

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Tuesday, April 26, 2016/Vaisakha 6, 1938 (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

Celebration of second IYD

161. SHRIMATI SAROJINI
HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of
AYURVEDA, YOGA &
NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA
AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to
state:

(a) whether Government has any plan
to organise massive event to celebrate the
Second International Yoga Day (IYD) on
21 June, 2016;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of participants who
attended the yoga programme organised last
year on the 1st IYD at Rajpath, New Delhi?

Funding for developing small nurseries for AYUSH purpose

†162. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH
MAHRA: Will the Minister of
AYURVEDA, YOGA &
NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA
AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to
state:

(a) whether Government had formulated

any policy to allocate funds to farmers in
order to develop small nurseries for
AYUSH purpose in Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, the year-wise details of the
funds allocated under this head to
Uttarakhand from year 2009 to December,
2015;

(c) whether this policy has been done
away with; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

National Commission for Human Resources in AYUSH

163. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:
Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA
& NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA
AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to
state:

(a) the present status of setting up of
the National Commission for Human
Resources in AYUSH with a view to
streamlining the education sector in the
Indian Systems of Medicine;

(b) the number of AYUSH gram

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

established as envisaged by Government for AYUSH intervention in the healthcare system across the country;

(c) the medical and research facilities created for scientific validation of AYUSH systems of medicine, State/UT-wise; and

(d) whether Siddha Central Research Institute has undertaken any research on long-term diabetic patients, if so, the details thereof?

Certification system for AYUSH systems of medicine

164. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to devise a system of certification and or licensing to identify and regulate persons, institutions and organisations who claim to be practitioners of Ayurveda and other Indian Systems of Medicines; and

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

Establishment of National Institute of Unani Medicines

165. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified the location for establishment of proposed National Institute of Unani Medicines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(d) the time by which the Institute is likely to be established?

Steps to attract people to AYUSH systems of medicine

166. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why 90 per cent of Indians; prefer Allopathy over AYUSH in spite of India being the pioneer in AYUSH;

(b) the reasons why people only go to AYUSH when Allopathy fails them; and

(c) how Ministry is planning to change this trend since AYUSH has very limited side effects?

Disinvestment of AAI

167. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to constitute a Committee to look into the possibility of disinvesting 49 per cent of stake in Air India;

(b) if not, how Government justifies a news-item in Newrise Financial Agency which states that 49 per cent in Air India would be sold; and

(c) the present financial status of Air India and by when Air India will start earning profits?

Development of city-side infrastructure at regional airports

168. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airport Authority of India (AAI) plans to develop city-side infrastructure at certain regional airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the regional airports identified for the purpose; and

(c) the time by when the work on this plan is likely to commence?

New greenfield airports in the country

169. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has recently given clearance for new greenfield airports in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether these newly sanctioned greenfield airports would de-congest the major airports nearby to them;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for establishing the new airports;

(d) whether there is any proposal for giving clearance/setting up of new such greenfield airports in other States as well; and

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

Air connectivity to capital cities of SAARC countries

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Yangon in Myanmar is not connected to New Delhi by air;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to connect Delhi with all the capital cities of SAARC countries including Myanmar?

Independent regulator for ATF pricing

171. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Airlines (FIA) demanded a roll back of a sudden 12 per cent hike in aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices announced by the oil companies and warned of Competition Commission of India (CCI) action on such non-transparent changes and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the federation also demanded setting up of an Independent price regulator for ATF pricing, if so, the details thereof?

Utilisation of premium quality seats for upgrades in AI

172. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a full service carrier the Air India should sell the premium class seats which have of late been utilised for upgrades recommended by bureaucrats and even crew members;

(b) whether upgrades by crew is a routine practice in Air India and if so, whether the management will curb this tendency by crew to upgrade the seats for their friends/guests booked in lower class; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Poor refreshments in Indian flights

†173. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that majority of flights of Air India including flight no-475 and 476 are always delayed, if so, the steps being taken by Government to improve the service and the details thereof; and

(b) whether the quality of food and refreshment being served in Indian flights are very bad; if so, Government is making any efforts to improve this and whether it has formulated any plan to improve the tendering and monitoring systems, if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

CISF deployment at airports

174. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of CISF personnel deployed at airports currently, State-wise and airport-wise;

(b) the total number of CISF personnel that is yet to be deployed at airports, State-wise and airport-wise; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in deployment of CISF personnel at airports and the measures Government is taking to ensure that the required number of CISF personnel is deployed at all airports at the earliest?

Lower ATF prices

175. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ATF is being sold at lower price than the petrol used in motor vehicles;

(b) if so, what is the rate of ATF in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai; and

(c) why this reduction in ATF prices is not being passed on to the air passengers as cheaper air fare?

Commencement of flight operations from Shirdi Airport

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

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has sought approval from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to start flight operations from the under construction airport at Shirdi;

(b) what is the status of the work in regard to its completion;

(c) whether any target has been set to make the airport operational before Sai Baba's birth centenary celebrations scheduled in 2018; and

(d) the details thereof?

Heliport at Rohini in Delhi

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

(a) whether Government has decided to have a heliport at Rohini in Delhi;

(b) whether any trial landing at its heliport, which will be the first of its kind in India, has been conducted successfully by Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd.;

(c) by when commercial flying from this heliport is likely to be started; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) what will be the parking capacity of this heliport and the details thereof?

Commencement of flight services from Naini-Saini airstrip

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

(a) whether Government has received any request from Uttarakhand Government to start flight services from Naini-Saini airstrip situated in Pithoragarh;

(b) if so, by when flights would start to be operated from Naini-Saini airstrip; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

Losses by Government aviation companies

179. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government aviation companies are running in losses whereas private aviation companies are running in profit;

(b) if so, the details of their earnings, expenditure and assets for the last three years; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on advertisements, publicities, passengers facilities and infrastructure during the said period, airlines-wise?

Improvement in functioning and profitability of Air India

180. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is making

efforts to improve the functioning and profitability of Air India and to what extent has Air India been able to draw back those passengers who have shifted to other airlines; and

(b) the details of benefits accrued to Air India by becoming a member of star Alliance?

Increase in UDF by Hyderabad Airport operators

181. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the basis behind charging User Development Fee (UDF) by airport operators;

(b) the details of UDF being charged by various airports, airport-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that Hyderabad Airport Operator has submitted a proposal to increase UDF by more than 60 per cent to Airports Economic Regulatory Authority;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is also a fact that Hyderabad Airport Operator is already charging the highest UDF in the country;

(f) if so, what justification it has given for revision of over 60 per cent in UDF; and

(g) what action Government has taken on the above proposal?

