

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, March 27, 2017/Chaitra 6, 1939 (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

CSR activities of coal PSUs

†2717. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of PSUs under the Ministry and their annual profit, during the last three years;

(b) the percentage of profit of each of them allocated for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities, during the last three years; and

(c) the status of amount so accrued, spent and remaining balance for CSR activities?

Coal production of CIL mines

2718. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual production of coal from all the mines under the Coal India Limited (CIL);

(b) what is the total demand of coal from CIL mines;

(c) whether the CIL is able to meet the total demand for supply of coal in the country;

(d) how much of coal produced by CIL was exported during the last three financial years; and

(e) details of the storage facility available with the CIL to store coal?

Norms violation relating to coal mines development

2719. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has so far issued 12 notices to private companies to explain reasons for violation of norms related to development of coal mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

reply from these private companies with regard to the said notices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Coal mine accident at Godda,
Jharkhand**

2720. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a mine accident has occurred recently at Godda in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of workers killed and injured in the said accident;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted into the accident and if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the measures taken to ensure safety and security of coal miners in the country?

**Coal blocks in West Godavari and
Krishna districts**

2721. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry intends to bring in coal blocks found in West Godavari and Krishna districts under the purview of Singareni Collieries Company (SCCL);

(b) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Ministry to cancel coal blocks in West Godavari and Krishna districts from the purview of SCCL and designated Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation as coal mining company; and

(c) if so, action taken by the Ministry in this regard and status of exploration of above coal blocks?

**Report of study group on coal royalty
revision**

2722. SHRI DILIP KUMAR

TIRKEY:

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR
SWAIN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has constituted a study group to consider revision of rates on royalty on coal;

(b) if so, what are the details of action taken for the enhancement of rates of royalty on coal;

(c) the amount collected by the Central Government towards additional levy @ ₹ 295 per tonne from the prior allocates of schedule-II coal mines, State-wise;

(d) whether the amount has been transferred to the State Governments and if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) if not, when is this amount expected to be transferred to the State Governments?

Corruption free auction of coal mines

2723. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what measures have been taken by the Ministry, after June, 2014 to ensure corruption free auction of coal mines and whether there has been an assessment regarding the success of these measures;

(b) the total financial loss to Government exchequer caused due to cases of corruption during 2004-2014 as per Government estimates; and

(c) whether the investigations into these corruption cases are incomplete, if so, the

pendency stage and when they are likely to be completed?

Availability of coal

‡2724. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the countries from where coal was imported after 2014 or agreement for import was signed by Government;

(b) the details of availability of coal at present in the country; and

(c) the details of the quantity of coal demand in other sectors, including electricity production in the country?

Auctioning of coal blocks

2725. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal blocks which were auctioned/sold out to various firms during the last one year ;

(b) whether Government has achieved the targeted profit from the coal blocks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government has revamped the monitoring process of coal blocks and their functioning?

Funds spent on rural water quality monitoring and surveillance programme

2726. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all drinking water sources

should be tested at least twice a year for bacteriological contamination and once a year for chemical contamination as per the National Rural Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance Programme (NRWQMSP) which has lately been merged with NRDWP;

(b) whether the scheme is applicable in all the districts of the country, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) year-wise data of the funds spent on the scheme during the last five years; and

(d) what other steps is Government taking to improve Rural Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance?

Cleanliness and achievement of SBM

‡2727. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been improvement in sanitation management in the rural areas in the country during the last two years under the sanitation mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether special measures which are required are being taken by the village Panchayats to get the status of cleanliness and to achieve the targets of the Swachh Bharat Mission till 2019; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Status of open defecation in rural areas

2728. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) increase in percentage of access to toilets since 2014;

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) how does India compare with other countries in terms of rural open defecation and the details thereof;

(c) whether measures are being taken to improve toilet usage and behaviour towards sanitation of rural population;

(d) the percentage of increase in construction of toilets during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Ministry to ensure adequate availability of water in toilets in rural areas and measures being taken to keep toilets in usable condition?

Proposals pending from Chhattisgarh

†2729. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received by the Ministry for development works from the Chhattisgarh Government during the last three years and scheme-wise amount for them and details of the action taken thereon;

(b) the reasons due to which the proposals received from State Government are pending so far;

(c) whether any time-limit has been fixed to clear the proposals;

(d) whether excess delay in clearance of the proposals hampers the development works and the manner in which the increased cost of the work is adjusted; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Open defecation free villages

2730. SHRINEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of villages declared open defecation free as on 10th March, 2017, State-wise;

(b) whether Government is aware that in many districts of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh huge amount of the money allocated for construction of toilets have been defalcated and even public representatives are used to open defecation in these States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government would inquire into the same;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Declaration of ODF States

2731. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) the first States to be declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) were Sikkim (January, 2016) Himachal Pradesh (2016) and Kerala (November, 2016);

(b) whether as on January, 2017, there were about 1,42,800 ODF villages in the country which is more than double the number reported in financial year 2015-16; and

(c) whether a high degree of variation was seen in the progression of ODF status of Kerala, which jumped from zero per cent ODF villages, at the start of 2016-17 to being a fully ODF State within a financial year?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Access to drinking water

2732. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of households in the country which do not have access to any source of drinking water, State-wise and UT-wise;

(b) the details of households in percentage which used tap water, hand pump/bore well and open wells/step wells;

(c) the number of households which receive untreated water from any of the sources mentioned above; and

(d) the quantum of funds being spent during the last five years on rural drinking water supply through any of the means?

Release of funds for rural drinking water supply in Andhra Pradesh

2733. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposals from Andhra Pradesh Government seeking allocation and sanction of ₹ 3,150 crores for drinking water supply in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry has taken any decision on such a request, the details thereof?

Amount spent on advertisements, publicity and awareness under SBM

†2734. SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on the advertisements, publicity and awareness under the Swachh Bharat Mission during the last three years;

(b) whether any percentage of the total expenditure has been earmarked for the publicity and awareness of this scheme;

(c) whether spending unlimited amount on publicity in an arbitrary manner for any scheme can be treated as public interest; and

(d) the details thereof?

