

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Tuesday, July 2, 2019/Ashadha 11, 1941 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy  
(AYUSH); Corporate Affairs; Culture; Earth Sciences; Finance; Health and  
Family Welfare; New and Renewable Energy; Power; Science and  
Technology; Tourism)

**Total number of questions — 160**

#### **AYUSH hospitals proposed to be established**

1094. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hospitals proposed to be established in various parts of the country providing for Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy treatment;

(b) whether land has been acquired for the purpose; and

(c) the total amount proposed to be spent on each of the hospitals, if Government proposes to establish more than one hospital in a State?

#### **Appointment of Yoga instructors in schools**

1095. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA

AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides any certification course to produce qualified Yoga professionals/instructors in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons for these instructors not being employed at Government schools for teaching Yoga as part of the sports curriculum in schools?

#### **Homoeopathy medicine at reasonable price**

1096. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that poor people all over the country, particularly population of backward districts, largely depend upon homoeopathy treatment due to low cost of

medicines for ailments, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is also aware of the increasing cost of homoeopathy medicines in the market; and

(c) if so, what steps are proposed by Government to make homoeopathy medicine available at reasonable price all over the country?

#### **Fifth International Day of Yoga 2019**

1097. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Fifth International Day of Yoga was celebrated in the country recently in Ranchi and if so, the details and main theme thereof;

(b) the details of programmes organized and projects launched on occasion of International Yoga Day;

(c) the expenditure incurred on the celebration of events this year including expenses incurred on promotion, publicity, advertisement and awareness in India and world-wide;

(d) the number of participants in these programmes and places where these were held, State/UT-wise; and

(e) whether Government has purchased eco-friendly khadi Yoga kits from Khadi and Village Industries Commission and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Revisiting provisions under NAM**

†1098. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA

& NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to revisit the provisions under National AYUSH Mission (NAM); and

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

#### **All India Institute of Ayurvedic Sciences**

†1099. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) by when All India Institute of Ayurveda Sciences will be opened in Rajasthan;

(b) by when an Institute of Naturopathy will be opened in Rajasthan; and

(c) whether Government will bring forth any scheme for upgradation of Government AYUSH Universities under the National AYUSH Mission?

#### **Development of Ayurvedic medicine for cancer and diabetes**

1100. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has developed ayurvedic medicine to treat chronic diseases like cancer and diabetes;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the report of the concerned CSIR research; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the proposal of Government for mass use of the medicine to control these diseases?

**Research activities in AYUSH systems of medicine**

†1101. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) details of the work done/ being done/ to be done with respect to modern scientific possibilities in research in different domains of AYUSH and standard certification of medicines as well as affiliation in Medical Sciences; and

(b) domain-wise details of the standard medicines of AYUSH and Ayurveda which have authenticity in medical treatment?

**Expanding of AYUSH scheme**

†1102. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state the State-wise details including Madhya Pradesh of the special expansions that have been approved and implemented in the medical systems during the period of 2014-19 under AYUSH scheme?

**Special scheme for ensuring availability of herbal plants**

1103. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Medicinal Plants Board is implementing any special scheme to increase the availability of herbal plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details of those schemes;

(c) whether Government has formulated any special policy/scheme to promote the farming of special type of herbal plants suitable to a special area; and

(d) if so, the norms of this policy and the details thereof?

**New Super Specialty Ayurvedic Medical Colleges in Uttar Pradesh**

1104. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken for promotion of Ayurveda in the country, especially in Uttar Pradesh, by Government;

(b) whether Government has any proposal of opening new Super Specialty Ayurvedic Medical Colleges in Uttar Pradesh; and

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

**Opening of Yoga centres**

†1105. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to open new Yoga centres, if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the steps being taken by Government to attract the youth towards Yoga; and

(c) State-wise/area-wise details of the existing Yoga centres in the country?

**Good Corporate Governance to strengthen Indian companies**

1106. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:  
SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government for good corporate governance essential for instilling confidence among investors in the Indian market as also to strengthen Indian corporations to be able to compete globally;

(b) the details of the essential efforts that have been taken by Government during the last two years for making suitable atmosphere for investors in the country; and

(c) how many foreign investors have come to India for investment purpose during the recent times?

**Debarring auditors from auditing**

1107. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to debar certain auditors from auditing for five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has found certain audit firms involved in corrupt practices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Study of CSR activities in Jharkhand**

1108. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study in Jharkhand for the proper implementation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) of Corporate houses in Jharkhand and the impact of such works on the society living nearby;

(b) if so, the details and the main result thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government would contemplate to undertake such study in Jharkhand;

(d) whether Government has received any complaints regarding the misuse of the CSR funds/projects by the corporate houses in Jharkhand; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Abused dominance in market for BT cotton technology**

1109. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether on a complaint filed in 2015 by Government of India and the Nuziveedu group, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) has found Mahyco Monsanto Biotech Ltd. has abused its dominant position in the market for BT cotton technology;

(b) whether the CCI has asked the company, now controlled by the German Drug Major Bayer and the complainants to file their replies soon; and

(c) whether the company had charged higher trait fee from seed companies despite cap by Government and gave discriminatory discounts in trait fee to selected ones?

**Abuse of market dominance in  
online retail space**

1110. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 2000-seller-strong All India Online Vendors Association operating on e-commerce marketplaces, has challenged before National Company Law Appellate Tribunal clean chit given by Competition Commission of India to an on-line retail network for allegations of abuse of market dominance in on-line retail space;

(b) whether complainant association has alleged that the retail major on its on-line network indulged in selling goods below cost price, abusing its dominant position in on-line retail space; and

(c) whether complaint alleged that abuse of this dominant market position by on-line retail major negatively impacted sellers who were not backed by venture capital funds and investors?

**Birth centenary of Shri Kaifi Azmi**

1111. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will take steps to commemorate the birth centenary of renowned Indian poet and Padma Shri Awardee Kaifi Azmi;

(b) whether Government intends to publish a postal stamp to honour his memory;

(c) whether the Urdu academy shall be directed to observe a national week to popularise his works;

(d) whether the Films and Drama Division of Government will take steps to

popularise his cinemas, poems, lyrics, scripts and other works; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Promotion of cultural heritage of  
Chhattisgarh**

†1112. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to promote the prosperous cultural heritage of the State of Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any work is being done to promote the folk artists of the tribal dominant regions in the State of Chhattisgarh;

(d) whether Government has taken any step to promote folk songs and folk dances of the State of Chhattisgarh across the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the fund allocated to the State of Chhattisgarh in the last three years in this regard?