Sell off of Dreamliner Planes by AI

182. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India has realised

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

almost ₹ 7000 crore by selling nine of its 21 Dreamliners to Singapore based leasor and then lease back the planes from them; and

(b) if so, what is the amount of loss incurred in this negotiations including return of the money to the exchequer?

Airports in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

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

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

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

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

Vacancies in SFIO and CCI

184. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry is aware that several institutions within its purview including Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) as well as Competition Commission of India (CCI) have significant proportions of vacant posts;

(b) the department and institution-wise details of vacant posts of Departments and Institutions coming within purview of Ministry at the end of last three years, category-wise, year-wise;

(c) whether Ministry is intending to undertake National Level Online

Examinations for filling these posts keeping in line with their Governments agenda; and

(d) if so, details thereof and if not, innovative methods to solve this endemic issue?

Appointment of Nominee Directors on PSU Boards

185. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government appoints officers of the Ministry as its Nominee Directors on the Boards of the PSU;

(b) if so, what is the procedure of selecting and appointing such Nominee Directors on the Board;

(c) whether it is a fact that as per the Act, in the procedure prescribed for the selection and appointment of Directors, the Board has to have pre-eminence and not Government;

(d) if so, whether Government will consider aligning the selection procedure as per the Act; and

(e) whether the responsibilities and duties of Nominee Directors are same as other Directors?

Ease of Doing Business

186. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken measures to provide greater Ease of Doing Business to corporate, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government plans on automation of certain services for faster handling of procedures, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor; and

(c) the aims and objectives of the Central Registration System, timeline for implementation and features of the same?

Action against non-functional listed companies

†187. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps against listed companies which are not functional, if so, the details of the steps taken thereof;

(b) the number of companies which have closed down during the past two years and the major reasons for the same; and

(c) the number of persons who gained employment in new companies during the past one year and the number of people who were rendered unemployed because of companies which have closed down?

Proposal for organising investor awareness programme

†188. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to organise investor awareness programme in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the objective and salient features;

(c) whether Government has organised such programmes in rural areas of the country during last two years;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the criteria fixed for selecting rural areas for the purpose; and

(e) the details of the amount allocated and utilised therefor during each of the last three years and the current year?

Meeting shortfalls of arms and equipments in the Army

†189. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the shortage of arms, ammunition and other essential commodities in the Indian Army has not been met so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and by when this shortage would be fulfilled; and

(c) if not, the requirements of the Army fulfilled in the last one year?

Steps to attract youth into the Army

190. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the steps taken by Government to attract more youth into the Army and the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is planning to open more National Defence Academies, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Shortage of subordinate staff

191. SHRI RAJ KUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

shortage of subordinate staff in the Ministry, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what action Government proposes to take to tackle the shortage of subordinate staff in the Ministry?

Export of arms and ammunitions

192. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether arms and ammunition produced by the domestic ordnance factories are being exported;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the nature of arsenals exported during each of the last three years, country-wise; and

(c) the foreign exchange earned as a result thereof?

Oppositions to holding of Defence Exposition in Goa

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there were a number of agitations in Goa opposing holding of Defence Exposition in the State of Goa;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Defence held the exhibition disregarding people's sentiments;

(c) whether the Defence Ministry obtained any permission from the concerned village panchayat, CRZ authorities, Pollution Control Board, Government of Goa or the Goa Industrial Development Corporation; and

(d) the dates on which these permissions were applied and granted?

Policy towards World War II veteran pensioners

194. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government of India's policy towards World War II veteran pensioners given that the Government of India has assumed all pension liabilities from the British; and

(b) how many surviving World War II pensioners and family pensioners draw pension from Government?

Sainik School in Telangana

195. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to open Sainik Schools in some of the States;

(b) if so, the names of States where Ministry is planning to open Sainik Schools;

(c) whether the Ministry is aware that after bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana State is left with no Sainik School;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Government of Telangana has requested for setting up of a Sainik School in Warangal district of Telangana; and

(e) if so, what action the Ministry has so far taken on the above request?

Establishing defence production units in Goa

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

(a) whether Government has signed/executed any defence deals for the purpose of establishing defence production units in the State of Goa, with any foreign country;

(b) if so, whether the deals were signed or proposed to be signed under Make in India programme of Government of India;

(c) what are the main features of the agreements;

(d) whether the defence items are going to be manufactured in the State of Goa; and

(e) whether people of Goa, by virtue of any clause in the agreement, will be entitled to get jobs in such units and the details thereof?

Army fatalities in natural calamities

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

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many jawans of the Indian Army were martyred and injured, separately, due to natural calamities like Avalanche, in the current winter season in the snow-bound border areas, and the details thereof;

(b) whether rescue efforts were extended in time to provide rescue and best medical treatment to the injured; and

(c) what precautions and trainings are given to Army jawans to save themselves from such Avalanche-prone areas and whether any timely warnings were given

before such disaster to alert them to safety and the details thereof?

NCC training in schools and colleges

198. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will make NCC training for schools and colleges compulsory by providing facilities universally; and

(b) if not, whether Government would provide the facilities to private schools and colleges without demanding charges from the management and students who are willing to get the training as National obligation for imparting nationalism and patriotism?

Illegal occupation of Defence land

199. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that large portions of land under authority of the Ministry have been illegally occupied;

(b) if so, the list of the complaints received for the same and action taken against the same during last three years, complaint-wise;

(c) whether the Ministry has a comprehensive data bank of the total land under its authority across the country;

(d) the total area of existing land under control of the Ministry, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by Ministry to make more productive use of unused land under its control?

Issuing of licences to private firms for defence production

†200. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether public sector undertakings hold 90 per cent share in the domestic defence production at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that 222 letter of intent and industrial licences have been issued to 150 firms after giving permission to private sector in defence production in 2001 and only 46 firms out of these have started production; and

(c) the number of firms issued licence in the last one year and how many of them have started production and the details thereof?

Deputing of senior Defence officers to Ministries

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

(a) whether there is provision for sending senior defence forces officers on deputation to Ministries of Government;

(b) whether Government will make provisions for sending senior Defence forces officers on deputation to Ministries like Defence, Home, Finance and Urban Development to give them better exposure in to working of Ministries, interaction with officers of other cadre establishing better rapport between Defence forces and Ministries for better coordination and smooth functioning;

(c) whether this will help these Defence forces officer to improve working of their own establishments for better administrative efficiency; and

(d) if so, by when it is proposed to implement such provisions?