Open defecation free villages for providing piped water supply

2735. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government aims to give top priority to the open defecation free villages for providing piped water supply;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such villages which have been identified, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by Government to provide piped water supply in these villages, State-wise?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Sanitation scheme for villages

2736. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme for sanitation for villages situated in remote hilly areas of the country and if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) whether Nandla in Chairgaon district of Himachal Pradesh, which has more than 100 residents and still lacks proper drainage system, has been included under the scheme and if not, the reasons therefor?

Status of open defecation in children

2737. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 40 per cent mothers dispose their children's faeces in open and India accounts for 60 per cent of global and 50 per cent of its own population open defecation; and

(b) the details of present status of total number of people who defecate in open?

Drinking water scarcity in the country

2738. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) number of districts having drinking water scarcity across the country, with details including those from Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu ;

(b) whether Government has made any assessment of its advisory to State Governments for water conservation;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof along with number of districts provided with the facility during each of the last three years;

(d) number of proposals received by Government for setting up of desalination plants during the said period, State-wise along with present status of such proposals; and

(e) steps taken/being taken to improve drinking water availability in the country, including Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu particularly, Chennai?

Availability of drinking water in drought prone area

2739. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified drought prone districts throughout the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(b) whether Government has taken or considering to take any measures to ensure drinking water availability in drought prone areas throughout the year, especially in the State of Tamil Nadu?

Sanitation standards stipulated under SBM-G

†2740. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the sanitation standards stipulated

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G) in rural areas of the country, including Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether following commencement of SBM-G, an important change has come in awareness about sanitation in rural areas of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the challenges in the implementation of SBM-G in rural areas of Chhattisgarh and the measures taken or being taken to meet those challenges?

Emission of greenhouse gases

2741. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that India is the biggest emitter of greenhouse gases after the United States of America and China;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has deferred the implementation of the stringent emission norms for particulate matter (PM), sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, mercury and reduced water usage by coal-fuelled thermal power plants, which was fixed as December, 2017 and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Ministry is planning to devise strict emission standards for thermal power plants and if so, the details and timeline thereof?

Penalties for maltreatment of animals

2742. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note

of the fact that penalties for maltreatment of animals under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, are as low as ₹ 25;

(b) whether Government proposes to amend the Act to suitably increase the quantum of penalty and if so, the details and timelines thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Impact of mining activities on bio-diversity in Odisha

& 2743. SHRI BISHNU CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether mining activities in forest areas has severely affected bio-diversity in Odisha;

(b) if so, the number and names of the companies involved in mining in Odisha in forest areas;

(c) the number of cases pending/continuing against them in different courts of the country;

(d) the companies which have violated the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2016 in Odisha; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to ensure minimum damage to the flora and fauna of forest areas in Odisha by such activities?

DMH-II mustard hybrid crops for wide farming

2744. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite low

yield research results, Government proposes DMH-II mustard hybrid crops for wide farming;

(b) if so, whether Government has received the clearance from the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) thereof; and

(c) if so, farming proposal of the variety of the GM-mustard edible oil therein?

Extreme changes in climate

2745. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about extreme changes in climate in the country;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted to know the reasons;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action plan to minimise/overcome the same?

Mining in forest areas

2746. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan throughout the country for not allowing mining or leasing out of mines in forest areas; and

(b) if so, the details of those areas and forest?

Compliance of rules pertaining to effluent treatment

2747. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case has been registered against any factory or chemical industry for not complying with the rules pertaining to effluent treatment;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether complaints have been received regarding the activities of industries, factories and hospitals dumping solid waste and industrial effluents into surface water sources and if so, the details thereof, category-wise;

(d) the action taken by Government against the said factories/industries; and

(e) the steps/measures taken by Government to ensure the compliance of the said rules?

Assessment of EAC on river valley and hydro electric projects

2748. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) tasked with assessing river valley and hydro electric projects has ignored the activists, who revised objectives;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the EAC has rejected many representations from civil action groups stating that these representations had an anti-development attitude;

(d) whether Government is considering to review the representations received from civil action groups; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Keeping aviation out of climate deal

2749. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to keep aviation out of climate deal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a proposal is currently debated to cut the carbon footprints of airlines across the globe; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

National Wildlife Action Plan

2750. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to come out with a final National Wildlife Action Plan 2017-31 soon, a draft of which is ready;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to an upper limit of animal population to avoid risks to farmers and human settlements; and

(c) whether Government is considering to allow selective and supervised culling and if so, the details thereof?

Ratification of Kyoto Protocol

2751. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has decided to ratify amended version of Kyoto Protocol;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Kyoto Protocol incentivized several firms in the country to retrofit the polluting plants with newer technology in the hope of earning carbon credits; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Permissible PM₁₀ concentration

2752. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the permissible PM₁₀ concentration range of air in per square milimetre range as per WHO standards; and

(b) the PM₁₀ concentration of Delhi in January, 2016 and that in September, 2016?

Environmental clearance before issuance of mining license

2753. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that States like Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh had promised environment clearance even before granting mining license to certain projects, if so, the details thereof, project-wise;

(b) the details of environmental and forest clearances awarded for infrastructure,

mining and non-mining projects annually during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details of pending clearances for projects lying with the Ministry, as on February, 2017; and

(d) the details of number of clearances rejected over the past three years?

Poaching of tigers in Sunderbans

2754. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poaching of tigers have increased in the Sunderbans and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is contemplating any joint action against poaching along with the Government of Bangladesh and if so, the details thereof?

Decrease in population of Indian rhinos

2755. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of Indian rhinos have decreased in Kajiranga during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what measures are adopted to increase the population?

In-house waste treatment facilities

2756. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are individual factories in the country which do not have in-house waste treatment facilities;

(b) if so, the number of those factories;

(c) whether Government has directed that those factories be set up within a fixed period; and

(d) if the direction is violated whether any action has been taken against them and if so, against how many plants?

Poaching of wild animals

2757. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether poaching of wild animals are on the increase in recent years, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether some of them were killed for their skin, horn, etc.;

(c) whether there is a commercial interest in poaching;

(d) what steps are being taken to prevent such killings;

(e) whether there is an increasing trend of man-wild animal conflict due to increase in population of both; and

(f) how Government intends to prevent them?

National Air Quality Index

2758. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the National Air Quality Index (AQI) launched in the country;

(b) the date compiled on the basis of the AQI in respect of metro cities indicating the category and likely health impacts;

(c) the efforts made by Government to reduce the rising air pollution in metro cities of the country; and

(d) the outcome of the said efforts?

