

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, August 9, 2021/ 18 Sravana, 1943 (Saka)

(Ministries : Coal; Defence; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Information and Broadcasting; Jal Shakti; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Mines; Minority Affairs; Parliamentary Affairs; Ports, Shipping and Waterways; Road Transport and Highways; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions -- 160

Allocation of coal blocks to RINL

2241 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) when did the Ministry first receive request for allocation of coal blocks for Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) and Government of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the number of times the Ministry has received requests/proposals for allocating coal blocks/captive mines for RINL either from the company or from the Government of Andhra Pradesh or from the Ministry of Steel, date-wise;
- (c) the action the Ministry has taken for allocating coal mines to RINL on each of such request/proposal; and
- (d) the reasons for not allocating coal mines to RINL till date?

Prevention from COVID-19

2242 # Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

the details of the steps taken by Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) and South Eastern Coalfields limited (SCEL), the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited to prevent COVID-19 and protection from it for the common people and details of the equipments purchased along with the assistance provided to the district administration in the year 2021-22?

Private sector entry in coal mining

2243 Shri K.J. Alphons:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken by Government to ensure a level playing field for the commercial/private sector so that it can have fair competition with Coal India Limited;
- (b) whether for greater transparency and easing the commercialization, Government is planning to establish a single window clearance process in coal mines; and
- (c) the measures taken by Government to promote research and exploration activities and

modern underground mass production that could certainly help the private sector?

Environmental clearance to coal mines

2244 # Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, has not given environmental clearance to hundreds of years old Kabribad reorganised mines which comes under CCL Giridih Project (former regional office) under Central Coalfields Limited, an auxiliary unit of Coal India Limited while the process for Terms of Reference has been completed; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Coal production

2245 Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the production of coal is sufficient to cater to the needs of power sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) details of coal mines closed during the last three years and the coal mines which are likely to be closed after extraction of coal during the current year and the next three years;
- (d) whether workers were given any compensation after closure of coal mines and if so, the details thereof and the criteria fixed to determine the amount of compensation; and
- (e) details of the upcoming coal mining projects in Jharkhand?

Transfer of land rights of coal mines to the private or ancillary companies

2246 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to transfer the land rights of coal mines to the private or ancillary companies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has made any study in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Transfer of additional levy from various companies

2247 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any arrangement has been made for transfer of funds of about ₹ 560 crore paid by M/s Hindalco on account of Talabira-I coal block to Odisha; and
- (b) if not, whether a suitable advisory will be issued for release of the claims of the State Governments at the earliest?

Opencast coal mines

2248 Shri K.C. Venugopal:

Shri Sanjay Seth:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of functional and non-functional underground and opencast coal mines in the country, location-wise and State-wise;

- (b) whether Government proposes to revive the non-functional mines and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to open new coal mines and/or start mining in some new coal blocks during the current year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, location-wise/State-wise along with the names of the companies, public and private to whom these mines are likely to be assigned for development?

Royalty provided to States from coal mining

2249 Dr. Sasmit Patra:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

the details of the total royalty amount provided to the States in the country over the past five years, year-wise and State-wise?

Illegal coal mining

2250 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government bears loss of millions of rupees due to illegal coal mining;
- (b) if so, steps Government has taken to stop it once for ever;
- (c) whether illegal coal mines have destroyed the ecological balance and equilibrium in the States like Meghalaya; and
- (d) whether Government will start community awareness against illegal coal mining and its impact on ecology and environment?

SHAKTI policy

2251 Shri Neeraj Dangi:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala Transparently in India (SHAKTI) policy for better allocation of coal to present and future power plants in India;
- (b) if so, the detail of the SHAKTI policy and the current status of its implementation and the list of States, currently eligible under the SHAKTI policy;
- (c) whether SHAKTI policy has been transparent and has addressed the coal linkage problems of all stressed power plants; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of Government thereto?

Cancellation of recruitment

2252 # Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an interview has been conducted after the Assistant Foreman (Electrical and Mechanical) examination in the year 2011;
- (b) the date on which the said examination was conducted and the number of passed candidates and the number of candidates who were interviewed;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the said recruitment has been cancelled; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Contract workers in coal fields

2253 # **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Industrial Training Institute (ITI) degree holder employees in South Eastern Coal Fields during the last five years;
- (b) the details of such retired employees during the last five years, year-wise;
- (c) the details of the new appointments against the retired employees during the last five years; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that the work at South Eastern Coal Fields is being carried out with unskilled contract workers, instead of new appointments, in which many irregularities are taking place?

'Vriksharopan Abhiyan' in coal fields

2254 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is conducting 'Vriksharopan Abhiyan' to improve environment in the coal field area;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether State Governments are provided funds for 'Vriksharopan Abhiyan'; and
- (d) if so, the amount received by each State for the last three years?

Use of gold dust

2255 # **Shri Deepak Prakash:**

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government will issue guidelines to formulate any policy with reference to the use of gold dust; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Setting up of coal washeries

2256 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria laid down by Government for setting up of coal washeries in the country;
- (b) the details of established and functional coal washeries at present, State-wise and Coal India Limited/subsidiary/company-wise;
- (c) whether there has been inordinate delay in setting up of new coal washeries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the necessary steps taken by Government to complete the said process in a time-bound manner and the details of the annual expenses for the functioning of washeries from 2014 till date?

Auctioning of new coal mines

2257 **Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal for auctioning of new coal mines in near future;
- (b) if so, the details of any bidding process done in recent past;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of participants, coal blocks auctioned, final award status and remaining blocks, so far?

Development of high strength Beta Titanium alloy

2258 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory (DMRL), a unit of DRDO has indigenously developed high strength Beta Titanium alloy to be used in the aerospace industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the possible application of this useful alloy in the industry;
- (c) whether DRDO has any plan to give license to private players for commercial production of this alloy;
- (d) whether Government is considering to make available the aerospace components exclusively to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for use in fighter aircraft alone; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Splitting of Ordnance Factory Board

2259 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ordnance Factory Board with 41 manufacturing units which produce arms, ammunition and clothes for defence personnel has been split into seven corporate units;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the arms and ammunitions produced by Ordnance factories were of sub-standard resulting in accidents while using them in the field by defence personnel; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for the delay in taking such a decision much earlier and the mechanism now been worked out for the production of quality arms and ammunitions?

Pension to ex-servicemen

2260 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) the current structure of pension given to ex-servicemen and army personnel;
- (b) whether the Ministry has considered increasing this amount, if so, the details thereof including the detailed structure; and
- (c) if not, whether the Ministry has plans for the same?

COVID-19 therapy drugs developed by DRDO

2261 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the COVID-19 therapy drugs, including 2DG-developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO); and
- (b) the manner in which it was useful to the patients?