Fate of Mountain Strike Corps

202. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Military's most ambitious plan to deal with Chinese challenge—raising a dedicated Mountain Strike Corps—is languishing for lack of Government attention and financial allocation; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the future strategy of Government to deal with Chinese challenges?

Steps taken on Dhirendra Singh Committee Report

†203. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dhirendra Singh Committee submitted its report in August, 2013 regarding Defence Procurement Policy in which the Committee made 43 recommendations, out of which 28 recommendations were regarding Make-in-India and 15 recommendations were regarding DPP; and

(b) the steps so far taken by Government on these recommendations and whether these recommendations have been given importance in Make-in-India scheme?

Purchasing of weapons and equipments

204. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has inked new deals for purchase of weapons and artilleries, bullet proof jackets, NVDs, remote sensing communication gadgets, safety equipments, etc.;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, details thereof and total amount to be spent on these procurements;

(c) whether there is adequate deployment of armed forces to combat and control aggression of Chinese and Pakistani troops in recent months, if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether amount allocated for purchase of arms, ammunitions, artillery, fighter jets and other weapons exclusively for combating Chinese and Pakistani aggression in LoC has been fully disbursed and spent in last three years, if so, details thereof?

Mis-utilisation of funds for procurement of medicines

205. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds to the extent of ₹ 40.78 crore allotted for procurement of medicines and stores were diverted or utilised for treatment of serving personnel as per a recent CAG report;

(b) whether the percentage of medicines not issued by the armed forces medical stores depots against the indents of the polyclinics were in the range of 63 per cent to 76 per cent in Mumbai and 30 per cent to 45 per cent in Delhi; and

(c) whether there was a mismatch of smart cards between the data provided by the ECHS and card supplier, if so, the details thereof?

Security audit of defence installations

206. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the Pathankot terrorist attack on air base, Government

has undertaken/proposes to undertake a time-bound security audit of all the vulnerable defence installations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the programme chalked out in this regard;

(d) the time by which the security audit is likely to be completed; and

(e) the other steps Government proposes to take to minimise the possible damage to the defence installations in the event of a terrorist attack?

New Chinese military establishments in POK

207. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether China is establishing new military establishments in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK), and other neighbouring countries of India; and

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

Defence preparedness to ward off external aggression

208. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is inadequate preparation of our country to face any aggression from neighbouring countries; and

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

New inventions of DRDO

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

(a) the details of new inventions made by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on defence equipments and security of the country during the past three years and the time by when benefits thereof would be available to our defence personnel; and

(b) whether the State police are getting the benefits of any of new techniques developed by DRDO?

Non-utilisation of sanctioned Defence outlay

210. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds sanctioned to procure arms, equipments, ammunition, etc. for the Army in the year 2014 and 2015-16;

(b) the percentage of amount out of that utilised by the Army;

(c) the percentage of amount out of that utilised for the fast-track procurement; and

(d) the reasons for not utilising the total sanctioned amount and the effect of that on the preparation for country's defence?

Role of external/independent directors in PSBs as regards NPA

211. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) details of the external/independent directors on boards of various Public Sector Banks (PSBs) from 2004 to 2012, year-wise, bank-wise; and

(b) details of current NPAs of each PSB and dates/years on which the loans, which are now classified as non-performing, were disbursed from 2004—2012, year-wise, bank-wise?

Monetary policy on inflation

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

(a) in view of the fact that inflation in the country is persistently on rise, whether Government proposes to tighten its monetary policy to bring prices under control;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely impact of tightening monetary policy on inflationary trend?

NPAs of PSBs

213. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) details of private and public sector banks in India and how many of them are operating in loss;

(b) whether Government has ascertained the causes of loss in those banks and if so, details thereof together with steps taken to bring them out of losses;

(c) the quantum of non-performing assets of the public sector banks, bank-wise;

(d) the details of companies who have taken loans amounting more than ₹ 100 crores from public sector banks and have become NPA; and

(e) the steps taken to recover NPAs from those companies within a time-bound manner?

Disinvestment of PSUs

214. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to expedite disinvestment process and has fixed targets for disinvestment for next three years, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has identified Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for the purpose, if so, the details thereof along with targets sets, PSU-wise; and

(c) the action being taken by Government as on date, to attract and ensure more entities to participate in disinvestment process to have healthy competition thereby generating more revenues?

Remedial measures to solve the grievances of jewellers in the country

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

(a) whether it is a fact that jewellers throughout the country have gone on strike after the presentation of the Union Budget;

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

(c) what remedial measures Government propose to take in the matter?

Withdrawal of funds by global investors due to market uncertainty

216. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether global investors are pulling out funds due to growing market uncertainty;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether investors are worried that the Government may ease up on fiscal deficit targets to shore up growth; and

(d) if so, what concrete steps Government is taking to allay the fears of global investors?

Loan recovery by MFIs

217. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the Micro Financing Institutions (MFIs) are using strong arm tactics for recovery of loans given by them to the needy and poor persons;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government against such MFIs; and

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued in this regard?

Amendment in Section 45E of RBI Act

218. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is planning to amend the Section 45E of the RBI Act in order to ensure the disclosure of large and wilful defaulters of the banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor for not disclosing the names of wilful defaulters in the country; and

(c) the steps which are being taken by Government to stop the misuse of the banking system and prevent the increase of NPAs by large and wilful defaulters?

Effect of reforms implementation failure in companies

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

(a) whether it is a fact that failure to implement reforms may hamper investment and prove a downslide factor for companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof?

Merger of Public Sector Banks

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government is contemplating merger of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) into 5 or 6 from 27 existing and if so, the details thereof;

(b) what are the recommendations of the PJ Nayak Committee on this issue; and

(c) the stand of the Government in this regard?

Disbursements under MUDRA Yojana

221. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of MUDRA Yojana;

(b) the amount disbursed under MUDRA Yojana so far, State-wise;

(c) what is the percentage of loan given to women, SC/ST, OBC entrepreneurs, State-wise and category-wise;

(d) whether it is a fact that the banking sector has been given a target of ₹ 1.22 lakh

crores of disbursement under MUDRA in the year 2015-16; and

(e) if so, whether banks are on the track to achieve the target?

Funds to Maharashtra on account of tax devolution

222. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds allocated to the State of Maharashtra as tax devolution and other grants in the year 2014-15 and 2015-16, the details thereof year-wise, head-wise;

(b) whether there is any pending allocation for the State of Maharashtra as per the devolution proposed by the Thirteenth Finance Commission; and

(c) if so, details for the same and reasons for the delay?

