RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2019/Magha 23, 1940 (Saka)

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

Total number of questions — 129

Schemes for cultivation and conservation of medicinal plants

923. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

- (a) the different schemes going on for the cultivation and conservation of medicinal plants under AYUSH Ministry;
- (b) the action taken to ensure the availability of high quality AYUSH drugs to the public;
- (c) the details of financial assistance allotted to Kerala during 2014-15 to 2018-19 for conservation and cultivation of medicinal plants and infrastructure development under AYUSH Ministry; and
- (d) the achievements made so far in the promotion and propagation of AYUSH

system and medicines outside the country and details thereof?

Integrating AYUSH systems with modern medicine

- 924. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Ministry has any plan to engage with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for integrating AYUSH systems with modern medicine to increase its acceptability as a scientific and alternative system of medicine;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the steps being taken in this regard?

Survey for identifying medicinal plants

925. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey to identify medicines/aromatic plants and various herbs in the country, particularly in Himalayan, Western Ghats and North East Region, if so, the details thereof indicating the estimated potential of these plants, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by Government for documentation, protection, farming and commercial exploitation of these plants along with the funds allocated for the purpose; and
- (c) whether Government proposes any incentive to the farmers to promote herbal farming and if so, the details thereof?

Examining the working of the AYUSH Ministry

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

- (a) whether the AYUSH Ministry has achieved the desired results over the years for which it was constituted and the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government would appoint an Expert Committee to look into the whole gamut of the AYUSH Ministry and suggest remedial steps so that the spirit behind constituting the AYUSH Ministry is achieved and the people are benefited from it?

Development of herbal gardens

- 927. SHRI G. C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has planned to develop herbal gardens with prominent medicinal plants in the country including Karnataka in collaboration with Multi-National Companies (MNCs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details about the current herbal gardens in the country;
- (d) whether Government is providing incentives to the farmers to promote herbal farming;
- (e) if so, the type of assistance being provided by Government for the same and the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (f) the other new initiatives taken by Government during the last three years?

Development of new Ayurvedic medicines

- 928. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has initiated adequate measures to research on development of new Ayurvedic medicines and clinical trials for critical ailments through Government-controlled laboratories;
 - (b) if so, the details of the diseases for

which effective medicines have been developed in the last three years; and

(c) whether clinical trials have confirmed their effectiveness before their introduction in the market?

Hiring of consultants for various Bills and Reports

929. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken services of certain consultants (companies) for drafting the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018, Report of the Insolvency Law Committee and Report of the Companies Law Committee; and
- (b) if so, the details of the consultants hired and fees paid to each consultant in each project?

Audit of Corporate Social Responsibility activities

930. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Corporate Social Responsibility activities are required to be audited:
- (b) if so, what percentage of companies have got their CSR spending audited in the past four years, the details thereof;
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) what percentage of companies did not fulfil their CSR requirements in the past four years, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Vanishing companies from Kerala

- 931. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of companies which are included in the vanishing list of companies from Kerala; and
- (b) the details of action taken against the vanishing companies from 2014 to 2018?

Norms for removal of independent directors

- 932. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has taken any decision to tighten norms for removal of independent directors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details regarding initiatives taken by Government to ensure that independent directors work fearlessly and freely;
- (d) whether Government has taken any steps to fix responsibility of independent directors; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Improvement in NCLT infrastructure

- 933. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) is adhering to the 270

days timeline set under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) for the resolution process, if so, the details thereof;

- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has considered improving the NCLT infrastructure to deal with the increasing backlog of cases, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the enactment of Companies Amendment Ordinance, 2018 will speed up the resolution process?

Impact of industrial performance on corporate performance

- 934. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether slow industrial performance has also affected corporate performance, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of measures taken by Government to put the corporate sector on accelerated growth path?

Revival of closed companies

- 935. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of companies registered in the country with the Registrar of Companies as on date, State-wise;
- (b) the number of companies, out of these, which have been closed in past five years, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons for closure of these companies; and
- (d) the details of plan chalked out to revive these companies?