Foot-bridge constructed on Mathred river in Himachal Pradesh

‡2759. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a wooden foot bridge was constructed/maintained by Forest Department on Mathred river which connects Nandla and other villages in Chirgaon Tehsil in Shimla District;

(b) whether it is also a fact that, due to shortage of fund, the construction of bridge has not started yet;

(c) whether DFO Rohru has submitted a fresh estimate to the Principal Chief Conservator of forest for construction of this bridge; and

(d) whether Government would ask the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Himachal Pradesh to take up this project on priority basis and complete it before rainy season?

Ratification of Paris Agreement

2760. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has announced the ratification of the Paris

Agreement on Climate change even though assurance not to do so was given by Government in Parliament;

(b) if so, whether the national laws relating to environment, forest and energy have already been examined and the reports thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that European Union and many other developed countries who are a much bigger source of Carbon emission have not yet ratified the agreement; and

(d) if so, why Government has decided to violate the 'red lines' drawn up by Parliament during the detailed discussion following the Copenhagen Summit?

Rise in electronic waste

2761. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Electronic waste is rising sharply and causing great risk to human health and the environment in the country;

(b) if so, details thereof indicating the quantum of e-waste generated annually in the country;

(c) whether it is a fact that the number of e-waste recyclers/dismantlers in the country is inadequate, particularly in Maharashtra, a major e-waste generating State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government for the safe disposal of e-waste including recycling of such wastes and the achievements made in this regard?

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Easing of rules for clearance of non-polluting industrial projects

2762. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has eased rules for clearance of non-polluting industrial projects; and

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

Diversion of forest land in urban areas

2763. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the diversion of forest land in urban areas for development requires prior approval of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such proposals received by Government from Odisha during the last three years; and

(c) whether the Ministry would intimate the number of proposals approved, rejected or pending along with the reasons for the same, at the Central Government Level in respect of Odisha and by when all the proposals are likely to be cleared?

Death of people due to pollution

†2764. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people are dying in the country due to pollution;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to take steps to stop pollution; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with time-frame and if not, the reasons therefor?

Exceeding level of PM 2.5

†2765. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

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

(a) the names of the cities in the country including Delhi where the presence of PM 2.5 exceeds the limit in the air;

(b) the impact of the measures taken in the direction of reducing this high level of air pollution;

(c) the details of deaths due to air pollution during the last three years;

(d) whether making public the study reports on air pollution of cities like Delhi, Patna, Mumbai by institutions like World Health Organization, has adversely impacted industries like tourism; and

(e) the details thereof?

Report of CSE on automobile pollution

2766. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of a report titled 'Automobiles Choking India' released by Centre for Science and Environment (CSE);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

taken/proposed to be taken to check vehicular pollution; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Uncontrolled discharge of sewage

2767. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether manifold increase in population and uncontrolled discharge of sewage into the major rivers are the major causes for pollution in our rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of assistance received for cleaning the rivers; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to check uncontrolled discharge of sewage into the rivers?

Protection of dwindling tiger population

2768. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Project CAT "Conserving Acres for Tigers" has been launched by Discovery Communications and W W F to increase and protect the dwindling tiger population, if so, the details thereof along with the Government role in the same;

(b) the details of existing population of tigers, State-wise;

(c) the schemes of Government which seeks to protect the tiger population along with State/UT-wise details of the funds allocated and utilized for the same during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to discourage pervasive poaching and habitat losses?

Plantation of trees

2769. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total number of new trees planted during the last one year and the places where they were planted;

(b) the details of agencies and organizations involved therein and the average price for plantation of each tree during the last year; and

(c) the details of criteria, if any for the agencies or organisations during the above period for care/maintenance after plantation?

Polluted cities of the country

2770. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a study, Delhi is the most polluted city of the world;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many cities of the country are in the list of most polluted cities of the world;

(c) whether it is also a fact that, as per an estimate, lakhs of Indians die every year due to air pollution; and

(d) if so, what action have been taken, so far to clean air and making it worth living?

Implementation of Green India Mission

2771. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of forest areas where Green India Mission is being implemented at present;

(b) the criteria/guidelines laid down for the selection of topographical areas under the said Mission;

(c) the funds allocated and utilised under the Mission during the last year and the current year, State-wise;

(d) the details of proposals/schemes received from various States by Government in the current year and the status of such proposals along with the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken thereon, State-wise; and

(e) the physical achievements, in terms of targets fixed and works undertaken under the Mission, so far?

Relaxation of regulatory regimes for bamboos

2772. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry had issued an Advisory to State Governments in 2013 to relax regulatory regimes in respect of bamboo grown on private lands;

(b) if so, why was such an advisory not issued for bamboo grown in State owned and controlled forests;

(c) whether it is a fact that many States follow a Transit Pass regime for bamboos because of which its cultivation is restricted to certain pockets only; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of such regime being followed in different States?

Illegal sand extraction in Goa

2773. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the illegal activities of the sand extraction have been detected in Goa;

(b) the names of the places where sand extraction is going on;

(c) the action taken by authorities under Environment Protection Act and/or authorities under Goa Coastal Management Regulations;

(d) the cases filed with respect to such offences; and

(e) the punishment awarded so far?

Hill-cutting at Chapora Fort in Goa

2774. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are complaints filed by locals regarding hill-cutting at Chapora Fort in Goa;

(b) whether the authorities under Coastal Zone Management have taken cognizance of the complaint;

(c) the steps taken by the authorities to address the complaint; and

(d) the details of the complaints and

acts of violations committed with respect to the said hill-cutting and the provisions of the Goa Coastal Management Regulations and Environment Protection Act?

Alarming level of water pollution

2775. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of alarming water pollution in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details and reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government proposes to take any corrective action in the matter and if so, the details thereof?

Setting up of District Mineral Foundations

2776. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether District Mineral Foundations were set up in districts affected with mining-related operations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that District Mineral Foundation Levy is being collected from the districts where DMFs are constituted; and

(d) if so, the amount of money collected so far and the details of expenditure, made for the benefit of people affected due to mining in Karnataka?