Swachh Bharat cess on taxable services

223. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has decided to levy a Swachh Bharat Cess and Krishi Kalyan cess on taxable services;

(b) will the cess be levied on amount of service charged or on amount of tax on service charged;

(c) how much time Ministry will take to approximately raise through this cess in the financial years 2015-16 and 2016-17;

(d) for what purpose will the amount collected under the cess be utilised; and

(e) in what proportion will the amount of cess collected to be shared with the States?

Opening of new CESTAT branches

224. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:
SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:

Will the the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to open more new Customs, Excise & Service Tax, Appellate Tribunal (CESTAT);

(b) if so, places where new branches will be located;

(c) what are the policy guidelines for allocating stations to CESTAT Member (Judicial) and Member (Technical) separately;

(d) the details of the deviations from laid down guidelines on allocation of stations during last three years upto March 31,2016; and

(e) by when Government will frame policy guidelines for fair and transparent allocation of stations to CESTATE members in case there are no policy guidelines details of parameters considered while allocating stations?

Financial assistance for Telangana State

225. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total financial assistance given to the Telangana State under different schemes/heads after the State was formed on 2nd June, 2014;

(b) what is the total amount allocated and released to Telangana State under the recommendations of 14th Finance Commission; and

(c) the amount given to Telangana State as financial assistance in connection with

the large number of suicides committed by the farmers in the State since 2nd June, 2014?

Promotion of electronic transactions for prevention of black money circulation

226. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to prevent circulation of black money, Government contemplates minimising cash transactions in day-to-day transactions and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government would encourage and promote transactions through e-payments, internet/mobile banking, credit/ debit/prepaid cards so as to facilitate easy tracking of transactions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor, especially in view of the fact that it would act as a boon in Government's efforts to track and prevent circulation of black money and counterfeit currency notes in market?

Recommendations of Kelkar Committee on Public Private Partnerships

227. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reviewed the recommendations of the Kelkar Committee on Public Private Partnerships and the actions contemplated therein;

(b) if so, what is the status of the revival of 3P India as recommended by the Committee; and

(c) the details of the utilisation of the ₹ 500 crore funds allocated to 3P India in the 2014-15 Budget, along with purpose thereof?

Circulation of defective currency notes by RBI

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

(a) whether it is a fact that RBI has printed ₹ 30,000 crore worth of ₹ 1000 currency notes without the silver security thread and currency notes nearly worth ₹ 10,000 crore has already been circulated;

(b) if so, details thereof indicating how many such mistakes have been occurred in the past and the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to avoid such big mistake?

Inter-operability of India Post ATMs with Commercial Banks

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow inter-operability of India Post ATMs with Commercial Banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for early decision in the matter in order to popularise banking in rural areas?

Competitive interest rates for making the economy competitive

†230. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is necessary to keep the interest rates competitive to make the country's economy as well as the industrial sector competitive;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether proper steps have been taken/are being taken to keep the interest rates adequately competitive; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Retrieving black money stashed in foreign banks

†231. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has not been able to bring back even one per cent of the black money stashed by Indians in foreign banks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the information received about the amount of black money stashed in foreign banks and how much of it has been brought back so far; and

(d) the names of the holders of black money?

Waiver of educational loans for unemployed students

232. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

to wipe out education loans given to the poor and middle class family students who could not get employment; and

(b) if not, what are the steps contemplated to address the stress of youths, through a special financial package?

Irregularities regarding currency notes/papers tenders

233. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the 'Panama Papers' leak, world's largest commercial currency note maker, De La Rue had contracted a middleman to help it to bag currency notes/papers tenders in India in return for a commission of 15 per cent in 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has inquired into the alleged irregularities and has fixed responsibility in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for protecting corruption and corrupt persons?

Involvement of banks and financial institutions in transfer of black money out of country

234. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the measures taken by the Government to curb black money in the country;

(b) whether Government has taken cognizance of involvement of any banks and financial institutions in helping hide or transfer of black money out of the country;

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

(d) whether there is any assessment of the amount of black money present in the country and taken outside of the country, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

Utilisation of idle cash of PSUs

235. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is now looking to tap idle cash of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs);

(b) whether Government has begun some exercise to get public sector companies to buy back their shares and take a slice of the estimated ₹ 2.6 lakh crore lying idle with them;

(c) whether Government is preparing a list of PSUs, including unlisted ones, where buyback is possible;

(d) how this move of Government will help and whether any time-frame has been fixed for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Announcement regarding interest free home loans

†236. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has made an announcement about providing interest free home loan in urban and rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if any such announcement has already been made by Government then the details thereof?

Lack in clarity of Section 11 of IT Act

237. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to lack of clear definition of "income" for purpose of Section 11 of IT Act, Tax Authorities are misusing powers even against charitable trusts;

(b) whether demand to define the term was ever raised; and

(c) if so, what action Government is contemplating in this regard?

Overdraft facility under PMJDY

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

(a) whether under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) the account holders can avail the overdraft facility;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the said facility has seen a sharp increase in the number of users;

(d) if so, the total number of account holders who availed the facility as on 31st January, 2016 and the total amount disbursed, bank-wise; and

(e) the reasons for sharp increase in availing the overdraft facility by the households?

Capital norms for private banks

239. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that those applying to set up private banks may be allowed to have overseas investment to the tune of 74 per cent, right at the beginning rather than five years later;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this move will help aspirants meet stringent capital norms;

(c) whether it is also a fact that if the starting limit is relaxed, this may cover banks that got nod in 2014; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

IRDAI proposal on guidelines on trade credit insurance

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the IRDAI has proposed changes in guidelines on trade credit insurance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in order to give fillip to the growth of credit insurance market, IRDAI felt it is necessary to revisit the guidelines which regulate the credit insurance business in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Requirement of growth in economy for sustaining the burden of wage increase

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

(a) whether it is a fact that India needs to grow by an additional 1-1.5 percentage points so that it can sustain the burden of wage increases and pass on more benefits to workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there would be a burden of ₹ 1.02 lakh crore on account of implementation of the Seventh Pay Commission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Foreign remittance received by Kerala

242. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kerala receives the maximum amount from Overseas Indians every year; and

(b) the details of amount received during each of the last three years as per Government records?