Shareholding of defence related PSUs

2262 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) making defence-related equipment in the country;
- (b) the details of PSUs making defence-related goods in which Government has already privatised or decreased its shareholding in the last three years;
- (c) the reasons for decreasing the shareholding, especially when such PSUs are meeting strategic needs; and
- (d) the details of manner in which Government ensures production of defence-related equipment and goods, in case of emergency?

Disabled trainee officials

2263 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of trainee officials who became disabled during training in Army in 2019-20;
- (b) the number of trainee officials who were provided with alternative employment on becoming disabled during 2019-20; and
- (c) the details thereof?

COVID-19 cases amongst the Armed Forces

2264 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of cases and fatalities across the Armed Forces due to COVID-19;
- (b) the percentage of Armed Forces already been completely vaccinated; and
- (c) whether Government has considered any booster vaccination/additional dose for members of the Armed Forces?

Expenditure by the Ministry

2265 **Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total budgetary allocation to the Ministry in the financial years 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21;
- (b) the percentage it constitutes of the entire budget;
- (c) the total amount spent by the Ministry in the financial years 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21;
- (d) the total amount spent by the Ministry in the purchases from outside the country in the last three financial years;
- (e) whether Government had carried out any transaction with the NSO Group Technologies; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Assets of BEML

2266 **Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total market value of Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) assets according to

Central Government, including premises, buildings, machinery, technology and work experience;

(b) whether Central Government has taken permission of State government regarding privatization since the land of BEML, Palakkad has been given to Central Government by Kerala State Government on lease;

(c) whether Central Government had any talk with Kerala State Government regarding the privatization of BEML, if so, details thereof;

(d) whether companies were selected for next stage after the announcement of 'Expression of Interest' in connection with BEML privatization; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

System for Pension Administration Raksha

2267 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) State/UT-wise number of beneficiaries of System for Pension Administration Raksha (SPARSH) envisaged;

(b) whether data of serving personnel and pensioners hosted on SPARSH are susceptible to data leakage;

(c) if so, details thereof and steps being taken to prevent this;

(d) the details of steps being taken by Government to facilitate utilisation of SPARSH by pensioners who are old, disabled or living in remote areas without access to internet who cannot avail of online pension schemes;

(e) whether Government plans to allow banks to continue functioning as grievance redressal mechanisms; and

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

Infiltration attempts at the international border

2268 Dr. Sasmit Patra:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total number of infiltration attempts at the international borders of the country; and

(b) the details of those who were killed while trying to infiltrate and the number of them in jails?

Increase in budget for Army

2269 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the financial budget for armaments and other essential items for all the sections of the Army during the last five years as compared to the five years before the same; and

(b) if so, the rate of increase of the same and the expansion in the efficiency of the Army by the same?

Alleged corruption in Cantonment Board, Agra

2270 Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that due to alleged corruption in Cantonment Board, Agra, unauthorised occupants are being allowed to stay in the quarters of Shakti Nagar Colony of Cantonment Board, Agra, without proper allotment;
- (b) if so, details of all the allottees of the Colony with date of allotment, quarter-wise;
- (c) the details of unauthorised occupants, quarter-wise and action Government proposes to take for the vacation of these quarters occupied by unauthorised occupants; and
- (d) action Government proposes to take against CEO/Officials of Cantonment Board, Agra responsible for allowing unauthorised occupants to stay in these quarters illegally?

Representation from employees of AADA on pension scheme

2271 Dr. Subramanian Swamy:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the retired and serving employees who have joined before 2004 of the Association of Aeronautical Development Agency (AADA) have been making representation, requesting for the implementation of the Pension scheme;
- (b) the main features of this representation; and
- (c) the response of the Ministry to this representation?

Manpower in DRDO

2272 Smt. Ambika Soni:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) the present manpower of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO);
- (b) whether Government proposes to augment the manpower of DRDO and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the effective steps taken by Government to provide sufficient manpower to DRDO?

Military dairy farms of Army

2273 # Shri Digvijaya Singh:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of military dairy farms of Army which are there in the country and since when these are operational, year-wise;
- (b) study or report on the basis of which Government is going to shut down 130 military dairy farms;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to operate these hundred years old dairy farms by making them modern instead of closing them; and
- (d) whether the employees who are working there for years will be affected by the closure of dairy farms?

Decline in water availability

2274 Dr. Amee Yajnik:

Shri Neeraj Dangi:

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of decline in water availability per capita in the last five years;
- (b) whether over 80% of the urban domestic water supply is met solely through groundwater and whether the national water demand is anticipated to doubly exceed supply; and
- (c) steps taken by Government to reduce reliance on borewells and tanker supplied water

through increased investments in suitable rainwater harvesting and ground water recharging methods?

National Urban Transport Policy, 2014

2275 Dr. Amee Yajnik:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a significant percentage of air pollution in India is caused by vehicles, especially in the big cities, if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether the National Urban Transport Policy (NUTP) was amended in 2014 to create city-specific, low-carbon mobility solutions and if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken steps to formulate policies and create systems that embrace green technologies such as electric vehicles that run on clean and low carbon fuels; and
- (d) whether the NUTP failed to make an impact on the last-mile connectivity challenge and creating connections between residential streets and bus bays, if so, details thereof?

Mining projects in protected forest areas

2276 Shri Derek O' Brien:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has approved any mining projects in protected forest areas in the last five years, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of such projects which are due to be awarded in the next five years;
- (c) whether Government has studied the impact on flora, fauna and indigenous tribes of people who are affected by such mining practices, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has recorded protests for mining in such areas, if so, the details thereof?

Maintaining the fragile ecology of Himalayas

2277 Dr. C.M. Ramesh:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps Government has taken to maintain the fragile ecology of the Himalayas; and
- (b) whether any monitoring mechanism by inducting scientists has been set up to take note of the changes taking place in glaciers, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

CNG as green fuel for vehicles

2278 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any extensive indigenous research has been conducted to establish that CNG is a green fuel and does not cause environmental pollution in comparison to petrol/diesel;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that CNG produces ultrafine particles and ammonia, especially in urban areas, which could be hazardous to human health; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and whether it is time to review the use of CNG for running vehicles in densely populated urban areas?

Effects of Global Warming

2279 **Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether abnormal weather conditions like tsunami, heavy rainfall and drought are effects of global warming;
- (b) if so, details thereof along with names of worst affected areas;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any scientific study/analysis on climate change due to global warming and its adverse effect on the country's environment and if so, the results and outcome thereof;
- (d) details of funds allocated by Government for study on climate change and its impact; and
- (e) details of discussion held and agreements signed on the issue at various international forums in recent years along with action plan to address the issue?