Land under extensive and small scale mining

‡2777. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total land in the country under extensive and small scale mining and the portion of land thereof, disfigured due to mining activities; and

(b) whether Government intends to take appropriate action to make use of land disfigured by mining for agriculture, industry, forest and environment etc., if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Revival of gold mines

2778. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to revive gold mines which were shut down for 15 years but with an estimated US \$ 2.1 billion worth of deposits still left;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Mineral Exploration Corporation has started exploring the reserves at Kolar Gold fields to get better estimate of deposit;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has asked the State Government to renew Bharat Gold mining lease; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the State Government in this regard?

Exclusion of Manganese ore from MMDR Act

2779. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether the Ministry has received any request from some mining States to exclude Manganese ore from the purview of section-5(1) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act on practical grounds; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken in this regard?

Safe disposal of solar power batteries

2780. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that solar power is stored in DC form in batteries;

(b) whether a large number of batteries are connected into waste every year;

(c) whether Government has any plan for safe disposal of such batteries because they can be harmful to human health; and

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

Target for solar energy

†2781. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any targets have been set for solar energy generation during 2015-16 and 2016-17 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the achievements made till date State/ Union Territory-wise including Chhattisgarh;

(c) whether the Central and State Government organisations have displayed a lackadaisical approach towards achieving those targets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to achieve these targets, State/Union Territory-wise?

Generation based incentive scheme for wind turbines

2782. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) whether Government would extend 'generation-based incentive scheme' for wind turbines for electricity generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the capacity of wind power installation in various States, State-wise during the last three years and the future projection for the year 2017-18;

(d) whether Government would incentivize wind power generators to generate more electricity during the peak summer of 2017, especially in view of severe summer predicted; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Promotion of tidal energy projects

2783. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government supports the promotion of research, design, development and demonstration of tidal energy projects in the county;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has supported any project in Tamil Nadu for development of those projects; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

Wind power projects

2784. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the wind power projects being undertaken in the country including Tamil Nadu;

(b) the details of those wind power projects that are likely to be completed in 2017, 2018 and 2019; and

(c) the details of total installed wind power capacity at the end of years 2017, 2018 and 2019?

Solar and wind energy programmes

2785. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of solar and wind energy programmes in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

(b) whether any sites have been identified to set up wind and solar energy farms, either by Government or as a Public Private Partnership (PPP) venture in both the States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Financial and Technical assistance for generation of wind power

2786. KUMARI SELJA:
SHRIMATI RAJANI
PATIL:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

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

(a) whether the Central Government is granting financial and technical assistance to State Governments to generate more wind energy in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of such assistance provided to various States during each of the last two years and the current year, State-wise?

Schemes for power generation from solar energy

†2787. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes being implemented by Government for generation of electricity through solar energy for production of electricity, other than through traditional sources;

(b) the details of schemes of Government for involving companies operating in other sectors, in this project, other than through Public Private Partnership model in the above projects; and

(c) the details of the States where the scheme to generate electricity from solar energy is proposed to be introduced?

Welfare funds for rural and urban local bodies

†2788. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided adequate funds for welfare and development of rural and urban local bodies in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of rural and urban local bodies in the country, State-wise;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the funds released to various States during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(d) the effective steps taken by Central Government to bring awareness at panchayat level about the schemes and welfare measures implemented by Central Government so that they may have access to each household?

Computerization of Gram Panchayats

2789. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of all Gram Panchayats which have been computerized/yet to be computerized till date in the region of Barabanki in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the estimated budget provided for this initiative in the current financial year;

(c) whether any assessment has been made to review the implementation and effectiveness of this measure particularly in the District of Barabanki; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and any proposal for increasing the outlay for this measure?

Grants under BRGF

†2790. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has stopped the grants provided to the States under the BRGF;

(b) if not, the district-wise details of the amounts of funds given to the States under this scheme in Financial Years 2014-15 and 2015-16;

(c) the names of those districts in

respect of which a decision, not to release funds under the BRGF has been taken and the reasons therefor and the details thereof; and

(d) whether the coverage of the BRGF is expected to be enhanced in future?

Lack of human resources in PRIs

2791. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many of the Panchayati-Raj Institutions in the country lack human resources for implementing developmental programmes in their respective villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for such lack of human resources; and

(c) the steps/measures taken by Government in this regard?

Devolution of financial grants to Puducherry

2792. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has devolved financial grants to Puducherry Government under Panchayati Raj Institutions;

(b) if not, the reasons for not allocating funds to the Union Territory under Panchayati Raj; and

(c) whether the High Level Finance Committee under the Ministry of Home Affairs is aware that since no grant was given to the Puducherry Government or to Panchayati Raj institutions in the State after the elections were conducted in July 2006,

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

they were unable to serve the people effectively?

Project proposals from Himachal Pradesh

2793. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of project proposals received from Himachal Pradesh by the Ministry for approval during the last three years and the current year, proposal-wise;
- (b) the details of proposals sanctioned and those pending for approval; and
- (c) the time by which the said pending projects are likely to be cleared?

Unemployment due to decline in productivity

†2794. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether unemployment is increasing due to the decline in productivity in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken by Government in this regard?

Release of water to Rajasthan by BBMB

2795. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether short fluctuating supplies for Ravi, Beas and Sutlej water are passed by Punjab and Haryana to Rajasthan; and
- (b) whether Government intends to give directions to Bhakra Beas Management

Board (BBMB) to ensure supply of water to Rajasthan as per its share decided in the Technical Committee Meeting (TCM) of BBMB?

Off-grid electrification

2796. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) what progress has been achieved in terms of off-grid electrification measures in rural India; and
- (b) in what ways does Government aims to bridge the gap between electrified villages and provision of 24x7 electricity in all village households?

Change in norms for electrified villages

2797. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of villages in the country which are electrified;
- (b) the rules which determine whether a village is to be classified as electrified;
- (c) whether Government is aware that many of the houses in villages, classified as electrified, don't have access to electricity;
- (d) whether Government plans to change the rules or norms regarding the classification of a village as electrified;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) what steps are being taken to ensure that Government's goal for providing affordable electricity for all becomes a reality?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Electricity supply in the country

2798. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to supply power to all houses by 2019;
- (b) till now how many houses in the country are without electricity; and
- (c) how much power is required if all the houses are electrified?