**Conservation and development of  
place of incarnation of Sita**

†1113. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inspection of the place of incarnation of Sita situated in Punaurya (Sitamarhi, Bihar) by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) was scheduled and whether the inspection of the place of incarnation of Sita has been conducted accordingly by the ASI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any plan-proposal related to the conservation and development of the

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

place of incarnation of Sita situated in Punaaura has been prepared by the ASI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Classical language status for Marathi**

†1114. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra has sent a proposal to accord classical language status to Marathi language and this proposal is still pending with Government;

(b) the efforts made by Government for an early approval of said proposal; and

(c) the reasons for pendency of said proposal?

#### **Funds for development of historical forts and tourist places**

1115. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started development activities in historical forts to develop them as tourist centres and if so, the historical forts selected for this purpose, State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated and expenditure incurred for the purpose during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether Government is considering to amend NOC rules for such work; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Funds for conservation of monuments in Rajasthan**

1116. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the list of protected monuments of cultural importance in the State of Rajasthan, district-wise;

(b) the fund spent in conservation of the said monuments;

(c) whether the Ministry has received proposals to add more monuments in the said list;

(d) if so, the list of proposed monuments and response of Government thereto, monument-wise; and

(e) the list of monuments of cultural importance which have vanished in Delhi?

#### **Increase in budgetary allocations for ASI**

1117. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to hike the budget of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the funds allocated and funds spent in the last three years, year-wise and head-wise; and

(d) the list of sites restored by the ASI in the last three years, year-wise and State-wise?

#### **Accuracy in rainfall prediction**

1118. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether our rainfall prediction is

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

accurate enough to the tune where this information can be made public for benefit of agriculture sector to plan their cropping system and management accordingly;

(b) if so, the details of the level of accuracy; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Steps to preserve the Himalayan Glaciers**

1119. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) what research has been carried out for Cryosphere Studies in Himalayas in the last three years;

(b) what are the observations and conclusions derived from the conducted research and have any suggestions been made for the steps to be taken to preserve the Himalayan Glaciers; and

(c) the number of people that have been engaged for the purpose of conducting the research in the last three years?

#### **Research on climate change**

1120. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to conduct research on climate change;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on the said research;

(d) whether any agreement has been signed with foreign countries in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Procurement of supercomputers for weather forecasting**

1121. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government intends to procure two supercomputers for improved weather forecasting, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of the capacity and cost of these supercomputers and details of the improvements over the two existing supercomputers?

#### **Guidelines for relief measures to farmers under natural calamities**

1122. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether guidelines have been issued by Government and RBI for extending relief measures including interest free loans and new crop loans to farmers affected by drought and other natural calamities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Banks are presently extending relief measures to the farmers of drought affected Maharashtra, particularly in Vidarbha and Marathwada regions under these guidelines; and

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

#### **Restoring the earlier sharing pattern of Centrally Sponsored Schemes**

1123. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India will appreciate the genuine concern of the State Government of Odisha and consider to restoring the earlier State and Central

sharing pattern of the three Centrally Sponsored Schemes *i.e.* Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), National Health Mission (NHM) and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), so that more resources of the State would be available for the State schemes; and

(b) whether Government will allow for Odisha, the sharing pattern of Centrally Sponsored Schemes at par with North Eastern and Himalayan States?

#### **Banking facilities to Village/ Panchayat/Block level**

†1124. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the number of Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samiti and Block level in the country where banking facilities are not available in more than 3,000 populated areas;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to provide banking facilities to these areas, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of Blocks in the State of Maharashtra where there is not even a single branch of Government/Private Bank, the details thereof, district-wise?

#### **Capping subsidies**

1125. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government wants to keep subsidies within a cap of about ₹ 3 lakh crore;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government had budgeted for about

₹ 75,000 crore towards fertilizer subsidy, another ₹ 1.84 lakh crore towards food subsidy and nearly ₹ 37,500 crore towards cooking fuel subsidy;

(c) whether Government aims to distribute fertilizer subsidy through Direct Cash Benefit scheme instead of paying directly to firms to reduce the subsidy burden; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Integration of LOUs with SWIFT**

1126. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the nationalised banks have improved their I.T. framework and controls in view of the banking scandal that rocked the Punjab National Bank (PNB), if so, the details thereof; and

(b) number of banks which are yet to integrate LOUs or letter of guarantees with SWIFT with names of such banks, the details thereof?

#### **Revival of economy from slowdown**

1127. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the slowdown of Indian economy owing to falling investments, non-utilisation of industrial capacities and sharp decline in production and consumption resulting in job losses;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering reduction in rationalisation of personal income tax and taxes on equity to improve capital availability and private investments; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(c) the policy measures proposed to revive the economy and industrial manufacturing?

#### **Implementation of Direct Tax Code**

1128. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the demand of Indian industry to bring in Direct Tax Code (DTC) as part of the financial reforms;

(b) if so, the response of Government to the DTC; and

(c) the proposed schedule for implementation of the Direct Tax Code in India?

#### **Bank frauds**

1129. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bank frauds reported during the last three years in the country;

(b) the total amount involved in such fraud cases and the details in respect of each bank during the last three years;

(c) the reasons for rise in the incidents of bank frauds, putting losses to the public and business community; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that such incidents are minimised by forewarning the customers through three-tier security of PIN, password, OTP etc., the details thereof?

#### **Simplification of direct taxes**

1130. SHRI C.M. RAMESH:  
SHRI SAMBHAJI  
CHHATRAPATI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has initiated serious action to simplify direct tax laws, including the Income Tax Act, 1961, to restrict tax evasion and widen tax-payer's base;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how much time it is likely to take to firm-up draft for simplified direct tax laws in the country?

#### **Levying excise duty on spirits**

1131. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government can levy excise duties across all spirits;

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

(c) whether Government has made an assessment of correlation between alcohols' spirit content and excise duty levied, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has taken into consideration the trends of consumption of alcohol with lesser spirit content and reduction of duty on the same for health purposes, if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Status of MoU with Korea Meteorological Administration**

1132. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Memorandum of

Understanding (MoU) signed by Government and the Korea Meteorological Administration in 2010 has been successful thus far in achieving its objectives;

(b) if so, the details of the achievements and funds sanctioned for the project;

(c) whether the climate and weather forecasting capabilities of the project have been used for the benefits of farmers and labourers; and

(d) whether there are any plans to extend the MoU after its expiry period?