Selloff of Government stake in PSUs

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to sell the stake in many public sector undertakings and a decision has been taken very recently in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government has decided to sell 10 per cent stake in Engineers India Limited; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of recommendations of the Seventh Central Pay Commission

244. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) when will the Government implement the recommendations of the

Seventh Central Pay Commission for Central Government Employees; and

(b) whether the recent Dearness Allowance announcement has any impact on the recommendations of the Seventh Central Pay Commission?

Downgrading of ratings of PSBs by CRISIL

245. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether rating agency CRISIL has downgraded its ratings on the debt instruments of 8 public sector banks and revised its outlook on 5 other PSBs from stable to negative;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether as per CRISIL, NPAs of public sector banks are likely to reach ₹ 7.1 lakh crore by March, 2017, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether NPAs of PSBs has increased more than Rupees one lakh crores during 2015-16 alone; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, bank-wise along with the reasons therefor?

Constitution of SIT on Panama Papers leaks

246. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has constituted a special investigation team (SIT) to probe the allegations under the Panama Papers leaks;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the investigation team has

been ordered to conduct a time bound inquiry into the allegations alleged in the Panama Papers leaks;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government has approached any foreign country for joint investigation in the Panama Papers leaks;

(f) if so, details thereof; and

(g) whether Government will consider to send the case to a special court after the investigation is complete?

Request for reimbursement of revenue deficit of Andhra Pradesh

247. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has rejected the request of Andhra Pradesh for reimbursement of its revenue deficit even after the C&AG certified the estimates submitted by the State Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, when the Central Government will release funds to bridge the revenue deficit of Andhra Pradesh as provided under the AP Reorganisation Act?

CBI's remarks on PSBs regarding wilful defaulters

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

(a) whether the CBI slammed public sector banks for not reporting frauds to the investigators, accusing the lenders of giving wilful defaulters and fraudsters the long leash to escape law;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the CBI's comment came at a time when banks have reported a sharp increase in bad loans; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the necessary steps taken on this issue?

Resolving grievances of the gems and jewellery industry as regards Budget 2016-17

249. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that gems and jewellery industry is disappointed with the Government apathy towards the sector with the proposal of imposition of one per cent Excise Duty in the Budget 2016-17;

(b) whether Government proposes to reconsider its decision, keeping in view the protest by the jewellers, to roll back the said proposal to save this industry from ruin; and

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

Assessment of growth in GDP

250. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed the growth of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the last three years and the current year;

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

(c) whether Government has also assessed the growth rate in the agricultural, industrial, manufacturing and services sectors while making the said assessment; and

(d) if so, the details of estimated annual growth rate in these sectors during the said period, sector-wise?

Tax evasion by Indian citizens named in Panama Papers

251. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Indian citizens have been named as indulging in money laundering and tax evasion under the recent Panama Papers leaks;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the measures taken by the Ministry to authenticate the information provided *vide* the Panama Papers leaks; and

(d) the details of total volume of money that have been evaded by Indian citizens through money laundering, tax evasion and setting up bogus offshore companies?

Non-payment of taxes by FIIs and PSUs

252. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government incurred income loss due to non-payment of taxes by Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) and Public Sector Units (PSUs) on their securities transactions;

(b) if so, the amount of losses incurred on the same account;

(c) whether any efforts were made by Government to recover the taxes from FIIs; and

(d) whether SEBI has initiated any action against those FIIs which are involved in Securities Transaction Tax (STT) evasion

and will Government advise SEBI in this respect?

Monetary policy committee for fixing interest rates

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the plans to set up a monetary policy committee under the RBI which will be empowered to set interest has entered the final leg;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has moved a draft cabinet note seeing comments from all stakeholders including other ministries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Formation of NIIF for investment in infrastructure

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is ready to launch the National Infrastructure Investment Fund (NIIF), and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the proposed fund will have an initial corpus of at least ₹ 40,000 crore; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that in 2016 the NIIF has been a very active investor in the infrastructure sector and it will invest for long term, and if so, the details thereof?

Collections under Swachh Bharat Cess

255. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) please give the status of Swachh Bharat Cess since its inception; and

(b) how much Government has collected so far under this head, the details thereof, month-wise?

NPAs of private, public and foreign banks

256. SHRI C. M. RAMESH:
SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN:
DR. R. LAKSHMANAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the NPAs of private, public and foreign banks as of 1st March, 2016, bank-wise;

(b) what are the reasons for steep increase in NPAs of banks, particularly public sector banks;

(c) whether it is a fact, that RBI is tweaking the guidelines relating to 5:25 refinance scheme and Strategic Debt Restructuring to tackle stressed assets more effectively; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the details of major defaulters owing ₹ 1000 crore or more?

Multi-disciplinary team for probing the accused in Panama Papers leaks

257. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM:
SHRI ANIL DESAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken due cognisance of revelations contained in recently leaked Panama Papers insinuating many Indians having stashed away fortunes on offshore accounts in tax havens and if

so, names of Indians and action proposed against them;

(b) whether contrary to public perception of constituting a special investigation team to trace the offshore money trail involving Indian citizens, Government would opt for a multi-disciplinary team of domain experts to probe the matter and if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether any deadline has been set for submission of interim report by the multi-disciplinary committee, if so, the details thereof?

Increase in use of synthetic medicines

†258. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trend of using synthetic medicines has increased in the country;

(b) whether synthetic medicines have adverse effects on our health, if so, the details thereof and whether any steps are being taken by Government to prevent these adverse effects, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise details of the companies that regulate the manufacturing and marketing of synthetic medicines in the country; and

(d) the details of the existing rules pertaining to these companies?

Deaths from TB, Malaria and infectious diseases

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

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

of people are dying every year due to TB, Malaria and infectious diseases in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to take concrete and effective steps to control this; and

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

Impact of air pollution on childrens' health in Delhi

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

(a) whether it is a fact that children in Delhi have been gasping for breath on account of a high rise in air pollution;

(b) whether a number of children in Delhi have weak lungs, as per a survey; and

(c) whether Government has devised an action plan to address this serious issue, if so, the details thereof?

Certification for new TB drug

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a new Tuberculosis (TB) (Extensive Drug Resistance TB) drug has been added in TB control programme;

(b) if so, whether it has been tried and tested on human beings;

(c) if so, on how many patients and for how long was the new drug tried and tested; and

(d) whether the drug (BEDAQUILINE)

has been certified by the Drug Controller General of India?

