Public Sector Banks (PSBs); and
- (c) the strict recovery procedures adopted and followed by the PSBs to recover the loans from the NPA accounts and willful defaulters and the action taken in the last three years along with its results in terms of recovery of loans?

Improvement in fiscal position of country

- †87. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any improvement in the fiscal position of the country; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof as on date?

Co-ordination between ARCs and PSBs

- 88. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has recently called a meeting of Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs) and the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to address the issues arising

from Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) and whether the NPAs of banks have increased in the last one year;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether lack of coordination between ARCs and banks have increased the NPAs; and
- (d) the new strategies to be adopted by Government to bring down NPAs of the PSBs?

Profitability of PSBs

- 89. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Private Banks operating in the country are earning more profits in comparison to Public Sector Banks (PSBs) of the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what steps Government, RBI and Public Sector Banks propose to take to increase the profitability of PSBs?

Impact of Greece crisis on Indian economy

- †90. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the economic crisis in Greece may affect the Indian economy; if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government is taking steps to save the Indian economy from the effects of the economic crisis of Greece and whether Government is also contemplating to provide economic assistance to Greece; if so, the details thereof?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Fund allocation to Assam

- 91. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware that Centres' decision to cut fund allocation will severely affect development process of Assam;
- (b) whether it will not be possible to roll out new development projects in Assam without adequate Central fund; and
- (c) whether Government is aware that Assam is dependent on Centre for 60 per cent of its total funds for development works?

Paternity leave for bank employees

- †92. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to grant paternity leave to the bank employees;
- (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?

Revised norms of IT returns

- 93. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering various measures to reassure taxpayers regarding compliance norms, including doing away with mandatory submission of hard copies of returns as early as this year; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that IT department is also planning to introduce provisions such as electronic signature and mentioning of Aadhaar number for e-filing of returns; if so, the details thereof?

Granting of loans by Union Bank of India

- 94. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answers to Unstarred Questions 518 and 3634 replied on 28th April, 2015 and 12th August, 2014 respectively in the Rajya Sabha and state:
- (a) whether there is any guideline of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Union Bank of India which permits Union Bank to grant loans after obtaining Non-Encumbrance Certificate to gangs of habitual fraudsters against whom multiple cases of banking frauds in multiple banks have been registered;
- (b) if so, the details of specific guidelines by the RBI and Union Bank in this regard, separately;
- (c) if not, the reasons for allowing habitual fraudsters to secure loans and how Government would recover the loans sanctioned to fraudsters by Union Bank, Chitbaragaon branch; and
- (d) the details of other actions Government would take in this regard?

Insurance for houses

- 95. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware that more than 70 per cent of houses in the country do not have insurance cover;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) whether it is a fact that in the absence of awareness about insuring homes, many Indians give little importance to home insurance:
- (c) the efforts being made by the Ministry to bring awareness among the people about the benefits to taking insurance cover for their homes; and
- (d) whether Government would provide some subsidy or incentive to encourage home insurance in the country?

Interest rates on bank loans

- †96. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has given any direction to reduce the rate of interest on bank loans in the country;
- (b) if so, the names of the banks, which have reduced the rate of interest on the loans; and
- (c) whether any action is being taken against those banks, which have not reduced their rate of interest?

Settlement of outstanding CST claim

- 97. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Central Government has made any provision in the budget for the year 2014-15 towards the Central Sales Tax (CST) compensation;
- (b) if so, whether Government has released any compensation to any States during the year 2014-15;
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the outstanding CST claims of the States are likely to be settled?

Prescribing of affordable drugs

- 98. SHRIT. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Indian Medical Association (IMA) has asked the doctors to prescribe cheapest version of drugs;
- (b) whether it is a fact that it will have the direct benefit of making drugs more accessible and affordable; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the IMA has asked its members to prescribe drugs with chemical or generic name in capital letters and the name of the pharmaceutical company or the brand in brackets, if so, the details thereof?