Electrification of villages under DDUGJY

†2799. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) was started in November, 2014 with a view to electrify all the unelectrified villages in the country within 1000 days of its inception;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is estimated to achieve the target of the electrification of all such villages before the stipulated time limit; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Electrification of villages

†2800. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is determined to connect each village of the country with electricity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Parsa village of Parsa panchayat in Ghoghardiha Block of Madhubani district in Bihar is deprived of electricity whereas an adjacent 'Tola' of that

village has been electrified, if so, the reasons therefor; and

- (d) the total number of such villages which have been deprived of electrification so far and by when electricity is likely to reach there, the details thereof?

Electricity supply in electrified villages

2801. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has set a target for electrification of all villages in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of villages which were electrified earlier and the villages which have been electrified during the last three years by Government in each State, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any survey to ensure that villages declared as electrified have actually been electrified or not and also to ensure that there is actual electricity supply in all villages declared as electrified; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government for regular supply of electricity in the villages particularly during the sowing season?

Electrified villages

2802. SHRI P.L. PUNIA:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of villages which have been connected with electricity during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the total number of villages which have not been connected with electricity till date, State-wise and by when they would be electrified;

(c) whether every household in the electrified villages have access to electricity;

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

(e) the average hour for which electricity is provided in the villages per day, State-wise; and

(f) the average power consumption per household in the villages, State-wise?

Profits of power PSUs earmarked for social responsibility

†2803. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the Ministry and the profits earned by them during the last five years and the current year (2016-17); and

(b) the percentage of profits earmarked by them for social responsibilities and the corpus created therefrom along with the details of various heads of expenditure in this regard during the above period and the balance amount as on date?

Underground distribution networks in Municipal Corporations and Nagarpalikas

2804. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals from any State for Underground distribution networks in Municipal Corporations and Nagarpalikas; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

CFLs provided under Bachat Lamp Yojana

2805. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is providing Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) under the Bachat Lamp Yojana for reducing the cost;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how many beneficiaries were provided CFLs under the scheme since its beginning, State-wise?

Uninterrupted power supply in rural areas under DDUGJY

2806. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is providing 24x7 uninterrupted power supply to all homes in rural India under the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how many homes are provided with uninterrupted power supply under the scheme since its beginning, State-wise?

CEA's report on new thermal power plants

†2807. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Electricity Authority's (CEA) recent report has recommended that no new power plants should be established till 2022 as the number of existing thermal power plants is more than the present requirement of the country and if so, Government's reaction thereto;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether the peak demand is only 1.5 lakh Megawatt as compared to 3 lakh Megawatt of total installed capacity of Power Plants at present and this peak demand has been at this level since 2014; and

(c) whether no increase in power demand shows that Indian economy has not registered any growth since 2014?

New initiatives and policy for power sector

2808. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has devised any new initiatives and policies for the overall development and improvement of power sector and power transmission in the country;

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

(c) whether Government has chalked out any comprehensive strategy to involve the academia, industry, NGOs, Non-Profit Organisations in envisaging the new power projects and their implementation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the effective steps taken to involve the various stakeholders, State Governments, Public and Private Sector and with foreign collaboration?

National Highways in Odisha

& 2809. SHRI BISHNU CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number, names and length, in kilometres, of National Highways in Odisha;

(b) by when these National Highways are to be made six lane;

(c) the present condition of these National Highways, especially in naxal-affected areas in the State; and

(d) the specific efforts made/funds allocated/works undertaken to improve the condition of these highways in the State?

Toll plazas in the country

2810. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of toll plazas existing at present on National Highways, State-wise;

(b) the number of toll plazas which are still continuing even after recovery of construction cost, State-wise; and

(c) the dates by which such toll plazas would be dismantled?

CRF funds to Jharkhand

2811. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jharkhand Government has sent proposals for release of funds from Central Road Fund (CRF) for the year 2017-18 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any proposals pertaining to Singhbhum district have been included in the list and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these proposals are in order for release of funds under CRF and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the quantum of funds allocated for 2017-18?

Amritsar-Delhi expressway

2812. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any progress on Amritsar-Delhi expressway;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) what is the current status of the project; and
- (e) by when the project is likely to start?

Death of young people in accidents

2813. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether every third person killed in road accidents is in the age group of 15-29 years;
- (b) if so, the details for the last three years;
- (c) what is the percentage of traffic offenders being caught in India; and
- (d) what is being done for evidence-based enforcement of traffic rules?

Review of format for reporting road accidents

2814. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of road accidents recorded in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) what are the key recommendations of the expert committee constituted by the Ministry to review the format for reporting road accidents; and
- (c) whether these recommendations have been implemented?

Four or six laning of NHs

2815. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

- (a) the length of National Highways (NHs) converted into four and six lanes during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;
- (b) the details of funds allocated and actually spent, for the said purpose during the said period, year-wise; and
- (c) whether any projection has been made for conversion of NHs into four and six lanes during the next two years and if so, the details thereof?

Utilization of funds for road construction

2816. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some States have not utilized a substantial amount allocated for construction of roads and highways;
- (b) if so, the names of these States and the details of allocated amount and unutilised amount, Statewise; and
- (c) the steps proposed by Government against these States?

Making travel on National Highways Safer

2817. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has any plan to make travel on National Highways more safer than earlier;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any corporate houses, voluntary organizations, automobile manufacturers have been roped in to make our National Highways more safer; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Widening of National Highways in Tamil Nadu

2818. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started work on widening of National Highways in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of land acquisition for widening of National Highways in the State along with the details of funds sanctioned/ released/spent for the proposal; and

(c) by when the widening work of National Highways in the State is likely to be completed?

Impact of demonetisation on road construction

2819. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of length of roads constructed during year 2016, month-wise;

(b) whether road construction had reduced in November and December, 2016 and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry has undertaken any study to assess the impact of demonetisation on the road construction industry, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Adapting buses for compliance with the persons with Disabilities Act, 1995

2820. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Section 44 of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 states that transport sector shall, for the benefit of persons with disabilities, take special measures to adapt buses in such a way as to permit easy access to such persons and adapt toilets in waiting rooms in such a way as to permit wheel chair users to use them conveniently;

(b) whether it is a fact that buses are plying without ramp on inter-State routes; and

(c) if so, the measures taken to comply with the provisions of the Act?

