

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, November 21, 2016/Kartika 30, 1938 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 160

Misuse of coal mines leading to revenue losses

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

(a) whether it is a fact that misuse of coal mines leads to revenue losses to Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Coal India Limited has rejected the bid of private firms to develop coal mines in many parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Pollution due to coal production

482. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware about hazard of extremely high level of dust and water pollution created because of coal production in the country;

(b) the details of usage of water for coal production during the last five years, State-wise and coal mine-wise;

(c) the status of modernization plans for equipments used in coal production and transportation with regards to treatment of generated dust and recycling of water; and

(d) the details of pollution generated along with its reasons and the steps taken to monitor and prevent the same?

Objectives of new energy policy

483. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and the objectives of proposed energy policy;

(b) how the new one is different from the existing policy;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is opposing the proposed policy and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what are the reasons that NITI Aayog is proposing to align domestic coal prices with international prices and what are the advantages and disadvantages of such alignment?

Auctioning of coal linkages

484. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce the tariff based competitive bidding for auctioning of coal linkages and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any inter-Ministrial Committee (IMC) was constituted for the purpose;

(c) if so, the terms of reference of the Committee;

(d) whether IMC has submitted its recommendations and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the follow-up action taken thereon?

Import of coal

485. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state the total amount of coal imported by the country during 2015 and till July, 2016?

Export of thermal coal

486. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether India could become a competitive exporter of thermal coal given the surplus coal stocks lying in the country before the next fiscal year; and

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

Land allocation to public sector coal companies in Maharashtra

†487. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to conduct a detailed survey to ascertain the availability of coal in the land allocated to public sector coal companies and if so, by when and the details thereof;

(b) the area of land allocated to public sector coal companies in Maharashtra for exploiting coal; and

(c) whether Government proposes to take back unuseful land from coal companies and if so, by when and the details thereof?

Increasing coal production

488. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal production in our country has been doubled during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of comparative increase;

(c) whether Government has planned to increase import of coal, keeping in view the increase in production;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Curbing unlawful excavation of coal by CCL

489. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) has failed to control unlawful

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

coal mining within its areas of operations;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the measures taken by CCL to curb the same;

(c) whether Government has taken any action against the coal companies which have been employing children in coal mines, as per recent reports; and

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

Operationalisation of coal blocks allocated to steel and power sector

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

(a) the details of coal blocks/mines allocated to steel and power sector industries through auction after the recent amendments in the laws;

(b) the details of mines which have become operational out of them and the quantity of coal extracted from them;

(c) whether some mines have not become operational; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Domestic production of coal

491. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is focusing on increasing domestic production of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of imports of coal and the cost thereof during the last five years?

Status of open auction of coal mines

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

(a) in its open auction of coal mines how many coal mines were auctioned by Government and how many of them have started operations; and

(b) how much revenue the Central and the State Governments have got out of those mines?

Guidelines for NBA

493. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the guidelines for Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) have been issued;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the goal of NBA with regard to sanitation; and

(d) what is the present status thereof?

Supply of piped drinking water to SC/ST settlements

†494. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe dominated settlements where drinking water is not being supplied through pipes, as on date;

(b) the details and number of settlements where the supply of drinking water through pipes has been started during the last two years; and

(c) by when the drinking water supply through pipes would be made available to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

all settlements located in the areas dominated by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

Regular maintenance of water purification system

495. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken measures to ensure regular maintenance of water purification system;

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

(c) the details of water quality testing laboratories set up to enhance availability of more purified drinking water to the public along with their current operational status in the country?

Amount spent on SBM

496. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Government on Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) during each of the last two years, in each State; and

(b) the work done during that period?

Funds for construction of toilets

497. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount required for construction of toilets with two soak pit design, as per specification estimated by CPWD;

(b) whether Government is aware that

amount of ₹ 12,000/- provided for construction of toilets is very insufficient;

(c) whether Government is also aware that toilets constructed with this amount are non-usable; and

(d) whether Government has any plan to increase the amount for construction of toilets?

Construction of toilets

498. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of toilets built in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the estimated number of people who have no access to toilets yet and have to defecate in the open; and

(c) the targets fixed for construction of toilets during the next three years, State-wise?

Implementation of SBM

499. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM); and

(b) if so, the details of towns declared, so far, as open defecation free and what is the target fixed for the next year?

Supply of piped drinking water in Vindhyachal

500. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received from the Uttar Pradesh Government to include two more districts of Vindhyachal region under the Piped Drinking Water Scheme; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in this regard?

Scarcity of water in Punjab

501. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the average use of groundwater in Punjab as compared to the average use of groundwater in the country;

(b) whether excessive use of groundwater in Punjab during the last two years has mainly contributed to the scarcity of water in the State and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to overcome the issue of water scarcity in that State; and

(d) whether any proposals have been devised to curb this issue in future?

Open defecation

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

(a) the details of States that have declared that all their cities and towns are open defecation free in the country;

(b) how they have been able to achieve this task and time-frame within which they have achieved this status;

(c) whether this model is going to be replicated in other States to achieve the targets of Swachh Bharat Mission; and

(d) what special incentives the Ministry is going to provide to those States who have declared their urban areas open defecation free?

Water quality testing laboratories

503. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any defined processes and timelines to periodically test the quality of drinking water in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the results of last such assessment conducted and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the State-wise details of number of water quality testing laboratories in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu?

Allocation of funds under RWSS in Tamil Nadu

504. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount allocated to Tamil Nadu under various Rural Water Supply Schemes (RWSS) during the last two years and the current year;

(b) the details of amount utilized by State and the achievements made, so far; and

(c) whether there is any reason or analysis conducted by Government in case of under utilization of funds and if so, the details thereof?