#### **Non-performing loan ratio**

1133. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the country's non-performing loan ratio recorded in the last three years, the details thereof;

(b) the proportion of loans given by banks, both public and private, in the last three years which have turned out to be bad loans, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of stressed debt accrued by both public and private banks in the last fiscal year and the initiatives taken by Government to recapitalise banks, the details thereof?

#### **Revenue under GST**

1134. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly gross GST revenue collection targets for the last two years, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the targets have been met for each month, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Lowering taxes to boost economy**

1135. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received from various associations and organisations to lower a broad range of taxes to encourage equity investments by both individuals as well as corporates;

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto;

(c) the action taken by the Ministry to boost the growth rate, which was at its lowest @ 5.8 per cent in the March quarter; and

(d) whether any relief is proposed by the Ministry to reverse the trend of economic slowdown, which also contributed for the decline in automobiles sales, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Detection of wilful defaulters**

1136. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) total number of wilful defaulters reported for public and private sector banks in last three years, the details thereof;

(b) total amount of debt and liabilities owed by wilful defaulters to public and private sector banks currently, the details thereof;

(c) whether percentage of wilful defaulters has increased in last three years, if so, the details thereof;

(d) amount recovered by Government against wilful defaults in last three years, the details thereof, bank-wise;

(e) the total number of wilful defaulters prosecuted for the above in the last three years; and

(f) the initiatives taken by Government against wilful defaulters in last three years?

#### **Removal of charges on RTGS & NEFT**

1137. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether RBI has issued instructions to all banks to remove charges on RTGS and NEFT fund transfer;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of banks that have started implementing the directive and the banks that are still in the pipeline to do so;

(d) to what extent this will help to give fillip to digital fund movement;

(e) whether it is a fact that ATM charges levied by RBI are also high and particularly poor and middleclass, consumers are facing problems;

(f) if so, whether there are any plans to withdraw ATM charges; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Budget wishlist to promote agriculture**

1138. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture sector representatives submit budget wishlist to promote agriculture—start-ups,

particularly in rural regions, expand micro-irrigation, treat solar energy as third crop to augment income of farmers and enact labour reforms to push creation of off-farm jobs, were few of the suggestions which have been submitted by the representatives of the agricultural and rural development sectors to boost investment in agricultural sector and enhance market access to farmers; and

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

#### **Interest free loans to farmers affected by natural calamities**

1139. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government/Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines to provide relief measures including interest free agricultural loans/other loans to farmers and others affected by natural calamities viz. droughts, floods, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has also issued directions to provide interest free loans to farmers of those districts/regions in State of Andhra Pradesh which are reeling under severe drought;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Promotion of financial technology**

†1140. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to promote financial technology;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard, so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Transparency in Budget making**

1141. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any mechanism to go through the ideas being shared on various media platforms, in print and electronic media by scholars, economists and others in order to induce more transparency into the Budget making;

(b) whether Government has any plan to get public inputs helping the Finance Ministry in shaping the Budget which reflects the public expectations and give policymakers ideas to explore new ways to resources to finance the welfare schemes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Identification of Benami Properties**

1142. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Benami Transaction (Prohibition) Amendment Act, 2016 could contain illegal transaction of immovable properties;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the number of benami properties identified and their total value; and

(c) the further steps Government plans to take to identify immovable properties falling under the category of benami property?

#### **Loan from Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank**

1143. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has secured any loan from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank;

(b) if so, how much is secured; and

(c) the projects for which the loan is secured?

#### **Cash withdrawal restrictions**

1144. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce tax on withdrawal of ₹ 10 lakh cash in a year;

(b) if so, the reasons behind imposing tax on customers;

(c) the details of benefits of Government's proposal to cap on withdrawals;

(d) the paper transactions over ₹ 10 lakh cash per annum withdrawal recorded for 2012-2016 October and 2016 November-2019 March thereto, period-wise; and

(e) whether it is a fact that Government has failed to introduce digital payments for all types of transactions?

#### **Outstanding dues of PSBs**

1145. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total outstanding dues of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) at present;

(b) the outstanding dues of wilful defaulters in each Bank; and

(c) the names of such persons against whom outstanding dues exceed ₹ 500 crores at present and action so far taken to effect the recovery?

#### **Assistance from International Organisations**

1146. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of schemes and projects being run with the partial or complete assistance of international organizations such as IMF and World Bank and how such assistance and the preconditions attached to them, if any, has affected the economy in the last financial year; and

(b) the details of the preconditions or guidelines for such financial assistance?

#### **Study on impact of demonetisation on economy**

1147. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has done any study on the impact of demonetisation of Indian economy, particularly, MSME Industries and on the employment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Effects of decline in foreign inflow**

1148. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the after effects of decline in foreign inflows on the country's balance of payments and impact on value of the rupee?

#### **Queries through ICEGATE**

1149. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many E-Services are available for the trade and cargo carriers and other clients of Customs Department as of May, 2019 through Indian Customs Electronic Commerce/Electronic Data Interchange Gateway (ICEGATE);

(b) how many queries have been raised through the ICEGATE 24x7 Helpdesk in the past three years;

(c) how many queries have been resolved out of all the queries submitted, and what is the time taken to respond to and resolve these queries; and

(d) how many new jobs, if any, have been created for the purpose of ICEGATE in the past three years?

#### **Anti Profiteering Mechanism under GST**

†1150. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has created any Anti Profiteering Mechanism under GST;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken action against any business entity under Anti Profiteering Mechanism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Penalty on NSE by SEBI in co-location case**

1151. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Stock Exchange (NSE) which has been penalised by the country's market regulator SEBI in the co-location case, is mulling to appeal before the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT);

(b) whether last month SEBI directed NSE to pay ₹ 687 crores and barred it from accessing the securities market for six months following investigations; and

(c) whether the recent SEBI order on NSE comes at a time when most the entities against whom SEBI had passed similar orders in the co-location case has got interim relief from SAT?

**Foreign debt**

†1152. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign debt is incessantly increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the details of the status of the increase in the foreign debt during the last three years, year-wise?