Deaths from non-communicable diseases

262. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that by 2020, seventy per cent of the deaths in India will be caused by non-communicable diseases;

(b) whether the Ministry has plans to make a policy shift to combat the changing nature of public health issues; and

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

Accelerated efforts to eliminate malaria

263. SHRIS. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether by 2016 end, all States are expected to include malaria elimination in their broader health policies and by end of 2017, all States are expected to bring down annual parasite incidence to less than 1 per thousand population and by end of 2020, 15 States/Union Territories under category 1 are expected to interrupt transmission of malaria and achieve zero indigenous cases and death due to malaria;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also envisaged that in States with relatively good capacity in health infrastructure, accelerated efforts may usher malaria elimination sooner, if so, details thereof?

Special focus on diabetic prevention

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

(a) whether a recent study by Lancet journal has revealed that India is among the top three countries in the world with high diabetic population;

(b) whether the study reveals that in India, the prevalence of diabetes soared by 80 per cent among women between 1980 to 2014;

(c) whether appropriately the theme for this years World Health Day is to focus on diabetes and to scale up efforts to prevent the disease; and

(d) whether to change dietary patterns to curb the prevalence of diabetes Government would consider imposition of a tax on sugary drinks/sweets?

Discrepancy in malaria data

265. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, according to Government statistics, 1.13 million cases and 2878 deaths were reported in the provisional data on account of malaria;

(b) whether the Lancet estimates that India reports at least 50,000 malaria related deaths annually, making discrepancy in data the biggest challenge in elimination strategy; and

(c) whether the gross underestimation of data is something officials of the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme have acknowledged, if so, the details thereof?

Innovation of immunisation technologies

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

(a) whether 1.4 million children under the age of five die in India every year, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether India will leverage the Make in India plan to become a global leader in innovation of immunisation technologies; and

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

Preventing deaths from pneumonia

†267. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India ranks first in the world in relation to deaths due to pneumonia;

(b) whether maximum number of deaths of children in the age group of five in India is caused only because of this;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has taken a decision to provide free vaccination of pneumococcal conjugate to children by including the quite expensive vaccine for pneumonia, pneumococcal conjugate, in the National Immunization Programme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Role of Global Fund on TB, HIV and Malaria Control Programme

268. SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether the Global Fund on TB, HIV and Malaria donation plays substantial role in care, support and treatment component of India's National AIDS Control Programme and TB programme, if so, details thereof;

(b) the amount and percentage of Global Fund's contribution in National AIDS Control Programme for care support and treatment;

(c) whether India contributes to the Global Fund replenishment, if so, details thereof for the last three years, if not, reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the current Global Fund grant ends in the year 2017, if so, details thereof and Government's plan to sustain the programme after year 2017?

Vacant posts in primary and community health centres

269. SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies in primary and community health centres as well as specialists in India, State-wise;

(b) whether India meets the ideal ratio of one doctor to every 1,000 people in low-income countries as specified by the World Health Organisation, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor and corrective action taken by Government; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to reduce the scarcity of doctors in rural and tribal regions of the country?

Barring of private medical colleges from MBBS admission process

270. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many private medical colleges in the State of Uttar Pradesh have been barred from taking admission to MBBS courses for the year 2015-16, if so, reasons therefor; and

(b) whether the ban will continue for the academic year 2016-17 also, if so, reasons therefor?

Strike by nursing unions

271. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that All India Nursing Federation has been demanding for revision of their pay scales and a hike in allowances, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has taken any decision on their demands; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to appease the unions of nurses and persuade them to call off their strike?

Increase in cases of cancer

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidence of cancer has grown over the last decade in India although the rate of mortality has fallen; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof, year-wise and reasons therefor?

**Functioning of PGIMER,
Dr. RML Hospital**

273. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the posts of Director and Dean at Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Dr. RML Hospital, New Delhi which was started in 2008, have been created till date;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether present officiating Dean of PGIMER, Dr. RML Hospital has been appointed as per CHS Rules, 2014 and MCI guidelines, if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether PGIMER, Dr. RML Hospital is affiliated to Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU); and

(e) whether GGSIPU is following UGC guidelines for Affiliating Teaching Specialists within 3 months after their appointment, if not, the reasons therefor?

**Providing of health human resources
under NRHM**

274. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is providing health human resources under NRHM to States and Union Territories to strengthen healthcare system;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that there is shortfall in Male Health Workers, Health Assistants at PHCs, specialists at CHCs, Health Workers at Sub Centres, Female Health Assistants at PHCs in Puducherry; and

(c) what are the reasons behind this

shortfall and steps being taken by the Ministry to provide the health human resources in Puducherry for effective implementation of NRHM?

**Regularization of employees at IDVC
Project, Rourkela**

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

(a) whether Government has regularized the services of some employees of IDVC Project at Chennai and 9 other such field units on the basis of court orders;

(b) whether the similarly placed employees posted at IDVC Project, Rourkela field unit etc., have not been given this benefit, if so, the details thereof; and

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

**Rationalising of health facilities in
private sector**

276 SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by the Ministry to rationalise health facilities in private sector such as spread of hospitals across regions, particularly in rural area;

(b) the details of efforts made to regulate charges in private hospitals, particularly in diagnostics;

(c) whether the Ministry had found any malpractices by doctors, violating ethical practices, indulging in nexus with pharma companies, etc.; and

(d) if so, what measures are being contemplated to curb them?

Rabies treatment facilities in public hospitals

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

(a) the number of deaths caused by Rabies in India last three years and how many of them were caused by dog bites;

(b) whether there had been an increase in incidents of stray dog bites;

(c) if so, measures taken to check menace of stray dogs;

(d) whether there is a scarcity of rabies medicines in Government hospitals and people are forced to approach private hospitals where the cost of medicines and treatment is mostly beyond the means of daily wagers; and

(e) if so, measures taken to ensure availability of Rabies treatment and medicines in each and every public dispensary and hospitals?

Expenditure out of GDP on health sector

278. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India spends less of its GDP on health than some of the world's poorest countries;

(b) whether it is a fact that every Government hospital serves an estimated 61,000 people in India;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in India

an estimated one bed is meant for 1833 people; and

(d) if so, reactions of Government thereto?

Non-accredited food testing labs

279. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that as many as 24 laboratories in the country for testing food items are running without FSSAI notification and have not obtained accreditation from the NABL, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether such labs are getting grant in aid from Government;

(c) whether such labs are equipped with technical staff and state-of art machines, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the total samples picked up by FSSAI, lab-wise and findings thereof?