Setting up of National Drinking Water Grid

†505. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received any proposal to set up National Drinking Water Grid to ensure safety of drinking water in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any decision has been taken/ would be taken soon on the proposal of setting up of National Drinking Water Grid; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Programmes under NRDWP

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

(a) the details of various programmes which have been started under National Rural Drinking Water Programme;

(b) whether the implementation of drinking water projects in various States under this programme has been expedited;

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

(d) the steps taken by Government for expediting the implementation of drinking water projects in the country?

Public sanitation in Maharashtra

507. SHRI D. P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of public sanitation in

Maharashtra through various schemes since 2014;

(b) the district and the village with the highest and lowest number of households with the facility of sanitation; and

(c) the immediate measures taken up by Government to end open defecation in that State?

Ranking of India's water quality

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

(a) whether India's ranking in the world in its drinking water quality has been assessed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Supply of untreated water to rural households

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

(a) whether it is fact that 13 per cent of rural households, approximately 22 million people, are served by untreated piped water connections; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that WHO estimates that, in India, about 38 million people are affected by waterborne diseases each year, of which over 75 per cent are children and whether about 780,000 deaths are attributed to contaminated water and more than 400,000 deaths all attributed to diarrhea alone?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Open defecation

510. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in the country which have attained complete open defecation by the end of October, 2016;

(b) the time-limit set by Government to attain complete open defecation in the country;

(c) the approximate amount of money Government plans to spend to achieve the targets of Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM); and

(d) the total number of toilets constructed under SBM in the country, so far?

Status of SBM

511. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of budget earmarked and achievements made under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) during the last two years;

(b) the details of expectations and achievements of the Mission, State-wise;

(c) whether SBM is a limited sanitation programme or it includes other things also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Construction of toilets under SBM

512. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of toilets

that have been constructed under the Swachh Bharat Mission in Jharkhand;

(b) how many of them are functional;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of toilets are unusable due to faulty planning, non-availability of water, etc.; and

(d) what steps are being taken to address this issue?

Release of GM mustard for cultivation

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

(a) whether Government has released genetically modified mustard HT DMH II for cultivation during this winter;

(b) whether Government had consulted various State Governments and sought expert opinions before releasing the crop and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the introduction of Herbicide Tolerant (HT) crops would impair the country's shift to organic farming and if so, the details thereof?

Permissible level of gases and pollutants

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

(a) whether Government has prescribed guidelines for maximum permissible level for about a dozen gases and pollutants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent these guidelines would be helpful in containing the air and other pollution in the country?

Level of pollution in metropolitan cities

†515. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the date-wise details of maximum environmental pollution and scale-wise range and danger level of pollution during the period ranging during the years 2013 to 2016 in each of ten major metropolitan cities in the country; and

(b) the status and details of concrete measures and programmes undertaken to make the cities and the rivers free from pollution in the above context?

Data manipulation of GM mustard testing

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

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of data manipulation in the case of GM mustard testing by Delhi University's Centre for Genetic Manipulation of Crop Plants; and

(b) if so, what is the action that the Ministry intends to take in this case since AICRPRM infrastructure has been used for the same?

Air pollution in Delhi

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

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

(a) whether the air pollution level in Delhi during October, 2016 has been above the prescribed limits and due to it people have to face a lot of problems;

(b) the amount of pollution generated by vehicles everyday in NCR and the steps taken by Government when it is found above the prescribed limits;

(c) whether an increase in pollution level of Delhi is recorded due to burning of paddy straw and other waste materials in the farmland in the nearby States of Delhi;

(d) whether Government is contemplating to install air purifying system in view of the pollution in Delhi; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Alternatives to Monsanto's Bt. cotton

518. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of efforts being made to develop desi alternatives to Monsanto's Bt. cotton;

(b) whether it is also a fact that GM mustard is almost on the final stages of its field trial for commercial production; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Steps to get rid of pollution

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

(a) to what extent, Government is conscious of the situation and taking immediate steps to get rid of India's own

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

share in global pollution in view of a recently released report by World Bank, citing therein that 90 per cent of global population was reeling under an alarming level of pollution;

(b) whether any initiative is being taken to review the situation by establishing a coordination among Ministries of Commerce and Industry, Road Transport and Highways, MSME, Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises and Environment, Forest and Climate Change; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Population of tigers, cubs and other wild animals

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

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

(a) the population of tigers, cubs and other wild animals in various reserve forests, and in Kanha Tiger Reserve of Madhya Pradesh, in particular;

(b) how many incidents of tiger deaths were reported during the last two years and since January, 2016 separately;

(c) whether any representation have been received from wildlife conservationists and enthusiasts for the protection of tigers in Kanha and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of action taken or proposed to be taken to protect wild animals in the reserve forest areas?

Use of plastic in day-to-day life

521. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of

ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether use of plastic in day-to-day life has been found to be very damaging to the environment, especially the plastic used in packaging with thickness less than 40 microns which continues to be manufactured in a big way in utter violation of law in force;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what remedial measures Government has already taken or plans to take in near future to restrict the use of thin plastic in packaging industry to help save the environmental degradation; and

(d) whether Government has any specific plan to encourage use of degradable plastic in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Noise pollution in metropolitan cities

522. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any study regarding increased level of noise pollution in metropolitan cities in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has drawn any strategy to reduce noise pollution there and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent the use of pressure horns in heavy vehicles in the country?

Phasing down of HFCs

523. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT,

FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, after seven years of negotiations, more than 197 countries including India, reached a historic agreement on October 15, 2016 at Kigali (Rwanda) to amend the Montreal Protocol and phase down the use of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs);

(b) whether India and China are the only developing countries that manufacture HFCs, considered to be a threat to ozone layer; and

(c) whether India managed to secure a workable deal at the Kigali summit allowing its heating, ventilation and air-conditioning sector to grow while giving time to refrigeration manufacturers to shift to sustainable alternatives?