Status of Ebola disease in the country

- 99. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the source and status of Ebola disease in the country alongwith the number of cases that have since been registered for treatment;
 - (b) how far it has been controlled; and
- (c) whether the people of the country have since been advised about precautionary measures and action plan to control this menace, it so, the details thereof?

Travel advisory on MERS

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

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (a) whether the Ministry has issued a travel advisory for passengers arriving from or travelling to countries including the Gulf region as well as Thailand affected by Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS):
- (b) if so, the names of the countries; and
- (c) whether there will be passive screening at airports apart from the advisory asking passengers travelling abroad to declare if they have been to these countries and whether they have had any symptoms of the disease?

Daily drug therapy for TB patients

- 101. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to start daily drug therapy for TB patients in 100 select district in the next few months, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that this new treatment protocol which involves shifting from the current thrice a week dosage is being opted for, after experts have found the current system ineffetive and also a possible cause for MDR-TB?

Central assistance for eradication of blindness and leprosy

- †102. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the Central grant-in-aid made available to various States including Maharashtra for the eradication of blindness and leprosy during the current year;

- (b) the amount released for this task so far during this year, State-wise; and
- (c) whether Government has issued any guidelines on the utilisation of the Central assistance or grants?

Check on adulterated food items

103. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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

- (a) whether Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has found more than permissible level of lead and monosodium glutamate (MSG) content in Nestle's Maggi noodles and presence of detergent in Mother Dairy's milk samples, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of action taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) the details of other food items which have been found unsafe for human health;and
- (d) the details of stern measures Government would take to check adulterated food articles in the country?

Action plan for distribution of free medicines

104. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA:

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

(a) the action plan drawn by Government to distribute free life-saving and generic drugs to boost healthcare services in the country indicating the

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

financial and operational modalities worked out for the purpose;

- (b) whether Government proposes to provide all the drugs/drug formulations included in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) under the scheme, if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor indicating the drugs selected to be provided under the plan; and
- (c) the measures being taken by Government to ensure the quality, safety and standards of the drugs?

Creation of awareness on immunization

- 105. SHRIT. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has unveiled a major campaign to create awareness on immunization, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that every child in the country is not immunized or is partially immunized; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering taking up around 201 high focus districts for implementation of immunization programme, if so, the details thereof?

State-wise plans for NHM and NRHM

- 106. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government had prepared detailed plans for the National Health Mission (NHM) and National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), State-wise;
- (b) if so, the details thereof particularly in respect of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

and the thrust of the plans for the two States; and

(c) the progress achieved under these plans?

Assessment of healthcare facilities in rural areas

107. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

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

- (a) whether Government has assessed the availability of healthcare facilities in the rural areas *vis-a-vis* the urban areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the programmes/schemes being implemented/proposed to be implemented by Government to reduce rural-urban gap in access to quality healthcare and advanced treatment and diagnostic facilities in the country?

Assessment on availability of medical colleges

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

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

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any study to assess the availability/ shortage of medical colleges in the country and doctors per citizen ratio;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the steps taken or proposed by Government to scale up the availability of

medical colleges to maintain doctor and citizen ratio:

- (d) whether Government has received any proposals relating to setting up of medical colleges from various States/UTs including Maharashtra; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed by Government thereon, State/UT-wise?

Boosting family welfare programme

†109. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY:

MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ:

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

- (a) whether Government accepts that its family welfare programme has suffered a huge setback this year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the main reasons therefor; and
- (c) the future plan of Government to give a fillip to its family welfare programme again?

Regulating of e-drug stores

- 110. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Snapdeal, an e-commerce website, is selling drugs, including antipotency pills and emergency contraceptive pills, online without a prescription;
- (b) whether there is a whole bunch of dedicated e-drug stores in the market supplying everything from diapers to diazepam at the click of a button; and
- (c) if so, the details of action the Ministry is taking to regulate e-drug stores in the country?