Improving the functioning of MCI

280. SHRI D. RAJA:
SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Parliamentary Committee has called for overall restructuring of the Medical Council of India and for new legislation governing the MCI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the recommendations made by the Committee in this regard; and

(d) whether Government took note of the recommendations and, if so, its reaction thereof?

Action plan to counter diabetes

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

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

(a) whether there is noticeable increase in diabetes cases in the country in the last two years, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government proposes to formulate an action plan and to launch awareness campaign to reduce the rate of diabetes cases, in view of obesity, sedantary lifestyle among the growing population and, the details thereof?

Efforts to root out diabetes

282. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA:
SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that India accounts for the largest number of people—50.8 million suffering from diabetes in the world, followed by China (43.2 million) and the United States (26.8 million); and

(b) if so, the efforts being made by Government to strike at the root to prevent this disease right from childhood itself?

Per capita expenditure on health

283. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI K.C. TYAGI:
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

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

(a) the details of the average per capita expenditure incurred by Government on health;

(b) whether it is very low as compared to the developed countries of the world and, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the health services in India is becoming expensive day by day, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by Government to provide affordable healthcare services to the people, especially the poor?

High prevalence of respiratory diseases

284. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

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

(a) whether there is high prevalence of respiratory and other diseases due to air pollution across the country and, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the estimated number of people suffering from diseases due to exposure to polluted air and deaths occurred therefrom in the country, year, and State/Union Territory-wise; and

(c) the corrective measures taken/proposed by Government to ensure adequate medical facilities for the patients suffering from diseases caused by air pollution?

Impact of online registration system at AIIMS, New Delhi

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

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether there has been a relief in the waiting time of patients because of Fast Track Registration system and the facility of taking appointment of doctors online in the AIIMS;

(b) the details of the waiting list of general patients suffering from serious illnesses in the different departments for operation in AIIMS, New Delhi at present;

(c) the method adopted by AIIMS to save the patients from the ill-effects of the delay in operations related to the heart diseases, liver, cancer, nephrology and urology; and

(d) the details of the vacant positions of doctors and employees in the Government hospitals of Delhi including AIIMS?

Maintenance of cancer and TB patient registry

286. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided financial and infrastructure as well as the medical/paramedical staff facilities to record and maintain Cancer, Tuberculosis patient registry in Hospitals in various States/UTs;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds provided in the last three years;

(c) the measures taken by Government to establish more screening and testing facilities particularly in semi-urban and rural districts for identifying patients suffering from lung disorders; and

(d) the medical facilities and funds provided to various States/UTs for the treatment of poor Cancer and TB patients

and also to support non-profit organizations to promote Cancer Awareness?

Action plan to stop smoking menace

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

(a) whether smoking is a bigger killer in India; and

(b) whether Government has devised an action plan to save the lives of the people from this menace of smoking, if so, the details thereof?

Equipping hospitals to handle natural disasters

288. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the hospitals in the country both in private and Government sectors are unprepared to face any natural disasters, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to ask all the State Governments to make at least one hospital in a district fully equipped with to handle any natural disasters, if so, the details thereof?

Daily medicines provision for TB patients

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

is seriously contemplating to provide medicine to TB patients on daily basis throughout the country;

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

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

Diabetic patients in India

290. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that International Diabetes Federation has stated that India has more diabetes than any other nation in the world;

(b) whether it is also a fact that at present the number of diabetes are 62 million in India while this number was 51 million in 2011 means there is an increase of 10 million diabetics in three years;

(c) what measures are being taken to control and reduce the number of diabetes in the country particularly in rural areas; and

(d) what is the number of diabetics in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh separately?

High rate of still born cases

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

(a) whether the number of still borns in India is highest in the world;

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

(c) what are the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the details thereof and funds allocated towards the same?

Additional funding for Maharashtra AIDS Control Programme

292. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Maharashtra State AIDS Control Society, through a circular issued on June 11, 2015 has decided to suspend its core health interventions from July onwards, including advocacy activities, crisis response, health camps, etc.;

(b) if so, whether Government is planning to provide any additional funds to ensure that the targeted interventions, which are of crucial importance in HIV/AIDS control and prevention, can continue, at least in States like Maharashtra, where the prevalence of HIV/AIDS is higher than the national average; and

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

Appointment of local residents to AIIMS-like institutes

†293. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides for appointment of the local people as per their qualifications, in any of the institutes to be established in the States;

(b) if so, the category-wise details of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the appointments of the local people made until now in the AIIMS institute established in Rishikesh, Uttarakhand;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether directives shall be issued to the Rishikesh-based AIIMS administration for the appointment of local persons in the future; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Accessible healthcare in rural areas

294. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that around 18 per cent of the rural population has no access to healthcare;

(b) whether the Ministry has taken any steps for making healthcare accessible to this population; and

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

Kidney racket in Gujarat

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the kidney selling racket operating in District Anand, Gujarat;

(b) whether it is a fact that the removed kidneys are being sold in Sri Lanka, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would order a high level inquiry into this whole matter considering its seriousness; and

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

Rampant practice of sex determination test

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the practice of sex determination test of fetus is going on rapidly in many parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether Government is contemplating to take any special steps to check it; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when these steps are likely to be taken and, if not, the reasons therefor?

Acceptance of freebies by doctors

297. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many doctors accept freebies such as gifts, foreign and domestic trips from various pharmaceutical companies;

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

(c) whether Government is considering to propose severe punishment for such errant doctors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Generic drugs in rural areas

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

(a) the steps taken/proposed by Government to promote the use of generic drugs in rural areas of the country and details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the steps taken/proposed by Government to spread awareness about use of generic drugs in the country and details thereof;

(c) the number of Government hospitals in rural India as compared to total number of Government hospitals which use and provide generic drugs to patients; and

(d) the steps proposed by Government to increase access to generic drugs through Government hospitals and other health centres and details thereof?

Incentivising doctors to work in rural areas

299. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has devised any plan for providing meaningful incentives to doctors working in rural areas, given the lack of proper healthcare facilities for India's large rural population; and

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

Fatalities from pesticide-based food products

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

(a) whether the cases of death and serious/fatal ailments caused by food toxins including chemical pesticide residues are on the rise in India;

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

(c) whether the country has adequate infrastructure to check such cases; and

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

Draft guidelines for organ donation

301. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued any draft guidelines for kidney and other organ donation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by when the said guidelines would be finalized and enforced; and

(c) whether the guidelines would contain the illegal trading and transplantation of organs and, if so, the details thereof?

Selling of medicines banned in foreign countries

302. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several medicines which are banned in developed countries are freely sold in India;

(b) if so, the details of such medicines which are banned in foreign countries and freely available in India; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to strictly implement to ban such medicines along with the outcome thereof?