Burning of paddy stubble in Punjab and Haryana

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

(a) whether, despite Delhi High Court Orders, paddy stubble in farmlands across Punjab and Haryana are going up in smoke triggering pollution alarm over Delhi;

(b) whether NASA's Web Fire Mapper indicates that red dots that denote smouldering fire have increased exponentially over Punjab, Haryana and parts of Uttar Pradesh during the last fortnight;

(c) whether, because of this menace recurring every pre-winter months, the air quality in the national capital is slowly plugging from moderate to poor levels; and

(d) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has tried to curtail this

recurrence of annual phenomenon of stubble burning across northern plain?

Field trial of GM crops

525. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of GM crops (plants and traits) allowed to conduct confined field trials during 2014-15;

(b) the names of GM crops released for commercial cultivation during 2002-03; and

(c) by when Government would release and commercialize GM varieties which have been tested to be biosafe?

Green Law violators

526. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Green Law violators have increased to recent years, as per the data of National Crime Records Bureau;

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

(c) the number and the details of persons who are arrested during that period under the Indian Forest Act, 1927, the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and the Environment Protection Act, 1986?

Dumping of wastes by pharmaceutical companies in rivers

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that river pollution has reached to an alarming level at various places in the country due to waste being flown by pharmaceutical companies in the rivers and the local people have become victims of several diseases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any report in this regard has been released by the United Nations, in recent times; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Bird flu in Delhi

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

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

(a) whether suspected H5 avian influenza, bird flu, hit Delhi Zoo and a few birds were found dead and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Deer Park lake and other bird sanctuaries in Delhi were also hit by bird flu and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether rapid response teams were constituted to monitor the cases of bird flu and to take remedial measures and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what precautions have been taken to forewarn the public who visit these areas?

Protection of tigers

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

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

(a) whether the Global Tiger Forum (GTF) has proposed India's robust tiger estimation method to Southeast Asian countries, to boost tiger population and if so, the details thereof;

(b) what is the population of tigers in various reserve forests in the country, during the last three years, sanctuary-wise and year-wise;

(c) the measures taken by Government to conserve and protect the tigers in various forest reserves; and

(d) the steps taken to involve NGOs and experts in boosting the wild animal population?

Capping of green house gases

530. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 200 nations, including India, agree to cap greenhouse gases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India would begin the process in 2028 and reduce the emissions by 18 per cent by 2032; and

(d) if so, whether Government has put the things in place to reduce the emission target and if so, the details thereof?

Reservation of forest areas for grazing

531. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state whether there is any Government policy to reserve some portion of forest for sheep or cattle grazing that would help in survival of sheep, cattle and also shepherd community?

Hydro power projects pending for environmental clearance

532. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hydro power projects which are under consideration of Government for environmental clearance during the last three years, State-wise particularly those from Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra and the reasons for their pendency; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to accord approval to these pending proposals, with a view to improve power sector in the country?

Commercialisation of GM mustard seed

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

(a) whether Government is taking steps to commercialise GM mustard seed developed by Indian Scientists; and

(b) if so, the time-frame thereof?

Air pollution in Delhi and NCR

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

(a) the names of the most polluted cities in the country;

(b) whether several schools in Delhi and NCR had to be closed recently due to air pollution and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken to curb pollution in Delhi and NCR during the last two years and the results thereof; and

(d) whether Government is aware of alarming situation emanating from rising pollution and if so, the concrete and effective steps being considered by Government in this regard?

Burning of dry paddy hay in Punjab and Haryana

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

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that nearly 100 million tonnes of dry paddy hay has been burnt in paddy fields of Punjab and Haryana;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the impact of such burning;

(c) how the burning has impacted pollution levels of Delhi and other neighbouring cities; and

(d) the steps the Ministry has taken or proposed to take to prevent such wasteful and harmful exercise of burning very essential fodder resource which is badly required in some other parts of the country?

Dumping of industrial waste on ground and water

536. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are major health problems due to dumping of industrial waste on ground and in water bodies and if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the State/Union Territory-wise details regarding dumping of industrial waste on ground and in water bodies during the last three years; and

(c) whether any measures are taken by Government during that period to control this menace and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Notice on Baina beach beautification project

537. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Green Tribunal has given a notice to the Coastal Zone Management Authority of Goa (GCZMA) and the Goa Tourism Development Corporation (GTDC) in the matter of Baina beach beautification project;

(b) what are the grounds on which the notice has been given;

(c) the details of violations noted by NGT; and

(d) the details of stand taken by GCZMA and GTDC respectively?

Action plan on containing climate

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

(a) what is the action plan of Government, so far as containing climate is concerned after ratification of Paris Accord; and

(b) the details in this regard?

Smelter project of NALCO in Iran

539. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to review the smelter project of NALCO in Iran;

(b) whether it is also a fact that NALCO has been in the process of setting up a five lakh tonnes of aluminium smelter in Iran where it can procure natural gas at cheap rate; and

(c) what is the total amount spent by NALCO for project initiatives at Iran, so far?

Illegal mining

540. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the instances of illegal mining which came to the notice of Government during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the action taken by Government to prevent such instances, in future;

(c) whether Government has created a mining surveillance system using latest satellite technology to check illegal mining; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Mining activities in scheduled tribe areas

†541. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is permitting mining activities in scheduled tribe areas;

(b) if so, whether any stringent rules have been prescribed by Government for mining activities in the said areas; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

Identification of geological potential areas

542. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the process of identifying geological potential areas is on in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such areas identified, so far;

(c) how much of it is actually being mined; and

(d) the target and time-frame fixed for this?