Cyclones in West Bengal

2280 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that West Bengal is most vulnerable to climate risk and the Bay of Bengal region was struck by innumerable severe cyclonic storms, due to which people living in the State faced immense hardship;
- (b) whether during 2019-20, West Bengal coast witnessed landfalls of two extremely severe cyclones 'Bulbul' and 'Amphan', in November, 2019 and May, 2020 respectively causing severe damage;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken by Government to find a lasting solution for the people living in vulnerable areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Deaths of wild animals due to railway lines

2281 # **Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of incidents reported of wild animals dying on the Katni-Beohari-Chopan railway line passing through the Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Sidhi during the last three years and whether any construction work was proposed for protection of these wild animals, if so, when was it proposed and reasons for its non-completion so far; and
- (b) whether any policy will be formulated for this in future?

Guidelines for usage of fly ash

2282 # **Shri Samir Oraon:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that ash emanating from thermal power plants generating power across the country is polluting the soil, groundwater, rivers and air, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Ministry has released any guidelines to mandatorily use this fly ash in the construction of bridges, dams and national highways within a certain radius of thermal power plants, if so, the details thereof?

Pollution due to dumping yard

2283 # **Shri Samir Oraon:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to the location of dumping yard of bauxite of Hindalco company/railway siding for long time the level of pollution has increased, significantly in Lohardaga district of Jharkhand;
- (b) whether any comprehensive study has been conducted for the effective evaluation of the effects on urban life and public health due to this dumping yard; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Hindalco company has not taken any effective steps to provide support to health facilities at Lohardaga city in public interest, so far?

Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 2020

2284 **Shri K.J. Alphons:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the post-facto approval of the projects, which the Bill allows, is in violation of the “precautionary principle” and whether there can be a possibility that the environmental damage caused by any such project is likely to be waived off by Government;
- (b) whether the suggestions and recommendations by the public and those affected were considered and taken into account; and
- (c) whether certain irreversible environmental, social or health consequences of the project could go unnoticed because of the change in the submission time since the compliance report by the promoter will now be submitted yearly instead of half-yearly?

Rise in temperature due to man made activities

2285 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has noticed the recently published report in which serious questions have been raised regarding the steep increase in the temperature of the country and lack of rainfall in monsoon in the entire country during the last decades;
- (b) whether it is a fact that man made activities are the basic reason behind this change in the temperature of the country;
- (c) whether Government is working on any special policy in order to rescue the people already suffering from famine, floods and cyclones from this imminent terrible disaster due to climate change; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Loss to environment due to chemical fertilizers

2286 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the demand for chemical fertilizers has increased so much in the last few decades that more than 1000 types of pesticides are available across the world including India;
- (b) whether their quantity in air, water and land in the metropolitan cities of the country, especially in Uttar Pradesh is increasing with their increased usage due to which the environment of the country is constantly getting polluted and has reached at serious level; and
- (c) the measures being taken by Government in order to protect the country from this

terrible condition?

Illegal sand mining in rivers of Chhattisgarh

2287 # Shri Ram Vichar Netam:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the work of illegal sand mining is going on in full swing in the rivers of Chhattisgarh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its environmental effects; and
- (c) the details of the measures being taken by Government in this regard?

Protection of forest lands in A&N Islands

2288 Shri Vivek K. Tankha:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any policy to alleviate and restrict further encroachment on the Union Territory (UT) of Andaman and Nicobar (A&N) Islands forest lands for the purpose of tourism;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has any existing policy for the preservation and conservation of the natural habitat, natural resources and local customs of the Islands?

Climate change and natural disasters

2289 Shri Binoy Viswam:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken cognizance of the adverse impact of climate change and whether it is cause of recurring natural disasters;
- (b) whether the Ministry has conducted any study on the impact of climate change in India and its consequences, if so, details thereof;
- (c) the total number of natural disasters such as cyclones, typhoons, earthquakes, floods, etc that have occurred since 2017, year-wise;
- (d) steps taken to ensure sustainable development both in public and private sector;
- (e) India's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions globally; and
- (f) the target set for the same under Intended Nationally Determined Contributions?

Ranking of polluted cities of the country

2290 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the most polluted cities of the country and their ranking in the list of polluted cities of the country, order-wise ;
- (b) the existing level of pollution in each of the said cities; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to check the increase in pollution in these cities?

Rising air pollution in cities

2291 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that out of the top thirty most polluted cities of the world,

twenty two of them are from India;

(b) whether Government has undertaken measures to improve the air quality;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether industrial units or factories are in non-compliance with standard pollution control norms;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Government has taken any corrective measures in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Eco-clubs in the country

2292 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of eco-clubs in the country operating under the National Green Corps programme;

(b) details of the utilization of the funds allocated under the National Green Corps programme since its inception;

(c) the details of the districts which failed to utilize the allotted funds; and

(d) the total funds returned to the Ministry since the inception of the programme till date, year-wise?

Causes of air pollution in North India

2293 Shri Neeraj Dangi:

Dr. Ameer Yajnik:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Government sponsored study has been carried out to assess the causes of severe air pollution in North India, including the National Capital Region (NCR);

(b) if so, the findings and details thereof including the amount spent and persons involved;

(c) whether Government has taken any direct steps to improve the air quality in the aforementioned region;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of support given, including finance, to State Governments of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab for mitigating air pollution?

E-waste collection centres

2294 Shri Vaiko:

Shri M. Shanmugam:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of e-waste collection centres in the country, State/UT-wise;

(b) the total amount of e-waste collected through municipality and local bodies e-waste collection centres;

(c) the amount of collected e-waste which undergoes a refurbishment process and which undergoes recycling process, separately;

(d) the total amount of e-waste which reaches landfill, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to increase public awareness about the proper handling and disposal of e-waste?

Database for climate change

2295 **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to use remote earth sensing for establishing a strong database for measuring climate change;
- (b) whether any study has been carried out by Government to assess the impact of such database for prevention and control of global warming in Indian region; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Man-animal conflict

2296 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Shri K.C. Venugopal:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the cases of man-animal conflict are rising in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the number of cases of man-animal conflict in which people as well as animals have died or injured during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps Government is taking to minimize the instances of man-animal conflict resulting in loss of both human and animal life?

Disregard of water norms in coal power plants

2297 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any annual water audits are conducted by the Ministry to check self-reported data on water use by coal power plants;
- (b) whether any measures have been taken by the Ministry to identify non-complying plants;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any guidelines exist to encourage the use of treated sewage to reduce fresh water consumption in coal power plants; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, if not, the details therefor?

Impact of forest fires on flora and fauna

2298 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of loss of forest cover due to forest fires in past five years;
- (b) whether any post forest fire assessment has been conducted to assess the loss of flora and fauna due to forest fires, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether, network of automated surveillance or watch towers/observation posts at strategic locations has been set up to provide regular real time data for forest fire alerts, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of number of fire brigade officers, trained and equipped with proper fire-fighting equipment, State-wise?