Prosecutions under Drugs and Magic Remedies Act, 1958

303. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases registered and prosecuted under Section 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1958 for the last three years;

(b) the State-wise and year-wise break up thereof;

(c) the number of such cases that resulted in convictions and the awarding of a penalty under Section 7 or Section 8 of the Act; and

(d) the State-wise and year-wise break up thereof?

Banning of FDC drugs

304. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has banned more than 300 fixed dose combinations (FDCs) without giving sufficient time to drug makers to present their side;

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

(c) whether all of these banned combinations had the approvals of State Regulatory Authorities; and;

(d) if so, the reasons for banning these approved drugs by Central Government causing huge financial loss to the companies?

Programmes to check child mortality rates

305. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest data on infant mortality rate in the country, category-wise, *e.g.*- Rural and Urban, SC, ST and Others, for each State;

(b) the latest data on neonatal mortality rate in the country, category-wise, *e.g.*- Rural and Urban, SC, ST and Others, for each State;

(c) the latest data on under five mortality rate in the country, category-wise, *e.g.* - Rural and Urban, SC, ST and Others, for each State; and

(d) the schemes/programmes/funds launched/released to check high child mortality rate during the last three years and the current year, scheme and State/UT-wise?

Ramping up of deworming programme

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to ramp up its deworming programme to cover 48 crore children across the country this year, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the World Health Organisation had earlier estimated 241 million children in the 1-14 age group to be at risk of soil transmitted helminthes or parasitic worms in India, if so, the details thereof?

Rise in infertility cases

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

(a) whether Government has taken note of the rise in infertility rates among people, if so, details thereof;

(b) whether Government has conducted any study to find out the reasons behind the same, if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) what are the steps taken by Government to address the same; and

(d) whether Government would initiate awareness programmes to control infertility due to preventable causes?

**Medical students failing to pass
FMGE**

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

(a) whether Government has the details of the Indian medical students who completed their MBBS degrees from foreign universities during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the majority of MBBS pass outs from foreign universities are failing to qualify in the mandatory Foreign Medical Graduate Examination (FMGE) examination conducted by MCI (Medical Council of India); and

(c) if so, the details of total students appeared and qualified during the last three years?

Promotion of health research

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

(a) whether it is a fact that for health research, only 2.9 per cent of the total health budget has been allocated this year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that private sector spending on health research in India is also abysmally low; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to promote health research in the country?

**Impact of funding crunch affecting
ICMR's projects**

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

(a) whether research projects run by Indian Council of Medical Research had suffered owing to lack of fund and biomedical research projects being conducted in all 32 scientific organisations of ICMR spread across the country had been affected owing to resource crunch;

(b) whether ICMR had asked ₹ 10,000 crore for Twelfth Five Year Plan from 2012 to 2017 as ICMR had plans to spend that amount and ICMR expenditure has been 100 per cent every year, but it received only just half of the amount demanded; and

(c) if so, whether many of ICMR projects are not on track?

Programmes to check anaemic cases

311. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the prevalence and determinants of anaemia among women in India, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of women suffering from anaemia in the country, category-wise *e.g.* - Rural and Urban, SC, ST and Others, for each State;

(c) the cases of anaemia in the country according to NFHS-4;

(d) the details of the schemes/ programmes being implemented by Government to check anaemia cases in the country; and

(e) the funds sanctioned, released and

utilized during each of the last three years and the current year, programme/scheme wise and State/UT-wise?

Inclusion of Medical Colleges in Tamil Nadu under CSS

312. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that not even a single Medical College in Tamil Nadu is being funded under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Strengthening and Upgradation of State Government Medical Colleges, with funding pattern of 75 per cent by Central Government and 25 per cent by State Governments for starting new Post Graduate (PG) disciplines and increasing PG seats;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government will come forward to include Government Medical Colleges from the State of Tamil Nadu in the near future, if so, the details thereof?

Decline in viewership/TRP of Doordarshan and Akashvani channels

313. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Television Rating Points (TRPs) and subscribers/viewership of Doordarshan and Akashvani channels have decreased/come down over the past several years;

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

(c) whether the number of advertisements telecast/transmitted on

Doordarshan and Akashvani have also come down during the said period, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government/Prasar Bharti in this regard?

Expansion of DD/AIR network

314. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Doordarshan (DD) and All India Radio (AIR) stations in the country, place and State/UT-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government proposes to expand the DD/AIR network by establishing more number of stations in various States in the country, where Doordarshan/Radio broadcast is not available;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Karnataka; and

(d) the details of projects likely to be completed during the current year, State/UT-wise?

Improvement in contents of programmes aired through FM Channels

315. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending with Government to improve contents of the programmes aired through Government FM Channels viz. FM Gold, FM Rainbow, which are mostly entertainment oriented wholly dependent on Cinema;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will come forward to make programmes which will be pro-educative, useful to listeners in preparing themselves for competitive examination, etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Quality of DD and AIR programmes

316. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to enhance the quality of various programmes of Doordarshan and All India Radio;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the future course of action of Government in this regard?

Irregularities in determining the seniority of clerk and stenographers in Prasar Bharti

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

(a) whether Government has taken note of the irregularities in determining the seniority of Clerks and Stenographers in Prasar Bharti, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has received any grievances in this regard, if so, the details thereof along with concrete steps taken to redress them;

(c) whether the seniority list of such employees has been prepared by the Prasar Bharti as per DoPT guidelines, if so, the

details thereof along with criteria fixed for the same; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor along with the time by which the seniority list of such employees is likely to be prepared and issued?

Introduction of state of art technologies to reach people

318. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has adopted any new strategies using state of art technologies to increase the efficiency of various departments under the I & B Ministry such as PIB, Directorate of Field Publicity and other such departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof and funds earmarked and disbursed so far during the Twelfth Five Year Plan, year-wise;

(c) the steps taken by Government to include all kinds of social media networking facilities and video conferencing facilities to reach the people living in the length and breadth of the country; and

(d) the compositions, roles and responsibilities of various committees constituted under the I & B Ministry?

Auction of prime time slots of DD

319. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to auction certain prime time slots of Doordarshan;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase the poor viewership as well as falling revenues of Doordarshan?

Community radio stations in the country

320. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of

INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how many community radio stations are working in our country at present;

(b) whether Government is planning to set up more such stations in the rural areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 19th April, 2016

Chaitra 30, 1938 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

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