India as healthcare hub

- 111. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether India is emerging as a healthcare hub in Asia due to the growing number of multi and single super-specialty care hospitals in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether certain overseas organizations have shown interest in setting up of hospitals in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken or being taken by Government in this regard?

Appointment of organ donation counsellors in PHCs

- 112. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any proposal to appoint Organ Donation Counsellors in all the Primary Health Centres (PHCs) across the country to encourage and motivate people to come forward for organ donation, if so, the details thereof; and
 - (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

National centres for the elderly

- 113. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government proposes to open national centres for the elderly at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof with status of the project;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) the details of treatment/medical help that is proposed to be provided at such centres; and
- (d) whether it would be free of any charges, if so, the details thereof?

Adoption of global standards on drug inspection and manufacturing

- 114. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government plans to become part of a multi-national regulatory regime, Pharmaceutical Inspection Cooperation Scheme (PICS), under which India will adopt global standards on drug inspection and manufacturing;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor:
- (c) whether Government had consulted all stakeholders particularly drug manufacturers in this regard, if so, the details of views expressed by them; and
- (d) the details of benefits likely to accrue by adopting international standards?

Spurious drugs in rural areas

- 115. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware that there is a nexus between spurious drug manufacturers and chemists to sell their products in the rural areas across the country;
- (b) if so, whether most of the rural people without knowing the content of the drug, purchased them from the chemist shops which directly affect their health; and

(c) if so, whether there is any monitoring mechanism by Central Drugs Controller of India to ensure that rural areas in the country gets safe medicines/drugs from chemists, if so, the details thereof?

Containment of vector-borne diseases

- 116. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has taken steps to contain the vector borne diseases and other viral fevers including dengue, malaria etc. in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with the funds sanctioned and spent for each agency area, State-wise, for the last three years;
- (c) the number of deaths from these diseases reported, State-wise;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that a number of doctors posted in agency areas are very less compared to the number of patients and does not match doctor-patient ratio; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and steps being taken to overcome such situation in future?

AIIMS-like institutes in Karnataka

- 117. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the reasons for the delay in setting up of new hospitals on the lines of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and upgrading the existing hospitals in various States;
- (b) the time by which these AIIMS-like hospitals are likely to be set up or upgraded;

- (c) whether Government has also received proposals from Karnataka Government for setting up of AIIMS like institutes in the State; and
- (d) if so, the present status of these proposals and the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared, State/UT-wise?

Non-utilization of funds by CGHS

- 118. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether during 2012 to 2015, CGHS could not utilized funds efficiently and miserably failed in expansion of facilities under CGHS and the precious funds allocated for the purpose were surrendered, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for not utilizing the funds and measures taken to ensure utilization of funds efficiently by CGHS;
- (c) the reasons for not issuing medicines prescribed by the doctors of CGHS empanelled private hospitals to the CGHS beneficiary by CGHS dispensaries; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure that medicines prescribed by the doctors of CGHS empanelled private hospitals are issued to CGHS beneficiaries by CGHS dispensaries?

Cut in expenditure for NHM

- 119. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the States will have to take up more responsibility for adequately resourcing and effective delivery of health services, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the expenditure on National Health Mission (NHM) which supports a network of accredited doctors and health activists providing basic services is down by 20 percent, if so, the details thereof?

Social impact of expensive healthcare costs

- 120. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware that 40 percent Indians have to either sell their property or borrow money for meeting their hospital expenses for treating illness and 25 percent people admitted to hospitals slide to below poverty line due to expenses involved in health care; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard till now and the achievement thereof?