Afforestation in the country

2299 **Dr. Sonal Mansingh:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of afforestation in the country since the last three years, State wise;
- (b) whether Government is aware that some States like Kerala and Karnataka have given permission to land owners for cutting the royal woods; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Environmental standards for polluting industries

2300 # **Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has laid environmental standards for compliance by the various polluting industries, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the industries identified for violating pollution standards and details of the complaints received against them, area-wise and State-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to check pollution emitting from other industrial units?

National parks and sanctuaries in Kutch

2301 # **Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of national parks and sanctuaries in Kutch, Gujarat;
- (b) the details of species of animals and birds being conserved and propagated here; and
- (c) the details of population related data of these places during the last three years?

Potential for green economy

2302 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the potential for a Green economy in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there could be a green emission on a large scale as a result of the efforts made to tackle the problem of climate change; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Denudation of forests

2303 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of actual forest cover against the targets fixed for forest cover during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether large scale deforestation has taken place in the country;
- (c) if so, the details of the areas where denudation of forests has taken place during the last three years, State-wise along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to check further denudation of forest areas in the country?

Human-elephant conflict

2304 **Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the data from the Ministry indicates that over 500 elephants were killed between 2014-15 and 2018-19, mostly due to human-elephant conflict;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that during the same period, 2,361 people were killed as a result of conflict with elephants; and
- (c) if so, the measures taken by Government after that to prevent the conflict between humans and animals?

Development of forests

2305 # **Shri Ramkumar Verma:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken by Government for expansion of forest area, development of existing forests, planting trees and conservation and promotion of the same on the lands lying useless at many places and on land not suitable for farming in the country including Rajasthan; and
- (b) details of Government's plan in the field of continuous study for research and development of forests through institutions like Research Institution, Forest Department, Forest Corporation, Forest Survey of India, remote sensing centre, etc. and the quantum of budget allocated for the same during the last three years, year-wise?

Single use plastic

2306 **Smt. Ambika Soni:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of single use plastic in the country;
- (b) whether Government has taken any new initiative to phase out single use plastic products and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government on plastic waste management including reducing plastic waste generation, finding suitable alternatives for single use plastic products, etc.?

Restoration of degraded land

2307 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is on track to achieve national commitment on land degradation neutrality;
- (b) details of efforts being made to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the country has added more than three million hectares of forest cover during the last decade;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the manner in which the Ministry is pushing States hard to achieve 26 million hectares target?

Compensatory Afforestation

2308 **Shri Prasanna Acharya:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether is it a fact that the Central Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) are allowed to

use degraded forest land, double the extent of forest land converted for non-forest use, but State PSUs are required to give equal amount of non forest land against the required diverted forest land;

(b) if so, whether Government will consider treating both Central and State PSUs on equal footing for raising Compensatory Afforestation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

National e-mobility programme

2309 Dr. Banda Prakash:

Will the Minister of ***Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing National e-mobility Programme (NeMP) and if so, details thereof along with achievements thereunder;

(b) whether Government has taken steps to reduce anxiety among public in the cities regarding adoption of electric vehicles and if so, details thereof along with total number of public charging stations which are being installed;

(c) whether both Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) and BHEL have taken steps to explore opportunities in field of e-Mobility, fast track adoption of EVs under NeMP and if so, details thereof; and

(d) details of the States which have rolled out an electric vehicle policy till date?

Proposal to sell paper mills of HPCL

2310 Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:

Will the Minister of ***Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated any steps to sell Jagiroad Paper Mill and Panchagram Paper Mill of Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited (HPCL);

(b) whether it is a fact that the outstanding dues of the employees of these two paper mills are being paid;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether there is any proposal to release outstanding dues of the employees of these paper Mills?

Battery cost in e-Vehicles

2311 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

Will the Minister of ***Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the battery cost in electric vehicles is as much as forty per cent;

(b) the global trend in the price of batteries for electric vehicles;

(c) the details of research being done in the country on batteries for electric vehicles;

(d) whether any States are giving incentives for manufacturing electric vehicles or components; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Portrayal of obscenity and violence on Television

2312 Dr. Banda Prakash:

Will the Minister of ***Information and Broadcasting*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether too much portrayal of obscenity and violence on television in the form of web series is creating a negative impact on children, youth and Indian culture and if so, reaction of Government thereto;

- (b) whether Government is planning to setup a screening body for web series on the lines of Censor Board of Film Certification;
- (c) if so, details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has taken/proposes to take stringent corrective measures to check negative impact of rising depiction of obscenity and violence in web series on the children, youths and Indian culture in the country, if so, details thereof?

New OTT regulations and intermediately guidelines for stakeholders

2313 Shri K.J. Alphons:

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government will clarify whether the public, as well as relevant stakeholders, were consulted before the new Over The Top (OTT) regulations and intermediary guidelines, were brought into existence;
- (b) the manner in which Government proposes to strike a balance between the new restrictions and censorship which is brought in by the IT rules within the ambit of freedom of speech and creative artistic freedom; and
- (c) whether the new three-tier grievance redressal mechanism will ensure that the complaints are received and taken into consideration in a timely manner?

Content on internet

2314 # Shri Mahesh Poddar:

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has established or developed any regulatory mechanism to monitor the content available in India on internet, especially on Over The Top (OTT) platforms and to resolve the public grievances related to the same;
- (b) if so, the number of complaints received by Government regarding the content available on internet and the number of such complaints which have been resolved; and
- (c) whether Government has taken cognizance of the fact that some OTT platforms are broadcasting such obscene language and abusive content which is against the dignity of women, if so, the actions being taken for banning such content?

Pending payments from TV Serial producers

2315 Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the outstanding dues from many producers of TV Serials is pending for several years and interest on principal is increasing;
- (b) if so, the details of pending payments from TV Serial producers with interest thereon and status of present efforts of Doordarshan to recover outstanding dues, company-wise; and
- (c) the reasons for not moving the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) to recover the said outstanding dues on priority?

Media organisations approved by Government

2316 Shri A. Vijayakumar:

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

- (a) number of Government approved media organisations existing in the country;
- (b) if so, whether there are many unrecognised media and other related organisations

mushrooming at the National and State level; and

(c) whether Government has taken steps to curb unapproved media related organisation in the country?

FDI inflows in the digital and print media

2317 Shri Sujeet Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in the digital and print media during the last five years; and

(b) the details of FDI inflows in the entertainment channels and TV news channels during the said period?

Concerns about Cinematographic (Amendment) Bill, 2021

2318 Shri John Brittas:

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many representations have been submitted about the proposed Cinematographic (Amendment) Bill, 2021;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether through this proposed Bill, power is being conferred to the Government for revival of films once certified by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC);

(d) if so, the response of Government;

(e) whether this proposal goes against a 2000 Supreme Court order, which had upheld a Karnataka High Court decision striking down revisionary powers of Government over CBFC orders; and

(f) if so, whether this Bill would stand judicial scrutiny?