**Sacking of higher officials of Tax Department**

1153. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of higher officials in Tax Department sacked by Government;

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

(c) whether there is any mechanism to curb corruption among tax officials by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Empanelment of consultancy firms for sale of assets for PSUs**

1154. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is scouting for consultancy firms for assistance in selling land and building assets of Public Sector Undertaking companies;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government is working towards achieving the stiff sell of target of ₹ 90,000/- crore for 2019-20;

(c) whether it is also a fact that DIPAM has floated a request for empanelment of international property consultancy firms or any other experienced firms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Compulsory retirement to high ranking officials**

1155. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has compulsorily retired a dozen high ranking officers facing charges ranging from corruption and disproportionate assets to non-performance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are more officials with dubious records who

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

have been under observation and they will face action too; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Loan and subsidy support to SCs and STs**

†1156. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of poverty ratio of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes along with current status thereof including urban and rural areas, the details thereof; and

(b) total amount of loan and subsidy disbursed by public sector banks during the last three years with an aim to provide support to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, the details thereof along with account numbers during the last three years, bank-wise?

#### **Notices to Indian account holders by Swiss Banks**

†1157. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Swiss Banks have issued notices to their Indian Account Holders to be present there; and

(b) if so, the details of the account holders who have received such notices?

#### **Tax on cash withdrawals**

1158. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government intends to levy a tax between three per cent and five per cent on cash withdrawals of ₹ 10 lakh a year, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the steps taken or intended by Government to promote digitisation of financial transactions; and

(c) the details of the number of people who have shifted to digital transactions since November, 2016 till date, year-wise?

#### **Externally Aided Projects in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**

1159. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA  
RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal for the sanction of Externally Aided Projects in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of proposals received from the States, accorded approval along with their estimated cost and present status of the Projects?

#### **Levy of tax on cash withdrawals**

1160. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to levy tax on cash withdrawals from banks if it exceeds a fixed sum annually;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) whether at present any restriction on cash withdrawals from banks?

#### **Improvement in system of loan disbursement by PSBs**

1161. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is aware that various loan services like education loan, personal loans etc. by the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) are perceived to be very cumbersome, slow and time consuming as compared to the private sector banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the list of steps taken by Government to improve the system of loan disbursement in PSBs?

**Claims arising from losses due to Fani cyclone**

1162. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the IRDAI has directed the insurance companies to ensure that all claims arising from losses due to the Fani cyclone are surveyed immediately and the payments disbursed at the earliest;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the IRDAI wanted the firms to launch an extensive awareness campaign on the steps taken by them in the cyclone affected States; and

(d) if so, the details and the response thereto?

**RBI power in regulating PSBs**

1163. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had earlier said/viewed that RBI has adequate powers to regulate State run lenders/Public Sector Banks (PSBs), if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is willing to discuss issues regarding RBI's power in regulating PSBs and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by Government in this regard including empowering RBI to guard the PSBs; and

(c) whether Government plans to bring in binding regulation with respect to ethical banking and educating bankers, if so, the details thereof?

**Attacks on doctors and medical staff**

1164. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any information regarding attacks on doctors and other medical staff in Government hospitals during the last three years;

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

(c) whether State-wise details of such incidents are available;

(d) if so, the details regarding such incidents in Rajasthan; and

(e) whether Government is taking any steps to ensure safety of doctors and other medical staff in Government hospitals and if so, the details thereof?

**Number of cancer centres across the country**

1165. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to set-up around 50 cancer centres in the next three years across the country, if so, the details thereof;



(b) whether such centres will be in addition to the 31 already functioning and upgraded since 2014-15 and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how many of them are being planned to be set up in Odisha?

**Discriminatory approach in availment of cashless treatment facilities**

1166. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of Health and Family Welfare Ministry are availing cashless treatment from empanelled hospitals whereas other serving Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) beneficiaries have to pay and get it reimbursed thereafter;

(b) if so, details thereof and the reasons for such discrimination and the corrective measures taken or proposed by Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government has reduced the entitlement cost of certain packages and implants procedures and the CGHS beneficiaries have to pay the difference to the hospitals; and

(d) if so, the corrective measures taken or proposed by Government in this regard?

**Mechanism for determining price of pathology tests in private hospitals**

1167. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has a

mechanism to determine the price of pathology tests in private hospitals and pathology clinics and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the test reports of these private hospitals and pathology test centres can be verified independently to check fraudulent practices; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to rectify the missing mechanism?

**MBBS Course at Dr. RML Hospital, New Delhi**

1168. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia (RML) Hospital, New Delhi proposes to start MBBS Course with around 100 more medical seats, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the hospital has sought approval of Medical Council of India (MCI) in this regard, if so, details thereof; and

(c) what are the criteria laid down by the MCI for granting permission to a hospital to start MBBS Course and whether RML Hospital has the requisite latest infrastructure to start the course and details thereof?

**Annual per capita expenditure on public health**

1169. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the target of annual per capita expenditure on public health for current year;

(b) how much expenditure was incurred on public health in the last three years;

(c) the impact on overall improvement in public health; and

(d) whether there has been progress in absorption capacity of Government assistance by States/ most backward districts having low public health indicators?

#### **Naturopathy dispensaries**

1170. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of naturopathy dispensaries functioning in Delhi and other cities;

(b) the number of beneficiaries who have obtained medical advice and medicines from such naturopathy experts; and

(c) whether there is any demand from beneficiaries for expansion of such dispensaries?

#### **Generic medicines**

1171. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the significance of generic medicines in our public health domain;

(b) how these medicines are different to traditional allopathic medicines, cost-wise and quality-wise; and

(c) whether these medicines are available easily in the country, especially in Delhi?

#### **Overcoming shortage of doctors and nurses**

†1172. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH  
YADAV:  
SHRI VISHAMBHAR  
PRASAD NISHAD:  
SHRIMATI CHHAYA  
VERMA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a dearth of doctors and nurses in the country due to which people are compelled to go to quacks for treatment;

(b) the total shortage of doctors and nurses in the country at present; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government in the last three years to increase the number of Government doctors and the result thereof?