Violation of regulatory and manufacturing standards by NMCs

- 121. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Multi-National Companies (MNCs) have violated the regulatory and manufacturing standards recently;
- (b) if so, whether the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has audited the factories of the MNCs in order to ensure that these MNCs comply with regulatory and manufacturing standards;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, companywise and the findings thereof;

- (d) the action taken by Government against those MNCs who violated the regulatory and manufacturing standards;
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Reforms in food safety apparatus

- 122. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the Scientific Panel of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has called for a sweeping reforms of the country's Food Safety apparatus; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

Infrastructure for treatment of rape victims

- 123. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that hospitals in India lack in infrastructure to treat rape victims due to which one of them had to be flown to Singapore but in vain; and
- (b) if so, whether Government is taking any steps to improve infrastructure so that such cases can be handled in India with promptness and expert medical personnel?

Trauma centres along Delhi-Chandigarh/Amritsar Highways

- 124. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of trauma centres opened in 2014-15 on National Highways

- connecting Delhi-Chandigarh and Delhi-Amritsar; and
- (b) the total number of new Trauma Centres proposed on these Highways in the year 2015-16?

Mismanagement of fund disbursal in AIDS prevention programmes

- 125. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether work on India Aids prevention programmes has suffered due to mismanagement of fund disbursal, if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether it is a fact that thousands of health workers were not paid for months and construction of clinics was delayed;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that several States have voiced concern about the delays and discussions are going on to resolve the situation, if so, the details thereof?

Measures to check population growth

- †126. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the steps taken by Government to check the increasing population of India;
 and
- (b) whether Government is contemplating imposing restriction on having more than two children per family, if so, by when, and if not, the reasons therefor?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Patients suffering from water-borne diseases

- 127. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that 50 per cent of patients across the globe suffer from water-borne diseases:
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the funds spent for the purpose in the Eleventh and Twelfth Plans period, State-wise; and
- (d) the corrective steps being taken so far?

Setting up of Virology Institute at Gujarat

- 128. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that whenever some new or unidentified virus is encountered, the samples are required to be sent to National Institute of Virology, Pune:
- (b) whether this problem can be solved if Government decides to set up Virology Institute in Gujarat; and
- (c) if so, whether Government proposes to set up Virology Institute in Gujarat?

Pan-India trauma care network

129. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had decided to develop a pan-India trauma care network along the Golden Quadrilateral Corridor:
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of the progress made in this regard;
- (c) the reasons for very slow pace of implementation of the decision; and
- (d) the fresh steps taken by Government to ensure availability of a designated trauma centre at every 100 Kms. on the National Highways across the country?

Inquiry into corruption in NRHM in U.P.

- 130. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the amount received by Uttar Pradesh (U.P.) from the Central Government during last three years under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM);
- (b) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has provided year-wise details of the expenditure of the grant provided to it by the Centre, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether three Chief Medical Officers (CMOs) have been murdered due to corruption in the expenditure of the grant in Uttar Pradesh, if so, whether Government has conducted inquiry into the entire issue; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Scaling down of medical seats in Telangana

- 131. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Medical Council of India (MCI) has cut 350 medical seats in various medical colleges in Telangana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the efforts the Ministry is making to convince MCI not to cut seats as the decision will adversely impact students?

Pan-India survey on drugs quality

- 132. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is conducting a pan-India survey to check the quality of medicines being sold in the market as it prepares to crack down on spurious drugs, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that, as part of the survey, Central drug inspectors will collect over 47,000 samples of medicines from at least fifteen different categories including antibiotics, cardiovascular drugs, antihistamines and steroids; and
 - (c) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

Evaluation of awareness programmes on ill-effects of tobacco consumption

- 133. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government has evaluated

- the performance and impact of the schemes and awareness programmes aimed at reducing tobacco consumption;
- (b) whether Government has stake in a number of cigarette manufacturing companies in the country, if so, the details thereof along with the rationale behind the same; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to frame a national policy to tackle the issue with due consideration to balance public health?

Universal access number for medical emergencies

- 134. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government proposes to set up a universal access number for medical emergencies in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the model of functioning and the infrastructure likely to be put in place for the purpose?