Exploitation of solar and wind energy in West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh

543. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

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

(a) whether any assessment has been made to exploit the potential of solar and wind energy in West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the districts identified for development of solar and wind energy; State-wise;

(c) the details of progress made in putting up of an action plan in this regard; State-wise; and

(d) how long it would take to implement this plan in those States?

Generation of electricity from municipal solid wastes

544. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals received by the Central Government from different quarters to generate electricity from municipal solid wastes and the action taken thereon; and

(b) the number of projects to generate electricity from solid wastes being run in various cities, State-wise and the volume of electricity generated from such projects?

Power from tidal waves

545. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on generating power from tidal waves;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of places selected for establishing such project?

Renewable Energy Resources University at Anantapuram

546. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Ministry to establish a Renewable Energy Resources University at Anantapuram district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of response of the Ministry to such request?

Grid-interactive power targets

547. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM:
SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

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

(a) the details of grid-interactive power targets set and achieved during the last three years for generation of energy, solar power, biomass power and gasification from wastes in the country;

(b) whether the set targets were achieved during the stipulated time-frame;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor along with the corrective steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the details of proposals approved for generation of solar power in different States during the current year, location-wise?

Release of funds under Solar City Programme

548. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds sanctioned under the Solar City Programme amounts to ₹ 2173.10 lakh out of which only ₹ 479.23 lakh has been released till date and if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the amount of funds released till date;

(b) the expected time period for the identified solar cities to be developed and functioning under the scheme;

(c) whether out of 6 identified cities in

Maharashtra and sanctioned nearly ₹ 50 lakh each, less than ₹ 5 lakh has been released for 3 of them and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of funds sanctioned and released, State-wise?

Guidelines on development of onshore wind power projects

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

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

(a) whether Government has issued draft guidelines on development of onshore wind power projects using new technologies and regulations;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the guidelines;

(c) how far these guidelines would facilitate development of wind projects in an efficient, cost-effective and environmentally benign manner, the details thereof; and

(d) the present installed wind power generation capacity in the country and the target projected by the year 2022?

Projects eligible for funding under NCEF

550. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of projects eligible for funding under the National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF);

(b) the number of projects pending for approval under NCEF;

(c) since when the National River Conservation Programme (NRCP) came to be funded by NCEF; and

(d) the details thereof?

Achievements of Ministry

551. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of achievements of the Ministry during the last two and a half years;

(b) whether the Ministry's last two years' achievements were presented before the Prime Minister and if so, the details thereof;

(c) where the Ministry has fallen short of its targets and the areas where it has excelled;

(d) what are the targets set for the coming three years and the roadmap to achieve the same;

(e) the details of difficulties brought before the Prime Minister and the suggestions made to overcome them; and

(f) the details of core areas the Ministry is going to focus on during the coming three years?

Requirement of skilled manpower

552. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the study conducted by the Council for Energy, Environment and Water and the Natural Resources Defence Council, there is a huge requirement of skilled manpower in new and renewable energy sector;

(b) how, in the absence of skilled manpower, the Ministry is planning to achieve 1.75 lakh MW of renewable energy by 2022;

(c) whether any consultations have been held with the Ministry of Skill Development in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Imported machines and other materials for solar and wind energy

†553. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:
SHRI P.L. PUNIA:

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

(a) the details of amount involved in importing machines and other essential items for generation of solar and wind energy during the last two years and the proportion of such items being imported from China alone; and

(b) whether Government would levy anti-dumping duty to bring down the import of foreign solar panels and solar modules and also to boost the domestic industries and if not, the reasons therefor?

Generation of geothermal energy

554. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the geothermal energy is supposed to be eco-friendly and costs less;

(b) whether such energy is being generated anywhere in the country and if so, how its generation could be increased; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Adequate infrastructure to Panchayats

555. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme is being implemented by Government to ensure adequate infrastructure facilities to panchayats across the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government had also proposed for computerization of all the panchayats and also for provisions of services through online; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the financial allocations made by Government for this purpose during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Scheduled areas under Fifth Schedule

556. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Scheduled areas, as identified by the Fifth Schedule, where panchayats have been constituted under the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, State-wise; and

(b) what have been the achievements of the Act in these areas during the last five years?

Balanced development of villages through PRIs

557. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government policy for ensuring balanced development of all

the villages through Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the country; and

(b) the details of funds allocated to panchayats during the last three State/UT-wise?

India's position in Global Hunger Index

558. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the latest edition of Global Hunger Index (GHI) which pegs India at 97th positions among 118 countries, showing a fall in ranking at 80th among 104 countries last year; and

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

Status of planning

559. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether planning is still functional in the country;

(b) if so, in which areas of the economy;

(c) whether Government intends to wind it up completely and if so, by when;

(d) how Government intends to wipe-out social evils like hunger, illiteracy, morbidity, poverty, etc.; and

(e) in what way projects would be drawn up and funds earmarked?

NITI Aayog's advice on divestment of CPSUs

560. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NITI Aayog has advised to divest a large number of Central Public Undertakings (CPSUs) including Alloy Steel Plant of SAIL;

(b) if so, which are the other CPSUs which have been proposed to be divested by NITI Aayog; and

(c) the reasons behind such proposal for divestment of CPSUs?

Protest against land acquisition by NTPC in Jharkhand

561. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several persons have died and injured while protesting against acquisition of their land by NTPC Ltd. in Chiradih area of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the persons died/injured during the last one year on this land dispute; and

(c) whether any compensation has been given to deceased family members and injured persons by NTPC Ltd. and if not, the reasons therefor?