Daily road construction target

2821. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government hopes to achieve the target of constructing 40 km. of road in a day by the next year;

(b) whether it was 2 km. per day last year whereas is 18 km. per day at present and by the end of March, 2017, it would be 30 km. per day; and

(c) what is the total length, in kms., of roads constructed during the last two years?

**Allocation of funds for NHs/
Expressways/SHs**

2822. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds sanctioned to the States for the development of National Highways/Express Highways/State Highways during the Eleventh/Twelfth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the details of funds available during each year of the said period and the funds spent so far, highway-wise, particularly in respect of Jharkhand and Gujarat?

**Beautification of surroundings of
Mumbai-Goa National
Highway**

2823. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is exploring the possibility of beautifying the surroundings of Mumbai-Goa National Highway along the coast on the lines of the road linking Los Angeles and San Francisco in the United States of America;

(b) whether Government has asked the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) to prepare a detailed project report on the above project; and

(c) if so, the details of the project including the estimated cost, with percentage share of the Central and State Governments?

**Gantry-based tolling systems on
highways**

2824. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to install advanced gantry-based tolling systems which will do away with the need for toll booths;

(b) what will be the *modus operandi* of the system which will be installed at all National Highways, starting with the upcoming expressways;

(c) whether any foreign company has offered to provide some financial assistance for the project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

National Highway grid

2825. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has planned National Highway grid for smooth travel;

(b) if so, whether the grid network has been identified;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount of investment required to complete the grid; and

(e) whether it requires redesigning of National Highways?

Increase in road accidents

2826. KUMARI SELJA:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

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

(a) whether incidents of road accidents are on the rise due to non adherence of traffic norms by road users including drivers and pedestrians, if so, the details thereof indicating the number of persons killed in

road accidents during last two years, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether Government proposes to introduce certain mandatory safety procedures while driving vehicles; and

(c) whether Government also proposes to bring amendments in existing Motor Vehicles Act, in view of increasing incidents of rash and negligent driving and if so, the details thereof and by when the Act is likely to be amended?

Funds for development of National Highways

2827. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has earmarked funds for the development of Highways in States and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total length of the National Highways proposed to be developed by Government and the length of National Highways completed, so far; and

(c) the details of the highways being taken up for development in Puducherry under this proposal?

Accidents due to poor maintenance of roads

2828. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the accidents caused due to potholes during the last three years and the measures undertaken by Government to address this issue;

(b) the method of collection of data of road accidents and whether such

methodology is based on a scientific basis and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any provision for punishment of contractors and agencies who fail to provide safe roads, and, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government on fixing accountability for road accidents that are caused due to poorly designed and maintained roads?

Proposals for roads received from Chhattisgarh

†2829. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal for different roads along with National Highway Nos. 63,353,06 and 30 has been received from the Chhattisgarh Government;

(b) if so, by when the sanction for the same is expected; and

(c) whether a proposal has been received for Road Requirement Plan (RRP) Phase-II, under Left Wing Extremism (LWE) scheme from the State, if so, by when the sanction for the same is expected?

Proposals received from Chhattisgarh for NHs

†2830. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received in the Ministry from Chhattisgarh for strengthening of roads, access roads, reconstruction of small bridges etc. on various National Highways during 2016 and the present status thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government would provide fast approval for their construction in view of the problems being faced by common people;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) the estimated expenditure to be incurred on their construction?

Demand for work under MGNREGA

2831. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether demonetization has led to large scale unemployment especially in the informal sector which lead to migration of labour back to villages;

(b) whether this has led to increase in demand for work under MGNREGA; and

(c) the details of work demanded, given and wages disbursed under MGNREGA, since August, 2016 till present, month wise and State-wise?

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Swaniyojan Yojana

2832. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalised the modalities of the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Swaniyojan Yojana for the benefit of rural people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the salient features of the scheme; and

(d) by when it would be commissioned for implementation and the States that would be covered under the scheme?

Monitoring of use of grants-in-aid

2833. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 99 per cent of all plan expenditure in the Ministry is under the head of grants-in-aid;

(b) other than Utilisation certificate and audit by CAG, both of which are external, what other arrangements exist within the Ministry to ascertain whether this huge expenditure is being incurred for the intended purpose; and

(c) whether the Ministry is satisfied with its internal monitoring of grants-in-aid expenditure?

Electrification of villages identified under SAGY

†2834. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether households in some villages selected under the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) have not been electrified till date and, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of the target, achievement and time-limit set to electrify each household in such villages?

Construction of roads from Pauri to Dandanagaraja via Lwali under PMGSY

†2835. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a road from Pauri to Dandanagaraja via village Lwali and Maklaudi district Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand was constructed 15 years ago;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the reasons for not concretizing this road for so many years;

(c) whether this road comes under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and if not, whether Government has received any proposal to bring it under this scheme; and ,

(d) if so, by when Government proposes to concretize this road?

Funds for rural development and poverty alleviation schemes

†2836. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated and released to the States and the funds utilized by the States under various schemes for rural development and poverty alleviation during the last three years till date, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of the SC and ST beneficiaries under each of the above scheme, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the achievements made under each scheme during the above period, State-wise?

Expansion of NeFMS and geo-tagging of assets under MGNREGA

2837. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to upscale National Electronic Fund Management System (NeFMS) direct fund transfer to beneficiaries accounts in more States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has started geo-tagging of assets created under MGNREGA in association with the Indian

Space Research Organisation to establish accountability and transparency in the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Increase in mandays under MGNREGA in Telangana

2838. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to increase the number of mandays under MGNREGA in view of the drought prevailing in Telangana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of funds released/being released to various districts of the state; and

(d) the proposals sent by the Telangana Government for the release of funds to the drought prevailing areas in the State?

Universalisation of old age pension and changes in NSAP

2839. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to universalise the old age pension scheme under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP);

(b) if so, what is the proposed timeline for implementation of these changes;

(c) whether Government shall also implement other reforms suggested by the Mihir Shah Task Force for Comprehensive NSAP, including the expansion of the pension scheme for widows, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Funds for MGNREGA

2840. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated and spent under MGNREGA along with the unused funds or further allocation of funds during FY 2016-17, if any; and

(b) whether the budget allocation for MGNREGA during FY 2017-18 is ₹ 48,000 crore and if so, whether Government would ensure that the utilization is authentic, the details thereof?