#### **Changes in NFHS**

†1173. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan for bringing changes in the pattern of National Family Health Survey (NFHS) in comparison to the last four surveys;

(b) whether any assistance from professionals and NGOs is being taken in the survey; and

(c) whether there is any plan to increase the sample size of this survey?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Curbing diseases caused by intoxicating drinks and substances**

†1174. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's efforts have not been serious enough to tackle the diseases spreading in the country due to consumption of intoxicating drinks and abuse of intoxicating substances;

(b) whether Government is taking precise and concrete measures to bring the young generation indulging in intoxicating drink on the right path; and

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

**Adequate qualification of health professionals**

1175. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the data on distribution and qualification of health workers like doctors, nurses, etc. State-wise, since 2014;

(b) whether an assessment has been made to ascertain shortage of qualified professionals at various levels, State-wise;

(c) what measures have been taken in order to tackle it, if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government has received cases against medical professionals holding fake degrees; and

(e) if so, the action taken in such cases?

**Agitation by ASHA workers for pay increase**

1176. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many ASHA workers, who are working in health sectors

are agitating for increasing their salaries and perks;

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

(c) whether Government is considering to increase the salaries of ASHA workers in Medical and Health department in various parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when it will be increased?

**Districts lacking blood banks**

1177. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 80 districts in the country do not have blood banks, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps/will take steps to ensure that all the districts in the country have at least one blood bank;

(c) if so, efforts taken by Government in this direction; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

**Blood bank in every district**

†1178. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a blood bank policy is being devised in the country under which at least one blood bank is proposed to be established in every district, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of the work completed in this direction and the districts wherein establishment of blood bank is being considered?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Opening of medical hospitals and colleges in Gujarat**

†1179. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to open any hospital, maternity centres and medical colleges in districts of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof and time limit for opening these; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Increasing male participation in family planning**

1180. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives being taken by Government to increase male participation in family planning;

(b) which States have better male participation in family planning, the details thereof in terms of better uptake of male contraceptives in these States;

(c) whether Government is devising initiatives to introduce newer contraceptives for males in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government is planning to increase the frequency of 'Vasectomy Fortnight' in the country and the details thereof?

**Refusal to admit CGHS beneficiaries by private hospitals**

1181. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many private hospitals approved by the

Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) in Delhi and various parts of the country are refusing to admit CGHS beneficiaries, particularly, pensioners on grounds of non-availability of beds in ICU; and

(b) if so, how does Government propose to take up the problem and issue some mandatory orders advising private hospitals to be more careful in future?

**Female sterilization**

1182. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken appropriate steps to reduce the burden of female sterilization and if so, details thereof including details regarding vasectomy rate and female sterilization rate, State-wise, during last three years;

(b) whether Government is planning to expand the basket of choices by introducing implants, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the present eight methods are sufficient to cater to the needs of family planning in such a large population, if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has studied about number of contraceptive methods, available in South Asia, if so, details thereof?

**Non-availability of Minimum Assured Services in CHCs**

1183. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) to improve the quality of health care delivery in the country and details thereof;

(b) whether Community Health Centres (CHCs) are not functioning as per the requirements of IPHS;

(c) whether essential Minimum Assured Services are not available in CHCs;

(d) whether due to low quality of health care services, majority of people turn to the local private health sector as their first choice of care; and

(e) steps taken to make available essential Minimum Assured Services in CHCs as per IPHS?

#### **Condition of medical facilities in rural areas**

1184. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of medical facilities in rural areas is deplorable;

(b) whether there is acute shortage of doctors, nurses, lab technicians and pharmacists in Primary Health Care Centres (PHCs);

(c) the total number of PHCs available in rural areas and the sanctioned posts of doctors, nurses, lab technicians and pharmacists in those PHCs;

(d) the number of posts of doctors, nurses, lab technicians and pharmacists lying vacant in PHCs and since when; and

(e) the details of measures taken/proposed to be taken to improve medical facilities in rural areas?

#### **Increase in cases of infant deaths**

1185. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases related to infant deaths are increasing in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the reasons for death of infants, State-wise and year-wise during the last three years?

#### **Associating non-profit hospitals with Ayushman Bharat Yojana**

†1186. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of hospitals being run by non-profit organisations across the country including hospitals from Jharkhand have been associated with Ayushman Bharat Yojana;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such hospitals need additional capital and infrastructure to provide quality modern medical facilities for poor patients; and

(c) if so, whether Government will consider to provide financial support (loan or grant) for hospitals being run by non-profit organisations and also to hospitals associated with the Ayushman Bharat Yojana, if so, by when, if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Support to States for not implementing Ayushman Bharat Yojana**

1187. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that he has written to all those State Governments which have not joined the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana;

(b) whether Government has any plan to give full support and cooperation to States in aligning their own schemes with Ayushman Bharat; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **AES outbreak in Bihar**

1188. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 143 cases have been reported and 60 kids have died in Bihar due to Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES); and

(b) if so, the immediate steps taken by Government with respect to investigating the cause of deaths and remedial measures adopted, if any?

#### **Vacancies in health sector**

1189. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) by when Government is seeking to fill vacancies in the health sector at all levels;

(b) the details of the vacancies as of 2019; and

(c) the number of new jobs to be created as a part of the Ayushman Bharat Yojana?

#### **Transgender healthcare protection**

1190. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any schemes which

provide for the transgender healthcare protection; and

(b) how many transgenders are being treated in Government hospitals, at what price and for which diseases and the details thereof?

#### **Adulterated milk and milk products**

1191. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that around 68.7 per cent of milk and milk products sold in the country is not as per the standards laid down by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government will come forward to put in place a stringent provision/vigilant mechanism to curb such activity, which poses serious threat to health of the citizens in the country and if so, details thereof?

#### **Phenomenal increase in non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in India**

1192. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a joint study concluded recently by Indian Council of Medical Research and a few other agencies concluded that six out of ten Indians succumb to NCDs like heart ailments, diabetes, tuberculosis, etc. in comparison to one in three in 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the reason for largest share of NCDs in Kerala, Goa and Tamil Nadu even though their being relatively prosperous States; and

(d) whether Government has any plan to tackle this problem?

**Financial assistance to States for hospitals**

1193. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals from the States regarding financial assistance for improving the infrastructural and other facilities in their respective Government hospitals;

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

(c) whether Government proposes to allocate more funds to the States for this purpose; and

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

**AIIMS in Kerala**

1194. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre is considering to establish AIIMS in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether any concrete proposals and funds have been sanctioned so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Healthcare centres in NES and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

1195. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government hospitals, healthcare centres, dispensaries etc. currently functional in the North Eastern States (NES) and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to establish new healthcare centres in these regions and details thereof?