Registered Newspapers in the country

2319 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe:

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total number of registered newspapers with the office of Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) as on April 1, 2021, State-wise, Language-wise; and

(b) the details of number of offices the RNI has all over the country, the total number of sanctioned staff in them and the number of vacancies during the last two years?

Status of Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2020

2320 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2020, which proposed increasing the penalties for violation of the programme code; and

(b) whether there are any recent instances where Government imposed monetary penalty or prohibited the transmission of a channel under the relevant provisions of the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act for violating the programme code?

Water Scarcity

2321 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the country is going to become water scarce in another few years, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government proposes to conduct any study on demand supply of water in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure that there will be no scarcity of water in the country?

Steps taken to locate Saraswati river

2322 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has conducted any search to locate the now-extinct Saraswati river, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether budgetary provision for the same is under consideration;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard;
- (d) whether Government proposes to make a budget provision for drinking water/irrigation purpose under the said project in view of the water crisis in Haryana and Rajasthan; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

River pollution due to dumping of human and chemical waste

2323 Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government keeps check on the drainage system dumping human and chemical waste into rivers;
- (b) if so, the details on such identified hotspots for dumping of waste into rivers and whether Government is monitoring and taking actions to stop pollution from these dumping; and
- (c) whether soaps, detergents, shampoos and other such products which aren't according to Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) are also a major source of pollution to river ecosystem, if so, steps undertaken to ensure the enforcement of these standards and control pollution in river ecosystem?

Hydel power generation at Nagarjuna Sagar and Pulichintala

2324 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware Telangana started hydel power generation at Nagarjuna Sagar and Pulichintala which are common projects of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana without placing any indents before Krishna River Management Board (KRMB);
- (b) the details of power being generated at above reservoirs during the last two years and current year, month-wise and reservoir-wise;
- (c) whether in spite of directions given by KRMB to stop power generation, Telangana is deliberately continuing to draw water to generate hydel power at Srisailem; and
- (d) if so, steps Government has taken to stop Telangana from illegally drawing water for power generation from above reservoirs?

Inter-linking of river projects in Tamil Nadu

2325 Shri P. Wilson:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of the present status of inter-linking of river projects in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu and the funds allocated and sanctioned to the State so far;
- (b) whether Government has received any requests from the Tamil Nadu Government to implement the Godavari-Krishna-Pennaru-Cauvery inter-river linking project;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken;
- (d) whether Government has received any requests from the Tamil Nadu Government to release pending balances for repairs, renovations and restoration works of various waterways in the State; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Irregularities in SBM(R) in Chhattisgarh

2326 # **Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the irregularities that happened in the Swachh Bharat Mission-(Rural) SBM (R) in various districts of Chhattisgarh State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any inquiry has been conducted by Government in this regard, if so, the details thereof and whether any action has been taken against culprits involved in the irregularities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Increasing water pollution in rivers

2327 **Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has constituted any expert group for the study of ill-effects of increasing water pollution in rivers of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including names of the dangerously effected rivers;
- (c) the number of rivers at present where the cleaning projects are going on, State-wise;
- (d) whether Government is working on any time bound plan to make the rivers completely pollution free; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Floods in Bihar

2328 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of steps Government has taken to prevent flooding in the Mahananda, Koshi, Gandak, Budhi Gandak, Bagmati, Lakhandei and Avadhara rivers in North Bihar;
- (b) details of steps Government has taken to prevent flooding in the Son, Punpun and Phalgu rivers in South Bihar; and
- (c) whether there is any plan to engage Nepal for the regular floods in North Bihar every year?

Potable water supply through tap

2329 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Shri Sanjay Seth:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) was launched to enable every rural

household in the country to have assured potable water supply through tap by 2024;
 (b) if so, the number of households which have tap water connections and the number of remaining household which do not have tap water connections, State-wise; and
 (c) the steps Government is taking to implement this Mission on time?

'WASH Report' claims on ODF

2330 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as opposed to Government claims of India being Open Defecation Free (ODF) in 2019, according to "WASH Report 2021", 15 per cent of the total population in the country defecates in the open;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that many toilets constructed under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural) are either in a dilapidated condition or incomplete while some toilets are being used for other purposes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) steps taken by Government to increase awareness about the importance of sanitation in rural areas?

Water management and conservation technology

2331 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is encouraging research in the fields of water management and its conservation technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the progress made in these fields during the last three years;
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up a water university; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Purified water supply services

2332 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of action taken by Government to provide sustainable purified water supply services throughout the country;
- (b) whether Government has identified the contaminant affected areas of the country, so far; and
- (c) the action taken and time-frame proposed by Government relating to sanitation and supply of purified drinking water?

Scheme formulated for canal irrigation

2333 # **Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of agricultural land in the country having the facility of canal irrigation; and
- (b) whether Government has formulated any scheme to improve the infrastructure of canals

and irrigate more agricultural land, if so, the details thereof?

Demand of clean and potable water

2334 Shri Sanjay Seth:

Shri K.C. Venugopal:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the demand of clean and potable water is increasing day-by-day due to ever increasing population in the country;
- (b) if so, the amount of clean and potable water required by each State, State-wise;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that there is an urgent need to install rain water harvesting structures in the country; and
- (d) if so, details of steps taken by Government to start awareness among rural masses about water conservation techniques and its implementation?

Microplastics in river Ganga

2335 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any recent study has shown that the river Ganga is highly polluted with microplastics;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the effects of the presence of microplastics in river Ganga on its marine life;
- (d) whether Government is planning to adopt any measures to address these issues; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Allocation of funds to States under JJM

2336 Shri John Brittas:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the allocation made to States under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) for the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether proportion of funds allocated to States has changed considerably; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Allocation to Polavaram Irrigation Project

2337 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposal is pending with Government to make a substantial allocation for the completion of Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP) which is running behind schedule and also incurring escalated expenses for the project; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Progress of cleaning of Ganga

2338 Dr. Sonal Mansingh:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the progress of cleaning of Ganga;
- (b) whether some State Governments are reluctant to execute the projects; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Interlinking of rivers

2339 **Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of river links have been identified by the Ministry for the Inter-Linking of Rivers (ILR) programme;
- (b) the details of status of link-wise progress of the programme; and
- (c) the names of agencies/consultancies which were assigned the task of preparation of various feasibility reports under ILR programme and the details of work done by them?

Implementation of rain water harvesting programme

2340 **Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken adequate measures for effective implementation of rain water harvesting programmes and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of financial assistance provided to different States including Karnataka under the said programmes during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the technology being used for rain water harvesting at present;
- (d) whether Government proposes to develop/implement any new technique for rain water harvesting; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

New micro enterprises set up under PMEGP

2341 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of new micro enterprises set up under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Jharkhand during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the details of employment generated under the above programme in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Jharkhand during the above period;
- (c) whether there is any plan to increase the subsidy under the PMEGP to the 10 per cent economically weaker sections in general category who have been provided reservation recently; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Scaling down operations of MSMEs due to pandemic

2342 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether on being hit hard by the second wave of the pandemic, about 59 per cent of startups and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are likely to either scale down operations or sell off their properties, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether out of the MSMEs located in the districts, 37 per cent said they would scale down their operation, while 14 per cent said they might shut down and 8 per cent said they would sell off their properties; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and present status thereof?