Study on CSR Rules

- †936. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government conducted any study regarding the impact of implementation of the Rules related to Corporate Social Responsibility;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the main results thereof;
- (c) if not, whether Government would contemplate to undertake such a study;
- (d) whether Government has got information of such cases wherein companies have not complied with the provisions of the Corporate Social Responsibility Rules, if so, the details thereof: and
- (e) the measures being contemplated upon by Government to ensure compliance of the Corporate Social Responsibility Rules by the companies?

Graduate programme in insolvency

- 937. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has conceptualised a graduate programme in Insolvency, the first of its kind in the world to groom world-class insolvency professionals similar to Chartered Accountants, Cost Accountants and Company Secretaries to extricate about ₹ 10 lakh crore loans from soured loans;
- (b) whether the course will be modelled on the IIM and IIT graduation courses over 8 semesters (segments) including on-

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi

campus class-room training, offering domestic and international scholarship; and

(c) whether the insolvency regulatory has identified an institution through which the course will be outsourced?

Protection of cultural heritage in Mithila

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

- (a) whether the functions of the Ministry of Culture is protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of the country and to encourage every form of art and culture:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry has made adequate efforts to protect and preserve the cultural heritage of the Mithila region in Bihar during the last four and half years and whether adequate steps have been taken to encourage the various forms of art and culture of that region; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Promotion of Kuchipudi dance

- 939. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Kuchipudi is the oldest classical dance in South India, particularly Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to promote Indian classical dance, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the amount spent on the promotion of classical Kuchipudi dance during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(d) the details of the organisations and institutions receiving funds given by Government for organising classical Kuchipudi dance during the above period, State-wise and year-wise?

Funds allocation for Andhra Pradesh

- 940. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of funds allocated/granted under various schemes of the Ministry to the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;
- (b) the details of funds released under such schemes to the State during the last three years;
- (c) the details of funds yet to be released/due to the State; and
- (d) the time-frame fixed, by which these funds would be released to the State?

Adarsh Smarak Scheme

- 941. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has implemented the Adarsh Smarak Scheme in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of monuments in Uttar Pradesh that have been identified under this scheme:
- (c) the scope for State participation in providing suggestion under this scheme; and
- (d) the details of improvements proposed under the scheme?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Schemes to promote tribal culture

- 942. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the schemes run by Government for promotion of tribal culture, tribal museums, etc. in the State and the financial assistance for the purpose;
- (b) the details of the funds/grants provided to various organizations/ institutions for the said purpose during the current year, institution-wise; and
- (c) whether Government has received any requests/proposals from the States including Rajasthan for grant of assistance to the private institutes for the said purpose and if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon, State/UT-wise?

Inculcating respect among young generation for Indian culture

- 943. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that an initiative is required to inculcate respect amongst the younger generation for Indian cultural heritage rather than mimicking western countries;
- (b) whether the Ministry has any plans or initiatives for young generation with a formula for individualistic development and staying relevant by keeping up with the modern millennial society; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Scheme for digitalising National Archives

- 944. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government has launched

- any scheme/programme to digitalise records, catalogue and publications of the National Archives of India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features thereof;
- (c) the manner in which digitalisation is likely to help scholars, historians, academicians and other users of archives in the country; and
- (d) the expenditure incurred thereon during the last two years and the current year, year-wise?

National Cultural Fund

- 945. SHRI G. C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has set up National Cutural Fund (NCF) to facilitate Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in the field of heritage conservation and promotion;
- (b) if so, the details of projects undertaken and funds sanctioned so far, State-wise;
- (c) whether a number of projects for conservation of monuments through PPP failed to take off due to lack of coordination between ASI and sponsoring institutions;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether quality of NCF financed PPP conservation projects are substandard;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and remedial measures taken thereon; and
- (g) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

Fraud by data service operators in ASI

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

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has found major fraud involving some of the new data service operators in ticket counter for entering foreign visitors;
- (b) if so, the total amount involved and the details thereof;
- (c) whether any FIR has been lodged at the police station and what is the progress of enquiry; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure that such malpractices do not recur in the system at any ASI monument by nefarious operators?