**New medical colleges**

1196. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government and the different State Governments have been setting up new medical colleges with increased number of MBBS seats and more number of MD, MS and other post graduate seats;

(b) if so, the number of medical colleges in different States including post graduate courses and AIIMS in the year 2018-19; and

(c) the number of MBBS, MD, MS seats in different States?

**Infrastructural support for hospitals in remote areas of HP**

1197. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to provide necessary health infrastructural support to

the State Governments, ambitious schemes like NRHM and Ayushman Bharat have been launched by Government;

(b) whether in remote rural and hilly areas of Rohru in Shimla Distt. of Himachal Pradesh, the Civil Hospital, Rohru does not have adequate medical equipments for MRI scans and basic diagnostic tests, and patients are referred to distant places like Shimla and Chandigarh; and

(c) if so, whether Government will help in providing specialist doctors and required medical equipment to the Civil Hospital, Rohru so that poor people of the area get better treatment facilities and details thereof?

#### **Projected rise in dengue cases**

†1198. SHRIMATI CHHAYA  
VERMA:  
SHRI VISHAMBHAR  
PRASAD NISHAD:  
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH  
YADAV:

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

(a) whether it is being apprehended by the scientists in research/studies that the menace of dengue will rise in the next few years due to global warming;

(b) the extent to which this disease has risen in the last three years; and

(c) the State-wise details of the number of deaths caused by this disease in the last three years?

#### **Illegal rackets in kidney and liver**

†1199. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some people

involved in the black trade of kidney and liver have been arrested in some big hospitals of Delhi, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a racket of traders of kidney and liver in some big hospitals of Delhi and country were also arrested few years ago;

(c) if so, whether Government would take any steps to completely prohibit middlemen from such cases; and

(d) if so, by when?

#### **Conversion of district hospitals into medical hospitals**

1200. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to convert district hospitals into medical colleges to boost availability of human resources in the health sector;

(b) if so, details of the proposal and number of district hospitals for conversion into medical colleges, State-wise; and

(c) the time-frame for implementation of the proposed scheme and details thereof?

#### **Converting district hospitals into medical colleges**

1201. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to convert district hospitals into medical colleges to boost availability of human resource in the health sector in the third phase of the Centrally sponsored scheme;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(b) if so, the status of the hospitals approved in the 1st and 2nd phase of the Centrally sponsored scheme, State-wise; and

(c) the list of district hospitals proposed for conversion into medical colleges in Karnataka State in the third phase and details thereof?

#### **Conducting the NFHS/Annual Health Surveys**

1202. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Family Health Survey (NFHS)/Annual Health Surveys conducted in rural and urban areas of the country and the major findings in these surveys, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether a number of States/UTs were not covered by some of these surveys and, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has restructured the format of National Family Health Survey/Annual Health Survey; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor?

#### **Changes in cutoff marks for NEET**

†1203. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cutoff marks for the entrance exam 'NEET' being conducted for the admission in all private and Government run medical and dental colleges for MBBS and BDS courses have been reduced to 50 percentile from that of 50 percentage; and

(b) if so, the exact date, rationale and procedure thereof and whether it would benefit the students or the institutes, the details thereof?

#### **Compulsory Bar Coding of medicines**

1204. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is introducing Bar Coding for the medicines being sold in the country and making it compulsory, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that this will check the counterfeit medicines and fake drugs?

#### **Enforcing plain packaging of tobacco products**

1205. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to enforce plain packaging of tobacco products;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor given the still high rates of tobacco consumption in the country?

#### **Eligibility certificate for studying MBBS abroad**

1206. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) details of Indian students studying MBBS in various countries of the world in the last three years and the current year, year-wise and country-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that every Indian student wishing to study MBBS abroad

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

has to obtain Eligibility Certificate from MCI before leaving;

(c) if so, the reasons that MCI is not issuing Eligibility Certificate to students who are studying abroad since 2011;

(d) what is the present position now; and

(e) whether students now have to take Eligibility Certificate or students from 2013 batch onwards have been exempted from taking the above certificate?

#### **Over burdened CGHS dispensaries**

†1207. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that all CGHS dispensaries, particularly those in Delhi-NCR are struggling with the paucity of doctors, space and other basic facilities, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government proposes to take some major steps in view of the increasing burden on each dispensary and consequently consumption of excess time in service delivery therein; and

(c) if so, whether Government would facilitate OPD consultation in private hospitals without referral letters for patients aged 60 years and above also, in the line of such facilities being provided to patients aged 75 years?

#### **Housing of CGHS Dispensary, Sahibabad in permanent building**

†1208. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that CGHS Dispensary (D94) at

Sahibabad is facing many fundamental problems due to running in a private building;

(b) whether Government proposes to shift this dispensary in a permanent building in view of paucity of space and increasing burden of beneficiaries on it; and

(c) if so, the deadline stipulated by Government to transfer this dispensary in a big or permanent building and enhance the facilities including the number of doctors?

#### **Providing wholly correct treatment to cancer patients**

1209. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of a recent research study which states that India will need 7300 cancer doctors by 2040;

(b) whether Government is also aware that the 83 per cent of patients do not receive wholly correct cancer treatment, with 15 per cent getting wholly incorrect cancer treatment; and

(c) if so, how does Government plan to fill up the prevailing gaps and anomalies in the medical system in India?

#### **Revision of data of listed beneficiaries under Ayushman Bharat scheme**

1210. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 10 crore families listed as beneficiaries under Ayushman Bharat scheme are included based on the Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government has made any considerations to revise the 2011 data for inclusion of more beneficiaries/families under the scheme to provide free and fair healthcare facilities to more people;

(c) if so, the details thereof of the measures taken for more inclusion; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor for the non-inclusion of more families?

#### **Preventive measures against brain fever**

†1211. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has paid attention to the problem of brain fever which is common during the monsoon season;

(b) the steps taken by Government for prevention of areas affected by brain fever; and

(c) whether Government has taken steps to educate people about identifying this disease at an early stage?

#### **Vacancies for doctors and nurses at PHCs**

1212. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of the number of vacancies for doctors and nurses at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), over the last three years;

(b) whether Government has taken steps to ensure doctors and nurses at PHCs are adequately trained; and

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

#### **Medical college for every three districts**

1213. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going for a policy decision to set up a medical college for every three districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number and names of districts especially in Karnataka where new medical colleges have been set up under the said policy by May, 2019; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the reaction of Government thereto?