Adulteration of packaged food items and milk products

- 135. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has asked all States to keep strict watch on milk, packaged milk, packaged drinking water, packaged sweets and edible oil being sold in the market;
- (b) whether any kind of contamination or adulteration has come to the notice of the authority about the products so far;

- (c) if so, during the last one year how many samples of such products have been collected and samples tested; and
- (d) the number of cases on which action were taken and products banned?

Improving services in health sector

- 136. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the status of health facilities/services available in the country;
- (b) whether certain areas of the health sector are reportedly lagging behind in terms of health services, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to improve the overall services in the health sector in the country?

Health scheme for rural children

- 137. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has started any health scheme in the States for rural children who are considered to be the most vulnerable from point of view of health care; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and funds spent for this purpose in the last three years, State-wise; and if not, by when such scheme will be implemented for rural children?

Provision for spectacles, dentures and hearing aids under NRHM

- 138. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is no provision in the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) to provide spectacles, dentures and hearing aids etc. particularly to senior citizens in the rural areas; and
- (b) if so, whether there is any proposal to provide spectacles, dentures and hearing aids etc. free of cost to the senior citizens in the rural areas under NRHM and if not, the reasons therefor?

Failure of TB control programme in tribal areas

- 139. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the reaction of the Ministry to ICMR's study which indicated that TB Control Programme has failed in most of the tribal areas of the country;
- (b) the details of other findings of the study; and
- (c) the manner in which the Ministry is planning to revisit the Revised National TB Control Programme in tribal areas?

Shelving of free drugs and diagnostic schemes

- 140. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has taken a decision to shelve the free drugs and diagnostic scheme under the National Health Assurance Mission;

- (b) whether it is a fact that Government has made major cuts in major social sector programmes; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government's healthcare outlay is stagnant at around ₹ 33,000 crore and has not gone up from 1.2 per cent of GDP to 2-2.25 per cent of GDP as suggested in the draft National Health Policy, if so, the details thereof?

AIIMS in North-Eastern Region

- 141. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any plan to establish AIIMS in the North-Eastern Region, specially in Tripura; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the same are likely to be set up and if not, the reasons therefor?

Survey of AIIMS, Bhopal

- †142. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey to find out the present functioning condition of All India Institute of Medical Science, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh and other hospital/affiliated hospitals under the control of Central Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to improve the functioning of these hospitals?

Beneficiaries under RSBY

- 143. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of beneficiaries presently being covered under the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), State-wise break-up thereof; and
- (b) the names of districts where RSBY has not yet been implemented and the reasons for its non-implementation?

Proposed sites for new AIIMS in Uttar Pradesh

- †144. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of new AIIMS proposed to be set up in Uttar Pradesh and the locations selected for the construction of new AIIMS along with the action taken so far with regard to the construction;
- (b) by when the proposed new AIIMS would start functioning in the State; and
- (c) whether steps are being taken in the direction of providing human resource and other equipments to new AIIMS?

Impact of payment delays on healthcare schemes

- 145. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that payment delays dent India's flagship health schemes, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the progress in National Health Mission has slowed down considerably in most of the States, if so, the details thereof?

Recovery of excess payment to AIIMS employees

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

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the case of employees of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) having been given a higher amount of house rent allowance has been mentioned by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) in its report and it has also been reported that these employees have been given a higher amount than their prescribed annual increment:
- (b) if so, since when it has been happening and the resultant loss to the exchequer;
- (c) whether the process of recovery is being initiated after giving such huge amount of money; and
- (d) whether any punitive action has been taken in this regard?

Urban entries started in Delhi Under NUHM

- 147. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the number of urban entries have increase in Delhi under National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) Scheme after 1 May, 2013;

- (b) if so, the total number of urban entries started in Delhi and details of facilities available; and
 - (c) the areas of new entries in Delhi?