Allocation of funds to MSMEs

2343 **Shri P. Wilson:**

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the special packages announced under the 'Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan' (ABA) to strengthen the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector in the country;
- (b) the details of the loans sanctioned/disbursed to the MSMEs sector in the country under the ABA especially in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) whether Government has received any complaints from MSMEs about denial of collateral free loans from banks and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of demands raised by MSMEs and met by Government so far, during the last three years, State/UT-wise?

Status of MSMEs and SMEs

2344 **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) which have been shut down post March, 2020; and
- (b) the details of the number of MSMEs and SMEs which have availed the benefits of the various economic packages announced by Prime Minister in May, 2020?

Revision of investment limit to classify MSMEs

2345 **Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:**

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to revise investment limits to classify Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the criteria likely to be adopted for the purpose, State-wise?

Khadi's new products launched by Government

2346 # **Dr. Anil Jain:**

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has launched Khadi's new products-Khadi babywear and handmade paper 'use-and-throw' slippers;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the same; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the handmade paper 'use-and-throw' slipper has been produced with the objective of supporting handmade paper industry and the create sustainable employment for the artisans, if so, the number of youth who have been provided employment till now?

Effect of COVID-19 on MSMEs

2347 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) manufacturing

sector has adversely suffered due to prevailing COVID-19 pandemic in the country;
 (b) if so, action taken by Government to boost the MSMEs sector; and
 (c) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken for foreign investment in the MSMEs sector to boost the country's MSMEs sector?

Contribution of MSMEs to GDP

2348 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

Shri P. Bhattacharya:

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that contribution of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) has been estimated to be 17 per cent in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of annual average growth rate of this sector during the said period; and
- (d) the details of rate of growth of annual average new employment opportunities generated in this sector as a result of said annual average growth rate?

Deadline for loan application under PMEGP

2349 **Shri Subhash Chandra Singh:**

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a deadline for banks to decide upon acceptance or rejections of the loan application under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Implementation of SFURTI

2350 # **Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of the amount spent under the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) during each of the last three years and current year, year-wise;
- (b) the details of industries developed under this scheme and the details of the employment generated by these industries, especially in Uttar Pradesh during the said period, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has initiated any study in order to assess the implementation of the scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Employment oriented schemes

2351 # **Shri Ramkumar Verma:**

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has approved any employment oriented scheme in order to provide employment in villages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of villages included under the said scheme and the quantum of expenditure incurred under the same, State-wise?

Assistance to MSMEs post COVID-19 pandemic

2352 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) registered between 2014-15 and 2019-20;
- (b) details of MSMEs closed down between 2014-15 and 2019-20 and reasons therefor;
- (c) to what extent the unprecedented package given to MSMEs help opening up of closed MSMEs during this pandemic;
- (d) the steps taken by Government to assist MSMEs post COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (e) to what extent the revision in the definition of MSMEs help this sector to come up and stand up?

Distribution of bee boxes

2353 # **Ms. Indu Bala Goswami:**

Shri Samir Oraon:

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the programme regarding the distribution of bee boxes has been launched by Government under Honey Mission;
- (b) if so, the number of bee boxes which have been distributed so far;
- (c) whether there is a technology, in which honey bees do not die while extracting honey;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the department of Khadi Gramodhyog has started grants for setting up the units for beekeeping under Honey Mission; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Development of the domestic mining sector

2354 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Will the Minister of **Mines** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to develop the domestic mining sector by adopting advanced mining technology from other countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in this regard; and
- (c) the other steps taken by Government to promote eco-friendly mining in vulnerable eco-sensitive zones in the country?

Evaluation of mineral deposits in the country

2355 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

Will the Minister of **Mines** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has conducted a complete evaluation of all the minerals available in the country;
- (b) whether its results are published in public domain; and
- (c) the details of the scheme to utilise these minerals?

Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana

2356 **Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

Will the Minister of **Mines** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of beneficiaries, funds collected, utilised and unspent by District Mineral Foundations (DMF), till July, 2021, district-wise;
- (b) details of high-priority projects currently being sanctioned, undertaken and completed through PMKKKY, and proportion of these projects that are towards infrastructure creation, district-wise/head-wise;
- (c) reasons for low utilisation of funds, and steps being taken to increase implementation of PMKKKY schemes;
- (d) details of monitoring, accountability and impact evaluation of PMKKKY schemes, especially in case of delays in implementation or non-initiation of projects; and
- (e) steps being taken to involve mining-affected communities, Gram Sabha members in decision-making, planning and monitoring of DMF fund usage?

Mechanisation of mines

2357 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:

Will the Minister of **Mines** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken any measures to increase mechanisation and automation in existing mining units;
- (b) whether the Ministry has formulated any plans to overcome the impending loss of employment due to increased mechanisation and automation and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry has formulated any plans to upskill/reskill members of communities that are financially dependent on non-mechanised mining and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Ministry has detailed employment projections for the mining sector of India, and if so, the details thereof till the year 2040?

Illegal mining

2358 Shri Shwait Malik:

Will the Minister of **Mines** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether illegal mining has caused huge losses to the national treasury;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether the State Governments have been given the right to enact laws to prevent illegal mining; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the details of the steps taken by Punjab Government in this regard, so far?

Enhancement of royalty rate on minerals

2359 Shri Prasanna Acharya:

Will the Minister of **Mines** be pleased to state:

- (a) time when the royalty on minerals e.g. Chromite, Bauxite, Lime Stone and Manganese ore were revised and when will the next revision take place; and
- (b) whether the State Government of Odisha has been urging the Central Government to enhance the royalty rate from fifteen per cent to twenty per cent ad valorem, if so, the response of the Central Government thereto?

'Seekho aur Kamao' scheme

2360 Dr. Ameer Yajnik:

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of training programmes organized by Government in the last two years under

- 'Seekho aur Kamao' scheme for skill development of minorities, State-wise;
 (b) the number of beneficiaries who received financial support by Government to start their own work after completing the training programme, State-wise;
 (c) whether any placement assistance has been provided by Government after training under 'Seekho aur kamao' scheme for minorities; and
 (d) if so, the details thereof?

COVID-19 vaccination of minority communities

2361 Shri Derek O' Brien:

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of vaccines for COVID-19 administered to members from all minority communities till date, State-wise;
 (b) whether Government has conducted any awareness and outreach initiatives for vaccination drives for minority communities; and
 (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Properties of Waqf Board

2362 # Shri Naresh Bansal:

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of properties of Waqf Board in the country, assistance being given to them by Government and the system set up for it and whether such assistance is also provided to other minorities and plan of Government on this; and
 (b) whether Waqf Board is under Government, if so, whether its property also belongs to Government?