Implementation of SPMRM

2841. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM);

(b) how many clusters are proposed to be developed under SPMRM, State-wise;

(c) whether 100 clusters have been identified in the first phase;

(d) if so, details of clusters identified in Andhra Pradesh and the likely date for fulfilment of the mission objectives in the identified clusters in the State; and

(e) the amount allocated for the first phase of the mission and the share of that State in the first phase?

Release of funds for MGNREGA works in Telangana

2842. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has released funds for the Mahatma Gandhi National

Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) works in Telangana and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has received any proposals from the Telangana Government requesting for release of funds for MGNREGA works in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has taken any decision on this request and if so, the details thereof?

Norms/guidelines to measure roads under PMGSY

2843. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of construction of roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), State-wise;

(b) the norms/guidelines in vogue to measure roads constructed under the scheme;

(c) whether Government has proposed new guidelines for road measurement under the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(e) whether Government has assessed the likely impact the new guidelines shall have on construction of rural roads in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Habitations connected under PMGSY

2844. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as on January 2017, the total number of unconnected habitations in

the country stood at 2.6 lakh or 24 per cent of all habitations recording a reduction of 24 percentage points from April, 2000;

(b) whether 8.8 per cent of total habitations connected between April, 2000 and January, 2017 were in 10 States; and

(c) whether in contrast the proportion of habitations connected by PMGSY during the same period was 5 per cent in Uttar Pradesh and 11 per cent in Meghalaya with 44 per cent of habitations in Uttar Pradesh and 39 per cent in Meghalaya remaining unconnected to the road network?

NIRD&PRs Sangam initiative for capacity building

†2845. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether various studies have revealed that main reasons of stunted physical growth of children is poverty and malnutrition and a collective effort by inclusion of various stakeholders is needed to deal therewith, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government or the National Institute for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR) has taken some steps towards Multisector Nutrition Capacity Building Initiative-Sangam and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the salient features of this project?

Working of RSETIs in North East

2846. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be please to state:

(a) the eligibility criteria of candidates for Rural Self-Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs);

(b) the name of the training programme organised by RSETI, in the States of North East, sector-wise; and

(c) the total number of candidates trained by RSETIs in the above States during 2015 and 2016?

Urban facilities in rural areas

2847. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the pilot scheme of Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) being implemented in the country and if so, the salient features thereof including the rural areas covered under the scheme;

(b) whether Government proposes to start a new idea of Rurbanisation through which basic urban facilities are likely to be provided in villages and if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the estimated funds required for implementation of this idea;

(d) whether any time-frame has been chalked out for implementation of this idea; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Release of Central share for DRDA Nuapada

2848. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to release the first installment of Central share to the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA), Nuapada in Odisha for the current year 2016-17;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, by when it will be released;
and
(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Gas stove platforms in PMAY houses

2849. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has directed the State Governments to seek construction of gas stove platforms in the houses constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (PMAY); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Construction of new roads under PMGSY in Uttarakhand

†2850. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new roads approved in Uttarakhand under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the financial year 2016-17;

(b) whether all the roads proposed by the State have been approved;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Indian Rural Development Report

2851. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently released Indian Rural Development Report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the key findings of the report;

(d) whether a major portion of the rural population is very poor and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the States which are worst affected by rural poverty?

Delay in release of funds under PMAY-G

2852. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM:
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, after demonetisation, due to delay in verification of accounts, beneficiaries of different States particularly in Odisha are unable to receive first instalment under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken in this regard; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to verify 41,000 accounts which are pending with Public Financial Management System (PFMS)?

Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation

2853. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had granted several crores of funds to the Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation (BRLF) in January, 2014, if so, what were the details of terms and conditions under which these funds were given; and

(b) whether Government has been monitoring the use of these funds by the BRLF and if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Budgetary provision for
SPMRM**

2854. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM);

(b) the total budgetary provision during 2016-17 under SPMRM; and

(c) the total budgetary provision during the above period under SPMRM for the States of North-Eastern region?

Development of inland waterways

2855. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding Government plans to develop inland waterways for carriage of goods and passengers;

(b) the details regarding costs involved therein and the modes of mobilisation of financial resources;

(c) which inland waterways corridors are proposed to be developed in the beginning and within what time framework;

(d) whether any inland waterways are presently being used for said purpose, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) how the Government plans to make such carriages financially viable and whether any financial support will be provided by Government initially?

**Infrastructural facilities in shipping
industry**

2856. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian

shipping industry is facing lack of sufficient infrastructure facilities, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the steps taken by Government to improve the shipping industries by way of exemptions and relaxations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Proposal for closure of CIWTC

2857. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to close down the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd. (CIWTC);

(b) if so, the details of proposal of Government to revitalize Inland Waterways Authority of India; and

(c) the details of plans to modernise Shipping Corporation of India?

Development of waterways

2858. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized multi-modal transport strategy for development of waterways for transportation of goods considering its cost effectiveness;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to deal with the problem of silting of rivers to make them navigable for movement of vessels; and

(d) whether Government has taken due note of pollution likely to be caused due to movement of vessels in rivers?

Development of coastal and hinterland shipping

2859. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of various bottlenecks that have restricted development of coastal shipping in India;

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to enhance freight traffic through shipping;

(c) measures taken by Government to address problem of paucity of long term finance required for buying coastal vessels;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Central Government has taken any measures to develop hinterland connectivity around major and minor ports in order to develop multimodal transport network and if so, the details thereof?

Establishment of a port at Dugarajapatnam

2860. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted a Committee to examine the feasibility of establishing major port at Dugarajapatnam of Andhra Pradesh as per AP Reorganization Act;

(b) whether the Committee has submitted its report; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Capacity usage and turnover of major ports

2861. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total installed capacity of major ports in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of the capacity usage of major ports in the country, State-wise;

(c) the number of such ports which are making profit; and

(d) the details of turnover of the major ports in public and private sector during the last three years?

Coastal Economic Zones under Sagarmala project

2862. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Coastal Economic Zones has been envisaged under Sagarmala project;

(b) if so, the details of Coastal Economic Zones identified in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the estimated investment in the basic infrastructure and land in the above CEZs;

(d) by when the perspective plan in Andhra Pradesh is going to be finalized and how much employment is expected to be generated; and

(e) in view of Act East Policy of Government, how significant the CEZs would become in the State?