Separate organisation for inter-State electricity transmission

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on creation of a separate organisation for assigning the responsibility of planning inter-State electricity transmission network; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Streamlining of electricity consumption system

563. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to streamline the system of electricity consumption in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether a meeting of high level committee has been conducted to discuss the issue and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of report submitted by the committee; and

(d) the details of recommendations made by the committee?

De-allocation of power allocated from NTPC stations

564. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the time when the Ministry would notify the de-allocation of allocated power from upcoming NTPC stations located outside Odisha, except the allocation from North Karanpura Super Thermal Power Station, so that the State would not be burdened by paying the fixed cost without availing power?

Power situation in the country

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

(a) whether there are villages and towns where electrification has not been extended or is partial and if so, the numbers thereof;

(b) the number of houses and people who are not provided with electricity, even now;

(c) the installed capacity of power and

consumption during the last three years;
and

(d) whether there is unutilized capacity of power and if so, the quantum thereof?

Subletting of contracts under RGGVY

566. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of private companies which have been awarded contracts under RGGVY in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, State-wise;

(b) whether Government is aware that these companies have further awarded the contracts on sublet basis to smaller companies in those States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of awardee companies which have not paid full amount of outstanding dues inspite of completion of work since the last one year particularly by smaller companies at Pipariya site, Madhya Pradesh; and

(e) the details of action Government would take against defaulting companies?

Rural electrification in Maharashtra

567. SHRI D. P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been total electrification in rural Maharashtra;

(b) if so, how many villages and rural households were covered in the process; and

(c) if not, what are the impediments in achieving total electrification in rural areas of that State and the steps taken therefor?

Shortage of power in Bihar

†568. SHRIMATI MISHA BHARTI:
SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any blueprint to meet the shortage of power in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of money proposed to be spent on this scheme;

(c) whether Government is proposing to provide more power to State Government from NTPC Barh; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Pending hydro power projects

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

(a) the details of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of hydro power projects that are pending before the Central Electricity Authority (CEA); and

(b) out of these DPRs, how many pertains to Tamil Nadu and the generating capacity of those power projects?

Enquiry into electrification under DDUGJY

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a CBI enquiry into electrification of villages under the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) after Nagla-Patela;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

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

Power shortage in NER

571. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the North Eastern Region (NER) daily power-cuts have increased due to shortage of power projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon;

(c) whether Government has any proposal for new power projects for NER to eradicate scarcity of power there; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Voltage fluctuations

572. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that voltage fluctuation in supply of electricity is a very common problem in India especially in rural areas; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that consistent voltage fluctuations render the electricity supply useless and if so, what steps are being taken by the Ministry to ensure minimum voltage fluctuation in electricity supply?

Status of NTPC-BHEL power project in Andhra Pradesh

573. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) when the NTPC-BHEL Power Projects Ltd. was conceived and what was the original cost and other objectives behind setting it up at Mannavaram in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) what was the estimated employment opportunities that the above JV would create on its completion;

(c) whether foundation stone was laid in 2010 but, so far, no tangible work has been done;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what is the likely date of commissioning of this project and what is the time and cost overrun?

Payment of bonus to construction companies

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

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

(a) whether the Ministry has given huge amount as bonus to companies engaged in highway construction work, in various parts of the country, including Bihar, that have completed their work before scheduled time;

(b) the number of such companies and the amount given to them for completing work before time during the last five years;

(c) whether bonus has been paid to a construction company in spite of it

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

overrunning prescribed time-limit in construction of four lane bridge on Koshi river in Bihar;

(d) whether CAG has presented a report in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Renewal coating on NHs in Madhya Pradesh

575. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has any programme/ policy for renewal coating on the National Highways in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the interval at which the renewal coating should be done on National Highways in the State;

(c) whether there is any delay in carrying out renewal coating on National Highways in the State and if so, by when such coating would be completed; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not carrying out renewal coating on National Highways in the State?

Four or six laning of National Highways

576. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that 78 per cent of our National Highways have only one or two lanes and 40 per cent of roads in the country are not metalled;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons behind these shortcomings along with the details of remedial measures Government proposes to take in this regard;

(d) whether Government has chalked out any plan to make the highways into four or six lanes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Funds for road safety

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

(a) the amount of funds released to States for improvement in road safety during the last three years;

(b) the details of utilization of the funds for road safety work carried out during the above period, State-wise;

(c) whether any future plan on road safety measures has been proposed, as road accident accounts highest number of deaths in the country; and

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

Foreign pension funds in brownfield projects

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to invite bids from foreign pension funds for recycling of brownfield projects to raise funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the process involves handing over of 75 odd brownfield road projects across the country to these foreign funds for a concession period of 30 years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Collection of toll by foreign funds

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the foreign funds would be allowed to collect toll as per law and maintain them under recycling of brownfield projects and that the ownership would not be transferred;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is expecting to garner ₹ 750,000 crore which would be given upfront by the fund managers and would be then ploughed back in creating other new projects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Sanitation and drinking water facilities on National Highways

580. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware about the large scale absence of clean toilets and drinking water facilities on National Highways across the country;

(b) the details of existing toilets and drinking water facilities on National Highways along with the details of toilets and drinking water facilities created during the last two years, State-wise;

(c) the details of policy for creation of toilets and drinking water facilities on National Highways; and

(d) the steps taken by the Ministry to achieve the Prime Minister's vision under policy to eliminate open defecation in the country?