Schemes for skill development

2363 Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes including those for skill development being implemented by Government for the welfare of women belonging to the minority communities including Muslims in the country; and
 (b) the funds allocated and spent and achievement made under these schemes during the last three years, scheme-wise and State-wise?

Legal mechanism to address complaints of discrimination

2364 Shri Syed Zafar Islam:

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any credible study to set up a legal mechanism to address complaints of discrimination against minorities with respect to denial of housing to Muslims in non Muslims localities, if so, the details thereof;
 (b) details of existing schemes for the improvement of housing for minority communities to prevent such discrimination;
 (c) details of funds allocated/sanctioned and utilized for this purpose during each of the last two years and the current year; and
 (d) whether Government proposes to have any further programme for the upliftment of the minority communities, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

Definition of minority

2365 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) rationale behind the fact that minority status is considered on the basis of religious demography at all India basis;
- (b) whether Government will contemplate to define minority on the basis of demography of the States;
- (c) if not, the rationale behind ignoring those who constitute religious or linguistic minority in a particular State/States; and
- (d) whether Government will form a Commission to deal with the issue to reach a solution?

Jaan Hai Toh Jahaan Hai

2366 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has launched COVID-19 vaccination awareness campaign- 'Jaan Hai Toh Jahaan Hai' in June 2021;
- (b) whether Government has undertaken any exclusive steps to select the organizations and religious agencies included in the campaign drive; and
- (c) if so, the details of campaign procedures and expected outcomes thereof?

Vaccination among minorities under "Jaan Hai Toh Jahaan Hai" campaign

2367 **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has implemented the 'Jaan Hai Toh Jahaan Hai' vaccination awareness campaign for rural and minority areas;
- (b) if so, the details therefor including the funds allocated and disbursed as on date;
- (c) the details of the criteria on which religious leaders and other personalities are identified to be part of this campaign;
- (d) whether the Ministry has any mechanism in place to monitor and track the progress of the awareness campaign; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Maulana Azad Taleem-e-Balighan scheme

2368 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has announced a Rs. 600 crore scheme called Maulana Azad Taleem-e-Balighan to achieve higher literacy of one crore minority Muslim community;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) details of minority muslim communities in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;
- (d) whether the above scheme is meant only for higher education;
- (e) if so, whether Madarsas are taken on board as they are the core point for literacy in Muslim community; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the progress of the scheme so far?

Development of ports under PPP

2369 # **Shri Samir Oraon:**

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to develop the ports under Public Private Partnership (PPP), if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of ports on which work has been started under this plan so far?

Draft Indian Ports Bill 2021

2370 **Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya:**

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry uploaded "the Draft Indian Ports Bill 2021" on its website on 11th June, 2021, whereas the time limit given for stakeholders views was upto 18th June, 2021 and coastal State Ministers meeting was held on 24th June, 2021, if so, need for such an urgency;
- (b) whether intention to create "One nation, One Port"; and
- (c) if so, then what is the necessity for this new Bill, in view of fact that the existing " Indian Ports Act, 1908" already have provisions that any minor port under control of coastal States can be converted as a "Major Port Authority"?

IMO meeting of Member States

2371 **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has approved a delegation to attend International Maritime Organization (IMO) meetings of Member States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) details of submissions made by Indian delegations to the IMO from 2014 till date?

Accidents on Highways due to road engineering issues

2372 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of road accidents registered in the last five years due to road engineering issues, and the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken up initiatives to restructure and strengthen road safety, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has allocated funds for the same, the details of expenditure and targets thereof?

Concessions in Motor Vehicle Tax

2373 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has proposed concessions in motor vehicle tax for those who take their old vehicle for scrapping; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and progress made/response received, vehicle and State-wise as on date?

Status of bypass from Raipur-Visakhapatnam

2374 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of bypass to Salur town of Raipur-Visakhapatnam section of NH-26 in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) by when the bypass is likely to be completed;
- (c) whether there is any delay due to COVID-19 in implementation of the project; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

NHs in Uttar Pradesh

2375 Shri Neeraj Shekhar:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of new National Highways (NHs) announced/undertaken in Uttar Pradesh during last three years along with the work undertaken/ completed, NH-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the details of new NHs announced for four laning during 2019, 2020 and 2021 till date, along with the present status thereof, year-wise, State-wise and NH-wise; and
- (c) the details of fund allocated, released and utilized for laying of new NHs and four laning of NHs during 2020-21 and 2021-22, till date, NH-wise?

Conversion of SHs in NHs in UP and Bihar

2376 Shri Neeraj Shekhar:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of proposals received from the States of Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Bihar for conversion of State Highways (SHs) into National Highways (NHs) during 2019, 2020 and till date, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the details of proposals from States of UP and Bihar acceded to and SHs converted into NHs, SH-wise, State-wise and year-wise; and
- (c) the details of proposals from States of UP and Bihar still lying pending, State-wise and year-wise and SH-wise?

NH Roads in Palnadu region of Andhra Pradesh

2377 Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal for four laning of Chilakaluripet-Narasaraopet section on National Highway(NH)-167A;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, reasons therefor;
- (d) the progress of Kondamodu-Perecharla (NH 167A) and Dachepalli-Macharla (NH 167AD) roads in the Palnadu region that have been identified for development as NHs;
- (e) the estimated cost of the two sections mentioned above and target date of completion;
- (f) the likely impact of the above Highways on development of Palnadu region; and
- (g) whether there is any contribution from the State Government towards the cost of expansion of the above Highways?

North Sikkim NH

2378 Shri Hishey Lachungpa:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of improvement and upgradation of National Highway (NH) in North Sikkim which shares international borders with China;
- (b) whether there is a proposal to widen the present North Sikkim NH;
- (c) if so, the number of lanes proposed; and
- (d) the cost of the project and agency that will be executing the implementation of the road project?

Construction of ROBs and RUBs

2379 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Ministry has been in receipt of a request from Andhra Pradesh State Government seeking construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Road Under Bridges (RUBs) in the State at the identified level crossings;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any action has been taken by the Ministry on such request, if so, the details thereof?

Expansion and Development of Atmakur-Srisaillam Ghat Road in Kurnool, AP

2380 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any representation regarding expansion and development of Atmakur to Srisaillam Ghat Road in the Kurnool District of Andhra Pradesh (AP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken any decision on the matter; if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the quantum of funds requested and allocated, the details thereof?

Scheme replacing present toll collection system

2381 Dr. Subramanian Swamy:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a new scheme being prepared by the Ministry to do away with the present toll collection system which creates bottlenecks on the Highways;
- (b) the salient features of this new venture; and
- (c) the full details thereof and the schedule of implementation?