Embezzlement of funds in ASI

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

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the employees of the branch which was given the responsibility of the cleanliness in Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has been embezzling the funds illegally for a long time;
- (b) if so, the details of the facts highlighted in the investigation of this embezzlement and the amount withdrawn illegally so far; and
- (c) the details of the actions taken thereon?

Revision of pension for retired bank employees

948. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a long pending demand for revision of pension for retired bank employees;
- (b) whether pension for retired bank employees has not been revised since 1986 as it has been the practice of periodical revision of pension along with the Pay Commission's review of pay scales being followed in case of Government employees;
- (c) whether there has also been no increase in the quantum of pension payable to family members after the death of a serving or retired employee; and
- (d) whether the Indian Banks Association has agreed to examine it positively?

Performing of unwanted caesarean operations for profit

- 949. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the WHO has warned India against the increasing trend of performing caesarean operations by doctors even without a medical need for life-saving for mother and baby;
- (b) whether many private hospitals are indulging in caesarean section and not normal deliveries; and
- (c) whether counsellors/doctors could be appointed outside of big hospitals to warn mothers-to-be against the unwanted caesarean operations?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Transfer of excess funds from RBI to Government

- 950. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is in practice that RBI shall transfer surplus amounts to Government:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of surplus amount transferred to Government by RBI during last decade?

Increase in deposits of Indians in Swiss Banks

- 951. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that money deposited by Indians in Swiss Banks rose over 50 per cent in the last four years period starting from 2014;
- (b) whether Government has received any detailed report from Swiss National Bank;
- (c) if so, the growth and the deposit source, year-wise; and
- (d) the details of present status of bilateral pact on automatic exchange of transaction information with Switzerland Government?

Assistance to law enforcement agencies by banks

- 952. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether in 1989, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision decided that banks should assist law enforcement agencies in tackling money laundering;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether banks have failed to check money laundering committed by Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksy in spite of the clear mandate from the Committee, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps, the Ministry is taking to sensitise banks on this issue?

Hiring of consultants for various bills and reports

- 953. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether consultants (private companies) were hired for IBC 2016, FRDI Bill, 2016, Report of Committee to Draft Code on Resolution of Financial Firms, Report of the Bankruptcy Law Reforms Committee-Vol. I and II, Report of the Committee to recommend measures for curbing mis-selling, rationalising distribution incentives in financial products, Interim Report of the Bankruptcy Law Reform Committee and Research Report on Professional Tax, Inter-State Council and Central Control of State Debt (14th FC); and
- (b) if so, the details of those hired and fees paid to each of them, the details thereof, project-wise?

Life Insurance - Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana

- 954. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana is a Government-backed life insurance scheme aiming to increase the insurance beneficiaries across the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) how many beneficiaries are enrolled under this scheme, the details thereof, Statewise, and how much amount is disbursed so far:
- (d) whether this scheme is linked to the bank accounts opened under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana scheme; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Slow down of Financial inclusion

955. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: DR. BANDA PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recent Report on Trend and Progress of Banking in India 2017-18 points out some early signs of slow down in Financial Inclusion (FI) efforts;
- (b) whether this could undermine the formidable achievement, so far, in the journey of taking banking to the masses to ameliorate poverty;
- (c) whether banks seem to be losing appetite to pursue financial inclusion amidst the asset quality mess and its multiplier impact; and
- (d) the concrete steps Government is taking to pursue financial inclusion in letter and spirit?