Improvement in condition of National Highways

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

(a) whether the Central Government has taken or proposes to take any steps to formulate comprehensive programme at national level to improve the poor condition of National Highways, especially in backward and rural regions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, as on date; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds raised by NHAI

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

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has a plan to raise its budgeted target of ₹55,000 crore from Employees Provident Fund Organisation and LIC during the current fiscal year;

(b) whether the cost borrowing would be floating and linked to the 25 year Government securities rate;

(c) whether it is a fact that the amount so raised is going to be deployed by NHAI for implementing its projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Progress of construction of National Highways

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

(a) the details of construction work of National Highways projects (length completed in kilometers) during 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16, State-wise; and

(b) the details of targets finalized for 2016-17 for constructing the roads, in kilometers with special reference to Maharashtra?

Deregistration of old diesel vehicles

584. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: 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 instructed to deregister all diesel vehicles older than 10 years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the expected time by which the orders would be implemented;

(c) whether any consultations with stakeholders have been undertaken; and

(d) the likely impact of deregistration on the industry and commuters?

Six laning of NH1

585. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the construction work of six laning of Dhilwan to Jalandhar section on NH1 would be completed;

(b) whether Government has any proposal to extend six laning of Panipat-Jalandhar section on NH1 upto Amritsar;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Four laning of highways in Uttarakhand

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

(a) whether Government has decided to convert highways in Uttarakhand into four lanes;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that a bypass road is proposed to be constructed at Lohaghat the Champawat district and Pithoragarh in the State; and

(d) if so, by when the work is likely to start?

Old bridges in the country

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

(a) the details about the number of bridges which have outlived their age, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are a number of bridges in the country which are risky for vehicles;

(c) if so, whether Government has formulated a timebound plan to build new bridges replacing them; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Accidents on National Highways

588. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that one person is killed every two kilometers on National Highways;

(b) if so, the number of road accidents, injuries and fatalities on each National Highway during 2014, 2015 and 2016;

(c) what measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken by the Ministry to identify and rectify defects in road design, construction or maintenance to reduce accidents on National Highways;

(d) how many kilometers of National Highways are not illuminated as on date, National Highway-wise; and

(e) what steps are being taken to illuminate them completely?

Survival of trees planted along roads and highways

589. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that 90 per cent of tree saplings planted along the roads and highways do not survive due to lack of proper care and maintenance mechanism; and

(b) if so, what mechanism Government is likely to introduce for their care and maintenance to increase their survival rate?

Exemption from toll to defence personnel

590. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has withdrawn the letter (OM No.H-24030/32/2014-(Toll

dated 17th June, 2014) that withdrew exemption from toll tax available to 'on duty' and 'off duty' serving personnel of the defence services;

(b) whether the Ministry is aware that this exemption falls under the provisions of the Indian Tolls (Army and Air Force) Act, 1901 and various notifications and letters/OMs issued on the subject from time to time and also the decisions of Constitutional Courts;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Land acquisition for National Highways

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

(a) whether it is a fact that acquisition of land is a big hindrance for expansion of National Highways in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial measures are adopted to solve the problem?

Participation of States in GoM on Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill

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

(a) whether it is a fact that all State Ministers have not participated in the Group of Ministers (GoM) formed to review the provisions of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

People killed in road accidents

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

(a) whether, as per the road accident report of the Ministry, about 10,000 people were killed in crashes caused by potholes, speed breakers and roads under repair or under construction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has laid down any standards/parameters for construction and maintenance of roads and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to check killing of people in crashes caused by potholes, speed breakers and roads under repair or under construction?

Decongestion of traffic on National Highways

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

(a) whether Government has introduced any latest technology to decongest traffic on National Highways;

(b) if so, the highways identified in this regard; and

(c) the details of results achieved so far?

Bypass from NH-2 to NH-13

595. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NH-2 bypass from Kalindi

colony to NH-13 was inaugurated in 2001 by the Delhi Government;

(b) whether the work on the project was started then and stopped in between and, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this project would be started again or Government has cancelled this project; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

National Highway projects in Odisha

596. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many projects pertaining to construction of National Highways are in progress in Odisha;

(b) the details of funds allocated to each of such project; and

(c) by when these projects are stated to be completed?

Construction of National Highways

†597. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 2,995 Kms. of National Highways were constructed during 2014-15 and not 6704 Kms.;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the authorities of the Ministry tampered with the data to indicate rise in road construction by suddenly increasing the length of National Highways by converting the State Highways into National Highways;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of State Highways which have been converted into National

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Highways during the last three years alongwith their total length, year-wise?

New ROB projects

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

(a) whether Government has conducted any feasibility studies to go about with new Road Over Bridge (ROB) projects in the country;

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

(c) whether Government has taken several steps to mobilize funds for speedy completion of certain ROB projects which are incomplete/pending due to lack of funds;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the details of such projects, State-wise; and

(e) the total expenditure incurred during the last five years to execute ROB projects on National Highways in the country?

Coverage of National Highway network

†599. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is committed to strengthen road transport to every corner of the country through National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the incomplete work of National Highway to Muzaffarpur and the work of bridge over river Ganga in Patna would be completed?

Funds for repair of National Highways in Rajasthan

†600. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds being allocated to Rajasthan for repairing of National Highways per year;

(b) whether the amount is being allocated as per demand of Rajasthan Government and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the balance amount would be reimbursed and, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Development of airstrips on highways

†601. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to develop airstrips on some highways;

(b) if so, the number of highways on which it is feasible;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of National Highways in the country and their length?

Repair and maintenance of NHs in Rajasthan

†602. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds provided to Rajasthan for repair and maintenance of the National Highways passing through the State during the last five years;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government intends to allocate sufficient funds to Rajasthan Government for repair and maintenance of National Highways in the State in view of their requests and proposals and, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Central Government on the said proposals of Rajasthan Government during the last three years?