Grievances pertaining to Polavaram project

2863. SHRID. RAJA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether NGT had issued orders to Government on October 19, 2016 to appoint a Superintendent Engineer at Dowlaiswaram, Andhra Pradesh to collect

grievances pertaining to all issues at Polavaram in case no. 452 of 2016;

(b) whether Government has been observant of the directions of NGT in this regard, so as to help dalits and tribals;

(c) the steps proposed by Government to carefully receive and address concerns of people;

(d) how many grievances have so far been received; and

(e) whether it is a fact that tribals and dalits are not getting due cooperation?

Surplus water in river Godavari for Telangana

2864. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Water Development Agency and Telangana State are disputing on the availability of surplus waters in river Godavari;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of surplus water available in river Godavari during the last three years according to the Central Government?

Water grids on major rivers

†2865. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any rejuvenation plan for setting up water grids on major rivers, if so, the details of the plan with regard to the above;

(b) whether Government has been

contemplating to set up water grids on the rivers of Madhya Pradesh also and if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether rivers have been identified under the above plan, if so, the State-wise details of the chosen rivers and the areas where the grids will be set up?

Rejuvenation of tanneries from Kanpur

2866. SHRI K.T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified land for the purpose of shifting tanneries in Kanpur which, as Government records, contribute largely to pollution by discharge of their industrial effluents; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when Government will be in a position to relocate these tanneries?

Scheme for farmers under PMKSY

†2867. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to run a number of remunerative schemes for the farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of benefits that are going to accrue to big and small farmers from this scheme; and

(d) the plan formulated by Government to extend the benefits of this scheme to the farmers?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Arsenic contamination in Ganga-Brahmaputra plains

2868. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared an action plan to meet the challenges posed by Arsenic contamination in groundwater in Ganga-Brahmaputra fluvial plains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how Government proposes to deal with this gigantic task and the precautionary measures planned to be taken?

Flood prevention on Ganga and Brahmaputra basin

2869. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has estimated the loss/damage caused due to floods in our country since 2014, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of number of people affected and displaced in the country due to floods since 2014, State-wise along with the compensation provided from the Centre in each case; and

(c) the details of steps taken to prevent constant flooding in certain areas near the Ganga-Brahmaputra basin, along with the funds allocated for the same over the past three years?

Irrigation works in Haryana

†2870. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targets prescribed for the irrigation works in Haryana have been achieved, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government has conducted any investigation in this regard and if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof;

(c) the project-wise names of ongoing irrigation projects running behind time schedule along with cost escalation, if any, in Haryana; and

(d) the amount of funds provided to complete the irrigation projects in Haryana during each of the last three years including the works undertaken?

Mechanism for solving inter-State water disputes

2871. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a rising number of disputes over access to water, arising between various States in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government would consider making water a part of the concurrent list;

(c) what steps have been taken to convince States in this regard;

(d) which is the oldest inter-State water dispute in the country; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) what is the mechanism to solve these disputes?

Status of aquifer mapping

2872. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of aquifer mapping across the country;

(b) whether Government has formulated any plan to recharge ground water on priority basis in the blocks across the country where ground water is hugely exploited; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

New initiatives for fresh water resources

2873. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has devised any new initiatives and policies for the overall development and improvement of fresh water resources and the per capita availability of water in the country;

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

(c) the effective steps taken by Government to increase the water catchment capacities in the country;

(d) whether Government has chalked out any comprehensive strategy to involve

all the stakeholders including the State Administration, Academia-industry, NGOs, Non-Profit Organisations in envisaging the new projects and their implementation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Draft model law on water conservation

2874. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drafted a model law to conserve ground water, surface water and rain water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase use of treated water for non-potable purposes across the country?

Silt removal from reservoirs

†2875. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the dams are facing a problem of silt, which is affecting the capacity of reservoirs;

(b) if so, whether Government would take any step to remove silt from the reservoirs;

(c) if so, whether any policy has been evolved for it; and

(d) if not, by when action would be taken in this regard?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Participation of private companies in
cleaning of river Ganga**

2876. SHRINEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently awarded contracts to private companies

for sewage treatment and cleaning of Ganga;

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

(c) the details of the funds allocated for the same; and

(d) the details of tenders invited and companies which participated in the tender?

NEW DELHI;
The 21st March, 2017
Phalguna 30, 1938 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

INDEX

(Ministry-wise)

Coal	: 2717, 2718, 2719, 2720, 2721, 2722, 2723, 2724, 2725,
Drinking Water and Sanitation	: 2726, 2727, 2728, 2729, 2730, 2731, 2732, 2733, 2734, 2735, 2736, 2737, 2738, 2739, 2740,
Environment, Forest and Climate Change	: 2741, 2742, 2743, 2744, 2745, 2746, 2747, 2748, 2749, 2750, 2751, 2752, 2753, 2754, 2755, 2756, 2757, 2758, 2759, 2760, 2761, 2762, 2763, 2764, 2765, 2766, 2767, 2768, 2769, 2770, 2771, 2772, 2773, 2774, 2775,
Mines	: 2776, 2777, 2778, 2779,
New and Renewable Energy	: 2780, 2781, 2782, 2783, 2784, 2785, 2786, 2787,
Panchayati Raj	: 2788, 2789, 2790, 2791, 2792,
Planning	: 2793, 2794,
Power	: 2795, 2796, 2797, 2798, 2799, 2800, 2801, 2802, 2803, 2804, 2805, 2806, 2807, 2808,
Road Transport and Highways	: 2809, 2810, 2811, 2812, 2813, 2814, 2815, 2816, 2817, 2818, 2819, 2820, 2821, 2822, 2823, 2824, 2825, 2826, 2827, 2828, 2829, 2830,
Rural Development	: 2831, 2832, 2833, 2834, 2835, 2836, 2837, 2838, 2839, 2840, 2841, 2842, 2843, 2844, 2845, 2846, 2847, 2848, 2849, 2850, 2851, 2852, 2853, 2854,
Shipping	: 2855, 2856, 2857, 2858, 2859, 2860, 2861, 2862,
Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation	: 2863, 2864, 2865, 2866, 2867, 2868, 2869, 2870, 2871, 2872, 2873, 2874, 2875, 2876.