Ban on use of Indian currency notes

956. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: SHRI SANJAY RAUT: SHRI ANIL DESAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nepal's Central Bank had banned the use of Indian currency notes of

- denominations ₹ 2000, ₹ 500 and ₹ 200 after Indian Government resorted to demonetisation of ₹1000 and ₹ 500 currency notes;
- (b) whether this move has hit countries such as Nepal and Bhutan where Indian currency is widely used;
- (c) whether this move could affect Indian tourists visiting the Himalayan nation where Indian currency is widely used; and
- (d) the steps Government is taking to sort out the issue with the concerned countries for smooth flow of tourists and trading between the countries?

Nation-wide GST training programme

- 957. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government along with the Institute of Cost Accountants of India, is all set to launch a nation-wide GST training programme to train one lakh accountants in the country to enable them to deliver GST compliance;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the initiative will help especially small and medium enterprises that are struggling with compliance; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Fiscal slippage due to shortfall of disinvestment collection

- 958. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is unlikely to meet the ₹ 80,000 crore divestment target by ₹ 20,000 crore, leading to fiscal slippage;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the fiscal deficit will come at 3.5 per cent against the targeted 3.3 per cent of the shortfall in divestment mop-up and also the dip in the GST collections; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Taxation of Digital Businesses

- 959. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has held consultations regarding taxation of digital businesses under the Income Tax Act, 1961;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcomes therefrom;
- (c) whether introduction of the General Anti-Avoidance Rule (GAAR) under the Income Tax Act, 1961 will affect the specific provisions dealing with the taxation of digital business;
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the signage of the Multilateral Instrument have an impact on the taxation of digital business in India; and
- (f) the steps Government has envisaged to increase the tax collection from the digital businesses which have significant economic presence in India?

Amaravathi Capital City construction

- 960. SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the money given to Andhra Pradesh so far for the construction of capital city at Amaravathi;
- (b) the money given by way of Central assistance for establishing new capital cities in Raipur of Chhattisgarh, Ranchi of

Jharkhand and Dehradun of Uttarakhand;

- (c) whether it has come to the knowledge of the Ministry and CBDT that a lot of black money has been invested in buying lands in and out of Amaravathi;
- (d) the type of capital gain exemptions given to sellers of land in Amaravathi; and
- (e) whether they have been extended even to the profit motivated investors?

Borrowings by PSUs to buy Government stakes in State-owned entities

- 961. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the list of PSUs buying Government stakes in other State-owned entities, including the quantum of stakes bought and corresponding State-owned entities, since 2014;
- (b) the details of PSUs accruing debt by borrowings to make such transaction, including the quantum of debts;
- (c) whether Government treats this as disinvestment and uses that to bridge its fiscal deficit target, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Ministry has considered if borrowings PSUs for the same would also put pressure on bond yields, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Housing loans in collaboration with banks and insurance companies

- 962. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Private and Public Sector banks are providing Housing

Loans insurance in collaboration with Government Sector and Private Sector Insurance Companies, if so, the details thereof:

- (b) whether the terms and conditions for the customers are such that they loose their entire premium when they switch their Housing Loan from one bank to another, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) if not, the clauses mandated for banks and insurance companies, to protect the interests of the housing loan customers so that insurance premiums are either smoothly switched during transfer of housing loans or refunded?

Replacement of coins

- †963. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously contemplating to replace all coins ranging from one to ten rupees;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any action in this direction; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Reduction of Government share in hanks

- †964. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to reduce Government shares in banks;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any step till now in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Data on income tax payers

†965. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of income tax payers during the years 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19;
- (b) whether Government has any data about the number of Muslim income tax payers during these three years; and
- (c) the increase in collection of income tax during above-mentioned financial years?

Impact of demonetisation and GST on tax base

966. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRA-SEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the impact of structural reforms like demonetisation and GST on expanding tax base:
- (b) the total number of direct and indirect tax payers increased since 2014;
- (c) tax-GDP ratio of the last four years since 2014-15?

Improvement in credit culture of PSBs

- 967. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRA-SEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there has been any improvement in credit culture of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) after implementation of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC); and

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the details of total amount of NPAs recovered in Public Sector Banks after implementation of IBC, Bank-wise?