Demand for work under MGNREGA

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

(a) whether it is a fact that number of such villagers who are not getting work commensurate with their demand has gone up significantly under MGNREGA during 2014-15 and 2015-16 and if so, the numbers thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the details of specific plans being chalked out by Government for inclusion of differently-abled, aboriginal tribal groups, nomadic tribal groups, etc. under MGNREGA?

Additional funds for SAGY

604. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to provide additional funds to implement Saansad Aadarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY); and

(b) whether Government has taken any concrete steps to ensure preferential consideration and speedy release of funds from various Centrally Sponsored Schemes for SAGY?

Progress of PMGSY in Madhya Pradesh

605. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the length and details of roads constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in Madhya Pradesh during the last five years;

(b) whether any financial assistance was received from the World Bank/ADB or any other international funding agency for construction of roads;

(c) the target fixed for completion of these roads in the State;

(d) whether the present target for construction of roads has been achieved and if so, how many villages have been connected to the nearest main roads; and

(e) whether there is any delay in achieving this target and if so, the reasons therefor?

Construction of bridge over Mathred river

606. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any representation, which was forwarded by the Prime Minister's Office in October, 2016, regarding inclusion of construction of RCC Pucca/steel foot bridge over Mathred river to link Nandla and other villages and construction of link road from Jangla to Nandla Village in Chirgaon Tehsil in Shimla District of Himachal Pradesh under NABARD Assisted Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response in this regard; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government would ask the State Government to include these projects under NABARD assisted scheme for development of the area?

Scheme for training and employment of rural youth

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

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme to impart training and provide employment opportunities to the rural youth and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government proposes to seek any assistance from the corporate sector in this regard and, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to cover educated unemployed youth of minority communities under this scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the names of States where the said scheme for this purpose have been proposed to be implemented?

Shortfall in construction of houses

608. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Indira Awaas Yojana, now restructured as Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana, the number of houses to be constructed fell short by 44 million units during 2012 to 2016; and

(b) if so, the reasons for such shortfall and the budgetary allocations made for the scheme during the last four financial years, year-wise and State-wise?

Review of working of CAPART

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

(a) whether the Ministry has reviewed the working of Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by Government to fortify CAPART in the proper implementation of the schemes?

Objectives of NRLM

610. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the main objectives of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM); and

(b) the total beneficiary households under NRLM during 2014-15 and 2015-16, State-wise?

Performance of MGNREGA

611. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the demands for jobs under MGNREGA during the current year due to drought and flood situation in the country;

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

(c) the details of funds allocated, released and utilized under MGNREGA during the current year, till date, State-wise;

(d) whether Government has sent unofficial whatsapp messages to inform States that no more funds would be released and existing funds have to be utilized judiciously by the States, contrary to the provisions of MGNREGA and;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Works under PMGSY in Punjab

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

(a) the details of works sanctioned, *i.e.* number of road works and road length, and works completed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in Punjab during the last three years and the current year, district-wise;

(b) whether the allocation for the State under PMGSY has been drastically reduced by Government for the current year and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of funds allocated to the State and spent during the last three years and the current year, district-wise?

Village connected with road under PMGSY

†613. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:
SHRI P.L. PUNIA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages which have been connected with main roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the last two years;

(b) the number of such villages in the country which are yet to be connected with main roads; and

(c) whether a time bound action plan has been drawn up under PMGSY to connect all villages to main roads and if so, the details thereof?

Grants to SMJKY

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

(a) whether Government is aware that State Government of Maharashtra has recently introduced Samridh Maharashtra Jan Kalyan Yojana (SMJKY) to make villages of the State prosperous;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to provide central grants to the State Government to supplement its endeavour for the success of SMJKY; and

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

Demand to link MGNREGA with agriculture

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

(a) whether there has been demand from the State Governments, particularly Maharashtra, to link MGNREGA with agricultural works;

(b) if so, the names of other States which have made such demand; and

(c) by when the Ministry would include the same in the list of MGNREGA works?

Employment provided to rural unemployed youths

†616. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of employment provided to the rural unemployed youth during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise and State/UT-wise;

(b) whether Government is aware that rural youth are not getting sufficient

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

employment under various employment generation schemes and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of funds allocated under the said scheme, during the last three years, State/UT-wise?

Stipend for rural disabled for joining skill development programme

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

(a) whether Government proposes to reduce employment discrimination by rolling out a scheme to give a minimum stipend to every disabled person from rural areas who gets a job through Government's skill development programme;

(b) the details of the proposed scheme;

(c) the percentage of disabled persons proposed to be covered under the scheme; and

(d) what is the timeline for implementing the proposed scheme?

Pending PMGSY projects

618. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of road projects taken up under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are pending for more than four years;

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

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to speed up the execution of projects in a time bound manner?

Revamping of shipping projects

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

(a) whether Government plans for revamping of about 13 shipping projects under Sagarmala Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when these ports under the programme would be fully ready for operationalization?

Development of ports under Sagarmala Project

620. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any proposal from Government of Odisha for development of ports under Sagarmala Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the feasibility reports and other formalities of these projects have been completed, so far, and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of those projects which have been short listed for development?

MoUs for development of ports and manufacture of ships

621. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state the details of MoUs signed with foreign countries during the last two years for the development of ports and manufacture of ships in the country?