Impact of climate change in incidence of diseases

- 148. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether unprecedented changes in environment and climate have led to widespread incidence of contagious diseases in different parts of the country, if so, the steps envisaged to rein in their influence:
- (b) whether morbidity is generally on the increase in the country, or is it so only in the case of certain types of diseases;
- (c) the details of steps taken by Government to eliminate or reduce the incidence of life style diseases?

Low GDP outlay for healthcare sector

- 149. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the health care outlay in our country as a percentage of GDP is low compared to other developing and developed countries, if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether it is a fact that it is declining over the last few years, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to increase the expenditure on healthcare in this country, if so, the details thereof; and

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure proper utilization of funds and to provide proper healthcare facilities to all the citizens of this country?

Monitoring Committee for AIIMS like institutes

- 150. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of AIIMS and AIIMS-like Institutions Government has proposed to establish in different States of the country and the time by which these will be functional; and
- (b) whether Government has established any Monitoring Committee to review the functioning of the existing AIIMS in different States and if so, the details thereof?

Regularisation of contractual staff in Doordarshan

- 151. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any plan to recruit a large number of staff on contractual basis in Doordarshan and All India Radio;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to regularise the contractual staff working in the Public Broadcasters like Doordarshan and All India Radio; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons thereof?

Betterment of Prasar Bharati

- †152. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Prasar Bharati's assistance was not sought for running the DD Kisan Channel, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether Government is considering auditing the salaries of 30,000 employees of Prasar Bharati, if so, the reasons therefor:
- (c) whether the DD News Chief reports to the Ministry instead of the CEO of Prasar Bharati; and
- (d) details of Government's plan to make Prasar Bharati better?

Legislation to regulate participation in Media sector

- 153. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has suggested the barring of political parties, religious bodies and Government funded entities and affiliates to gain ownership of the media and even surrogate of such entities for entering the broadcasting and television channel distribution sectors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether demands have been made by various NGOs and TRAI for any legislation to regulate the participation of such entities in media sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and action taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi

Status of Kisan Channel

154. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2230 replied on 17 March, 2015 in the Rajya Sabha and state the present status of the Kisan Channel as announced in the Union Budget 2014-15?

Curb on sham marriages

- 155. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry about the rampant sham marriages in the old city of Hyderabad during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details of such marriages in the country, particularly Hyderabad;
- (c) whether it is a fact that sham marriages increases in Ramzan season since laws during this time are stricter in Gulf countries; and
- (d) the manner in which the Ministry is planning to curb such marriages?

UGC fellowship to minority community

- 156. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is deliberate delay in the disbursal of fellowship to minority community student by Government's funding agency like UGC:

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) what is the minimum time period UGC undertakes for the verification of documents under Maulana Azad National Fellowship for Minority (MANFM);
- (d) whether it is a fact that fellowship disbursal complaint redressal mechanism is dysfunctional in UGC;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with total number of complaints received from minority students under MANFM in last three years; and
- (f) the details of MANFM awarded in last three years, year-wise and State-wise?

Scholarship to minority students

- 157. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has schemes under which scholarships are awarded to minority students for education overseas:
- (b) the details of students who have been awarded scholarships for education overseas; and
- (c) the details of the total funds allocated and categorized according to these schemes?

Minority status to Jain Community

- †158. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has included the Jain Community into minority community;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) the benefits accrued to Jain Community thereby; and
- (c) whether this community has been granted certificate of minority community if not, the reasons therefor?

Criticism of working of the Minority Welfare Organizations

- 159. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that some organizations have criticized the working of National Commission for Minorities (NCM), National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) and Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF);

- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the action being taken to improve the working of these bodies?

Functioning of Waqf Boards in various States

- 160. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Waqf Boards functioning at present in various States;
- (b) the details of Waqf properties under the control of such boards;
- (c) the estimated cost of properties under each board; and
- (d) the nature of control of the Central Government on the Waqf Boards?

New Delhi; *The* 15th July, 2015 *Asadha* 24, 1937 (Saka) SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF, Secretary-General.

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