Toll Charges in toll plaza on NHs

2382 Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of toll plazas are there on National Highways (NHs);
- (b) the maximum period for the toll fee collection at a new toll plaza; and
- (c) whether there is any provision for enhancement of toll charges during the maximum period?

Ongoing NHIDCL projects in Assam

2383 **Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress of four lane works from Numaligarh to Tinsukia;
- (b) the names of companies which are working in the project;
- (c) whether the companies are subletting the projects;
- (d) if subletting, the names of the companies which are subletting;
- (e) whether Government has received any complaints about poor works; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government?

Charging stations for electric vehicles

2384 **Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the country needs about 4,00,000 charging stations to meet the requirement for two million electric vehicles that could potentially ply on its roads by 2026;
- (b) if so, steps being initiated by Government in this regard; and
- (c) whether Government has compiled any data on the total number of charging stations and electric cars and other vehicles in India at present?

Construction of a four lane bridge parallel to Vikramshila bridge

2385 # **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to construct a four lane bridge parallel to Vikramshila bridge and if so, the details of its cost;
- (b) whether State Government has provided the required land for this, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the company which has been allocated work for construction of this bridge; and
- (d) by when the construction work for this bridge will start and the number of years in which it will be completed?

Projects on NH-31 and 2 in Bihar

2386 # **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the project related to NH-31 Aunta-Simarua 4L/6L is pending in National Highway headquarters due to change of scope;
- (b) whether the physical progress of 6L Varanasi-Aurangabad Road at old NH-02 is just 60 per cent and the further work is on hold due to latency in taking decision by conciliation committee of independent expert; and
- (c) if so, by when Government would resolve the pending cases of Aunta-Simarua and Varanasi-Aurangabad roads and start the works?

Improving conditions of roads in Karnataka

2387 **Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) Standing Committee on

Finance has formulated any proposal to improve the condition of roads in Karnataka, if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(b) whether Government has identified the National Highways (NHs) in Karnataka where movement of vehicles leads to heavy traffic jam and if so, details thereof, district-wise;

(c) the number of Highways selected for conversion of two into four lane to provide relief to people from traffic jams during last four years till date; and

(d) the number of NHs widened in country especially in Karnataka during last three years?

Green NH corridor from Shimla to Paonta Sahib

2388 # Ms. Indu Bala Goswami:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently given its approval for construction of Green National Highway Corridor Project from Shimla to Fediz bridge, Paonta Sahib;

(b) if so, the details of budgetary provision made for this corridor;

(c) the time limit set for the construction of the above mentioned corridor; and

(d) whether Asian Development Bank would fund the construction of this corridor?

Introduction of new disciplines for sports quota

2389 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently introduced twenty new sports disciplines for Central Government jobs under sports quota;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is working on a proposal to encourage various State Governments to add the said disciplines for sports quota in Government jobs;

(d) whether Government has introduced sports disciplines like Mallakhamb, Tug-of-war and Roll Ball, and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether there is any officially recognised association or tournament at Government level to select such players and if so, the details thereof?

Adopted schools and akharas under NSTC scheme

2390 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

(a) the details with address of the number of adopted schools and akharas to promote indigenous games/martial arts with special reference to the State of West Bengal; and

(b) the total number of trainees under the National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) scheme, State-wise, year-wise?

COVID-19 impact on coaches and sportspersons/athletes

2391 Dr. Banda Prakash:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coaches and sportspersons/athletes across the country faced financial hardships during the lockdown period;

(b) whether Government has taken steps to provide financial assistance or relief to coaches and sportspersons to alleviate their financial hardships;

(c) if so, the details thereof including quantum of funds provided and beneficiaries covered in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Guidelines for recognized sports

2392 # **Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any clear guidelines of the Ministry regarding recognized sports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether Government is mulling over it?

Incentives for Tokyo Olympics

2393 # **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of initiatives taken by Government in order to provide training, facilities and other incentives to Indian players for Tokyo Olympics and details of the amount spent for this;
- (b) whether Government has decided to give any incentive to medal winning players in various events in order to facilitate/encourage them;
- (c) whether Government is considering on establishing/expanding any new institution or institutions in order to prepare the players and provide them with training facilities for competition at Olympics level; and
- (d) whether Government would also consider including private sector as sponsors in the said continuous campaign?

Underfunding of resources in sports industry in India

2394 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Sports Development Fund saw a reduction from ₹77.15 crore (about \$10.4 million) in 2019-20 to ₹50 crore (about \$6.75 million) in 2020-21;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that there has been a significant reduction by almost 40 per cent from the previous financial year in budgetary support for meritorious sportspersons ; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Promotion of sports at village/panchayat level in Punjab

2395 **Shri Shwait Malik:**

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to introduce any scheme for the development/improvement of basic infrastructure to promote sports at village/panchayat level in Punjab;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether there is any future plan of Government in this regard?

'Khelo India' scheme in Chhattisgarh

2396 # **Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of proposals received from Chhattisgarh under 'Khelo India' scheme and the

present status thereof;

(b) the details of the funds released to restart the sports activities after the lockdown, State/UT-wise and sports-wise;

(c) the details of the funds released for the promotion of sports at the village/town level during the last three years; and

(d) the details of the facilities being provided to the players after the lockdown so that they take more interest in sports?

Sports quota

2397 Dr. Narendra Jadhav:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total number of jobs provided by Government under sports quota in past two years;

(b) whether any body has been created by Government to counsel the sportspersons, suffering from anxiety and depressive disorders due to isolation in COVID-19 phase, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any fund has been created by Government to support young athletes from underprivileged families who are finding it difficult to continue with their sports as well as to earn their livelihoods;

if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Facilities for players in Jharkhand

2398 # Shri Deepak Prakash:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating on providing infrastructural facilities to players on State level and if so, the details thereof including Jharkhand, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has received any submission from the players in Jharkhand in the above mentioned context in which local players are not satisfied with the infrastructural facilities being provided by Government of Jharkhand; and

(c) the action taken on such complaints by Government during the last two years?

Encouragement to sports talent from rural areas of Maharashtra

2399 Shri Anil Desai:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to strengthen the sports eco system for rural sports talent in Maharashtra to fulfill the aim to bring the country in top ten in the coming Olympics and Asian Games;

(b) if so, the steps taken/to be taken on the said proposal; and

(c) the details of roadmap and the steps taken/to be taken by Government towards the target of achieving the same?

Promotion of traditional and rural sports/games

2400 Shri Anil Desai:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a number of sports and games in our rural areas which are being played for generations and some of which are at the verge of extinction;
(b) the steps taken/being taken by Government to revive traditional sports in India; and
(c) whether a national catalogue of all the games of past generations can be created in consultation with State Governments for the revival of ancient form of games for the knowledge of present and future generations?

New Delhi
The 2nd August, 2021
11 Sravana, 1943 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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