Revival of river Saraswati

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

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

(a) whether it is a fact that scientific evidences have revealed that the mythological river Saraswati used to pass through Gujarat, Rajasthan and Haryana;

(b) if so, the scientific details thereof and whether the Ministry is contemplating to further revive the river in this direction; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Reducing floods

623. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives taken by the Ministry to ensure long term solutions to the annual flood situation in various parts of the country, as every year almost 10 States of the country get affected by floods;

(b) whether the Ministry is taking help from scientists, researchers and other river management experts to find the solution to this problem;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether there is any time-frame in place to ensure proper management of river

water, reservoirs and dams to reduce floods in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Rain water harvesting

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

(a) whether Government has taken any steps for rain water harvesting for irrigation so that water can be saved;

(b) whether Government proposes to prevent the floods which wreak havoc every year by using this rain water for irrigation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Poisonous effluents into groundwater

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

(a) whether Government is aware that a large number of industrial units in the country have been bluntly gushing down untreated, poisonous effluents into groundwater through hidden, secretly installed borings;

(b) if so, the details of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report in this regard;

(c) whether various State Pollution Control Boards are ineffective in dealing with such a situation; and

(d) if so, the manner in which Government/CPCB proposes to take

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

effective steps to check such rising pollution in groundwater?

Task force on interlinking of rivers

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

(a) whether the task force set up by Government to look into the matter of interlinking of rivers of the country has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, when the task force is expected to submit its report; and

(d) whether the task force had consulted the Tamil Nadu Government on this issue?

National status to Kaleshwaram project

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

(a) whether Government has received any request from the Telangana Government to declare Kaleshwaram project as national project and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has considered the proposal and if not, the reasons therefor?

Planning to nationalise all Inter-State rivers

628. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to nationalise all Inter-State rivers so that water resources of the country can be optimally utilized; and

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

Allocation of funds under AIBP

629. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued by Government for grant of funds under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are any discrepancies in allocation/sanctioning of funds to different State Governments;

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

(e) the action taken by Government in this regard?

Compliance of sewage treatment norms

630. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has done any assessment or has reliable figures about the proportion of sewage that is disposed into lakes, rivers, etc. after being treated;

(b) whether the Ministry has taken steps to increase compliance of sewage treatment norms; and

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

MoU under AIBP

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

(a) whether any Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Central and the Uttar Pradesh Government for completion of Saryu Nahar Rashtriya Pariyojana, Bann Sagar Nahar Pariyojana, Arjuna Sagar Assistance Project and Madhya Ganga Canal Pariyojana Second Phase under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) for providing Central assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of Central assistance required for completion of all these projects during the current and the next financial years;

(d) the amount of Central assistance requested by the State Government from the Central Government for completion of the projects; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto?

Protection of Ganga, its tributaries and glaciers

†632. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent for making Ganga river incessant and clean and the outcome of these initiatives;

(b) the steps taken by Government to protect the glaciers of Ganga river and its tributaries in the Himalayan region from dangers of climate change; and

(c) whether the scarcity of fresh, flowing water and increasing pollution are adversely affecting aquatic system of Ganga river and the livelihood of sailors and fishermen and if so, whether Government has conducted any research in this regard?

Toxic elements in ground water

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

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

(a) the districts of the country including Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh where people are suffering from various diseases due to consumption of toxic ground water;

(b) the district-wise details of arsenic and other toxic elements in ground water and the details of arrangements for potable water in these districts; and

(c) the details about the programmes implemented, the amount spent thereon, the number of beneficiary regions and the target set by Government during the last three years to tackle the problem of drinking water crisis in those States?

Problems in interlinking of rivers

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mihir Shah Committee constituted on water reforms questioned the interlinking of rivers scheme;

(b) whether it is also a fact that, as per the study conducted by IIT, Bombay and IIT, Madras, there have been some problems in interlinking of rivers;

(c) if so, what are the problems that the Committee has pointed out and how the Ministry is going to address them;

(d) whether the Ministry has studied the linking of river Godavari and river Krishna in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, what positive aspects it has found in the first river link project in the country?

Water level in major reservoirs

635. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of water level in major reservoirs of Maharashtra and the rest of the country;

(b) how it compares with the positions during the last two years, year-wise;

(c) whether Government has prepared any action plan for disiltation of major reservoirs of Maharashtra to increase their water retaining capacities; and

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

Management plant for Ganga River Basin

636. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: SHRIMATI MISHA BHARTI:

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

(a) the salient features of plan/scheme taken up to clean the iconic river Ganga, so far;

(b) whether a consortium of IITs has since submitted a management plan for Ganga River Basin;

(c) if so, the salient features of those recommendations;

(d) the action taken thereon;

(e) the proportion of pollution generated by industrial effluents and domestic effluents respectively in Ganga; and

(f) the number of new sewerage networks, treatment plants, river front development schemes and solid waste management systems that have been proposed in Ganga River Basin, city-wise?

Cleaning of Ganga

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

(a) the total amount allocated for cleaning of the river Ganga under Namami Gange Programme in the budgets of 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17;

(b) the details of progress of financial utilization of the allocated funds therefor;

(c) the details of physical achievements in respect of cleaning the river Ganga and controlling of pollution therein; and

(d) whether there is any future plan of Government to take up such schemes on river Brahmaputra of Assam also?

Interlinking of rivers

638. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the rivers in various States which have so far, been proposed to be interlinked;

(b) the rivers in Andhra Pradesh out of the above for which proposals for interlinking have been received and the names of those proposals sanctioned by Government; and

(c) the cost of sanctioned projects and the targets of their completion?

Constitution of Cauvery Management Board

639. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would come forward to constitute Cauvery

Management Board immediately in order to mitigate the plight of farmers who are continuously suffering damage to the standing crops due to non release of water from Cauvery river;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Water level in Kala Amb valley and Ham valley

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

(a) whether Government is aware that the water level in Kala Amb valley (district Sirmour) and Ham valley (district Una) has fallen beyond the danger mark;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being taken by Government so that local residents may not face water crisis; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

NEW DELHI;
The 15th November, 2016
Kartika 24, 1938 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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