#### **Fatalities from diseases**

†1214. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that fatal diseases like Nipah Virus, Swine Flu, Chikungunya and Tuberculosis are spreading in many areas of the country;

(b) if so, the number of people who got infected and died due to these diseases in last three years, State-wise details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has chalked out any detailed action plan for elimination of Nipah Virus, Swine Flu, Chikungunya and Tuberculosis, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Spurious Drugs**

1215. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

20 per cent of drugs are counterfeit and spurious in nature;

(b) if so, whether Government is going to take appropriate action against such unscrupulous activities in order to arrest manufacture and sale of such drugs;

(c) if so, the details of the action already initiated by Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

#### **Deaths from Japanese Encephalitis**

†1216. SHRI VISHAMBHAR  
PRASAD NISHAD:  
SHRIMATI CHHAYA  
VERMA:  
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH  
YADAV:

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

(a) the number of deaths caused by Japanese Encephalitis (JE) in various States of the country during the last three years and the age group of the children, where this disease has been found to be prevalent;

(b) the facilities provided by Government to the affected States to deal with this disease during last three years; and

(c) the steps being taken to prevent this disease and the effect thereof?

#### **Delay in restoration of OTs at JPN Apex Trauma Centre, AIIMS, Delhi**

†1217. SHRI VISHAMBHAR  
PRASAD NISHAD:  
SHRIMATI CHHAYA  
VERMA:  
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH  
YADAV:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Jai Prakash

Narayan Apex Trauma Centre, AIIMS, New Delhi has still not been restored after a fire broke out there last March, due to which the patients who are waiting for another surgery are not being admitted;

(b) the number of operation theatres (OTs) which stopped working due to the fire accident in the month of March last year and present status thereof;

(c) whether there is a delay being seen in restoration of those OTs after the accident of fire; and

(d) arrangements made to allay the problems being faced by the patients?

#### **Targets and achievements in renewable energy sector**

1218. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) the target set for renewable energy by the Ministry by the year 2022;

(b) the capacity in GW achieved and the capacity under installation;

(c) whether the bids are invited for installing different capacity of renewable energy plants, category-wise, like solar, wind, bio-power etc.; and

(d) the reason for slow pace in the solar plant installations in the country, leading to slippages in the target set by the Ministry?

#### **Replacement of batteries of solar street lights**

1219. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

to replace batteries of existing solar street lights installed under various Government schemes;

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

**Allocation of Stand Alone pumps under KUSUM scheme**

1220. SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed allocation of stand alone solar pumps under component-B under the Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Uththaan Mahabhiyan (KUSUM) scheme, State-wise;

(b) if allocation has not been made yet, what will be the criteria for such allocation, State-wise;

(c) whether the Ministry advise States to give priority to drought prone, rain fed regions in scheme implementation to augment farmers incomes in such areas;

(d) whether the Ministry is open to consider payment of capital subsidy under KUSUM scheme directly to farmers through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) route; and

(e) if not, the reasons for not giving subsidy directly to farmers?

**Solar sector investments**

1221. SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has achieved the target of 100 GW of solar power

generation by 2022, what is the level of investment required in the sector;

(b) what has been the scale of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) so far in the last three years in the solar sector and the anticipated level of FDI in the next three years, the details thereof, of the investment in domestic sector;

(c) the action plan being implemented to achieve the required levels of investment in the solar sector; and

(d) the steps being taken to make domestic solar industry competitive?

**Framework on Energy Storage Policy**

1222. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any progress regarding the energy storage policy framework;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

**Policy for the promotion of renewable energy**

1223. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the policy formulated for the promotion of renewable energy in view of the power crisis in various States in the country including Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the details of the works undertaken by the State Nodal Agencies (SNAs) in the renewable energy sector in rural areas and achievements made as a result thereof, State/ UT-wise; and

(c) the details of incentives being given to the SNAs for promotion, coordination and monitoring of projects, State/UT-wise?

land acquisitions and transmission infrastructure which are plaguing project developers?

**Targets and achievements of solar energy generation**

1224. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 182 biogas plants, 40,333 improved chulhas, 7,252 solar lanterns, 69 solar home systems, 25 solar street lights and 2,870 improved kerosene stoves etc. which are being installed/ distributed during 2007-08 in Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are still functioning properly;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target set and achievements made in the field of solar energy generation during last two years?

**Import duty on Solar Power equipments**

1225. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the actual capacity added in Solar Power Sector was just 55 per cent of the target specified for the financial year 2018-19;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of auctions remained unsubscribed or cancelled due to high tariff bids; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to mitigate a host of issues such as taxation, import duties on solar power equipments,

**Subsidy for consumption of solar energy**

1226. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes being implemented by Government in various States to encourage solar energy at present;

(b) the amount released during the last two years under the said schemes to the States;

(c) whether Government has made provision of any subsidy in the consumption of solar energy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Subsidy for installation of roof top solar equipments**

1227. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who have installed solar equipments on the roofs of their houses in the Capital and how much energy is likely to be generated as a result thereof;

(b) whether Government has announced that subsidy would be given to such persons who have installed such equipments at their residence and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of persons who have since been given subsidy?

**Electrification of rural households**

1228. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the households in the country especially in rural areas have been covered and provided electricity connections;

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

(c) the steps taken or being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**Progress in rural electrification**

1229. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sought information from State Governments about the progress of the rural electrification in their respective States;

(b) if so, the details of reports submitted by the State Governments in this regard including Himachal Pradesh;

(c) the details of funds allocated to each State for rural electrification during the last three years;

(d) whether Government of Himachal Pradesh has asked for additional fund to meet the target of rural electrification; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Pending power projects in the country**

1230. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the construction of new power plants in the

country, State-wise, including Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the environmental clearance is a big hurdle for power plants; and

(c) if so, the details of projects pending or delayed due to non-availability of environmental clearances in the country especially in Himachal Pradesh?

**Debt level of discoms**

1231. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that discom debt is set to increase to pre-Ujwal Discom Assurance Yojana (UDAY) levels of ₹ 26 lakh crore by the end of this financial year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that pre-UDAY debt levels of 16 UDAY States with comprehensive MoUs were to the tune of around ₹ 3.24 lakh crore;

(c) whether almost about ₹ 85,000 crore of debt was yet to be converted into grants or equity by the participating States as per the UDAY plan; and

(d) whether UDAY scheme was aimed at reducing the discom debt level and improving their efficiency?

**Electrified villages under Saubhagya Scheme**

1232. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages that have been electrified under Saubhagya Scheme since 2014;

(b) what is the definition of an electrified village for the purpose of this scheme;

(c) whether it is a fact that there exists significant disparity among the States with

respect to number of hours households get electricity; and

(d) what provisions are in place to improve weak infrastructure leading to electricity theft and transmission losses?

#### **Setting up transmission lines**

1233. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has created adequate transmission lines across the country to evacuate power from surplus regions to deficit regions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is adopting best models while setting up transmission lines to minimize transmission loss; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Electricity connections to BPL families**

†1234. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of households, who have been electrified since last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of electricity connections given to families living Below Poverty Line (BPL) since last three years;

(c) the details of power consumption of each individual in BPL families, State-wise;

(d) whether Government intends to provide financial assistance to BPL families for payment of their electricity Bills;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Dues of DISCOMs**

1235. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of power dues from the DISCOMs to power producers, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(b) whether Government proposes to reduce the dues of DISCOM, to power producers, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Utilisation of installed capacity of power**

1236. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is not using at least half of the installed capacity of power in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of installed capacity in the country and highest demand of power on peak days?

#### **Supply of poor quality LED bulbs**

1237. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that due to supply of poor quality LED bulbs in various States to replace the incandescence bulbs, they are becoming faulty within few months and supplying companies are refusing to replace them;

(b) whether Ministry has ordered third party survey to find out the reasons behind supply of faulty LED bulbs; and

(c) if so, details of such survey, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh and Telangana?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



#### **Electrification of villages**

1238. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH:  
SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:  
DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of villages in the country that have been electrified till 3rd March, 2019, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for non-electrification of some villages;

(c) by when those villages would be electrified; and

(d) the details of Government's plan for meeting the increasing demand for electricity and electrification of remote villages?

#### **Illegal sale of prohibited GM seeds**

1239. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allowed sale of herbicide tolerant GM cotton seeds in India;

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

(c) whether any cases have come to the notice of Government where companies have illegally sold prohibited GM cotton seeds to farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any such case of sale of prohibited GM cotton seeds to farmers has been reported from Rajasthan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken against the delinquent company?

#### **Promotion and implementation in Science and Technology sector**

1240. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to promote and implement new invention and technologies in science and technology sector;

(b) whether any help is likely to be sought from the IITs and other institutions in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any funds have been earmarked/proposed by Government to improve or to make the new technology error free; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Steps to improve indigenous technological development**

1241. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of R&D expenditure over the last three years;

(b) whether Government is aware that electronics imports are a measure of lack of technological self-sufficiency;

(c) whether Government is taking any steps to improve indigenous technological development in terms of electronics; and

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

#### **Identification and development of tourist spots under Central schemes**

1242. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of tourist spots in

Karnataka identified and developed under Central schemes, so far;

(b) whether adequate funds have been allocated for the purpose; and

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

**Swadesh Darshan Scheme in West Bengal**

1243. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme of Theme-based Tourist Circuits in the country has identified any destinations for development within the State of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Popular destinations for tourist spots in the country**

1244. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any increase in the flow of foreign and domestic tourists in the country in the year 2018-19 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of top ten popular destinations in 2018-19 for domestic and foreign tourists, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken by Government to boost tourism in the country?

**Attracting tourists from Buddhist countries**

†1245. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to invite/attract tourists from Buddhist countries;

(b) the efforts being made to link the important and sacred Buddhist places like Kushi Nagar, Sarnath with the Buddhist countries;

(c) whether Government is making a publicity about the importance of these tourist/spiritual centres by means of sending Buddhist monks and scholars abroad; and

(d) the details of international level facilities available at these tourist centres?

**Financial assistance to development of tourist places in Chhattisgarh**

†1246. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided any financial aid to Chhattisgarh for the development of existing and new tourist spots and for organising festivals there;

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

(c) the details of the plans formulated and the steps taken by Government to promote tourist spots situated in Chhattisgarh and to attract/promote tourists there, year-wise;

(d) the details of the proposals received from Chhattisgarh in this regard; and

(e) the reasons for pendency of the proposals received?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Promotion of tourism in the country**

†1247. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering to promote the tourism sector;

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

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

(a) whether Government has not provided tourism related facilities in tourism pro district of Ratnagiri in Konkan area of Maharashtra despite natural beauty, age old heritage temple and beautiful beaches located at that place due to which many foreign tourists are not able to visit this area despite having such intentions;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures adopted by Government in this regard and the details of success achieved from these measures?

**Financial assistance for development of birthplace of Sita**

†1248. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the birthplace of Sita situated at Punaure (Sitamarhi, Bihar) is being developed as a tourism place under the development of Ramayana Circuit;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the details of the amount sanctioned by Government for the development of tourism area of the birthplace of Sita at Punaure under the development of Ramayana Circuit including the amount sanctioned and released and details of the work completed; and

(d) the details of the amount sanctioned by Government of Bihar for development of tourism area of birthplace of Sita at Punaure including the amount sanctioned and released and details of work completed?

**Development of coastal tourism circuits in Tamil Nadu**

1250. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified Chennai-Mamallapuram-Rameshwaram-Maapadee-Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu under coastal tourism circuits for development of tourism infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details of the steps proposed to be taken under this scheme;

(c) whether Government has allocated funds for this since the inception of the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Expansion of tourism in the country**

1251. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that India is one of the top ranked destination spot in tourism;

(b) if so, what actions have been taken to develop and continue the ranking thereof; and

**Tourism related facilities in Konkan region**

†1249. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the proposal of Government to make the country more tourist friendly and expand tourism in the country therefor, the details thereof?

**Affordable accommodation to tourists in India**

1252. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps being taken for promotion of affordable tourism in India;

(b) the details of foreign tourists that visited India during 2017-18 and 2018-19;

(c) whether Government has any roadmap for affordable accommodation to tourists in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Revenue Generating Projects in the country**

1253. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any project proposal from the various State Governments particularly from Karnataka for the schemes of Revenue Generating Projects including Integrated Development of Tourist circuits and Destination Development Schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the present status of these projects; and

(c) the details of the total outlay, annual allocation amount released, utilisation, progress and achievement made in this regard?

NEW DELHI;  
The 26th June, 2019  
Ashadha 5, 1941 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,  
Secretary-General.

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