GST earnings and compensation to States

968. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the revenue earnings of GST since its implementation, month-wise;
- (b) the revenue earnings during one year prior to introduction of GST, month-wise;
- (c) the details of GST compensation to be paid to various States since its implementation, month-wise and Statewise;
- (d) the details of GST compensation paid to various States since its implementation, month-wise and Statewise.
- (e) whether it is a fact that GST compensation has gone up during the last few years;
- (f) whether it means that States are losing revenue due to GST; and
- (g) if so, how Ministry is planning to go ahead in this regard to shore up GST revenue?

Wilful defaulters in PSBs

969. 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 persons against whom outstanding dues exceeding ₹ 500 crores

exists at present and the action taken so far to effect the recovery?

Criminal proceedings under SBN Act, 2017

- 970. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has recovered old currency notes during the last one year;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has intiated criminal proceedings under the Specified Bank Notes (Cessation of Liabilities) Act, 2017; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Depreciation of the Rupee

- 971. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) Government's view on the fall in the Rupee's value *vis-a-vis* the US Dollar;
- (b) the impact of this depreciation, in terms of increasing debt service payments, on the dollar-denominated bond issuances by the private sector;
- (c) the Ministry's explanation for the fall in the Rupee's Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER) since November, 2017; and
- (d) the impact of this REER depreciation, in terms of the country's terms of trade?

Dilution of Government stake in banks

- 972. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether it is a fact that Government

has asked the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to gradually bring down the Government's equity to 52 per cent;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that dilution of Government stake will help banks to meet 25 per cent public float norms of market regulator;
- (d) whether some of the Public Sector Banks have Governments holding beyond 75 per cent; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Rising incidents of bank scams and forgery

- †973. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of bank scams and forgery are rising every year in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the details thereof; and
- (c) the outcome of enquiry into the actions and role of bank officers and employees in this regard?

Harassment faced by disabled people in banks

- 974. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has noticed that harassment is being faced by disabled people in banks, particularly in rural areas despite Reserve Bank of India's directions for providing banking facilities to its customers with disabilities at par with non-disabled people;

- (b) if so, the details and number of complaints received by Government against banks in this regard; and
- (c) the action taken by Government against such banks?

Exorbitant rate of interest charged by NBFIs in Karnataka

- 975. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) what mechanism Government or the RBI has to monitor Non Banking Financial Institutions (NBFIs) in the country, with particular reference to Karnataka;
- (b) whether it has come to the notice of Government, the exorbitant rates of interest charged by NBFIs which are much higher than the rate of interest fixed by State Government:
- (c) if so, whether the Ministry is aware of the letter written by CM of Karnataka to ask RBI to issue suitable instructions to NBFIs to reduce rate of interest charged by them; and
- (d) if so, what the Ministry/RBI has done in this regard?

Denial of loan to small and marginal farmers

- 976. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government fixes agriculture credit disbursement targets for the banking sector every year;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that banks have consistently surpassed these targets of agriculture credit;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi

- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has taken note that despite the target surpassed by banks, the eligible small and marginal farmers are being denied or discouraged by bank officials to sanction loans to them; and
- (f) if so, whether Government has received any complaints in this regard?

Regulation 31 of Punjab National Bank (Employees) Pension Regulations, 1995

- 977. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Regulation 31 of Punjab National Bank (Employees) Pension Regulations, 1995 permits bank to grant compassionate allowance to their dismissed/removed/terminated officers;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that PNB has not been granting compassionate allowance to the dismissed/removed/terminated officers despite the available pension provision;
 - (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) by when the bank will settle the rightful dues of the dismissed/removed/terminated officers?

NPA cases filed under SARFAESI Act

- 978. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of NPA cases filed under SARFAESI Act with their outcome and State/UT-wise details of loans disbursed since May, 2014 till date, State/UT/date-wise:
- (b) whether under Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) before National

- Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), 39 large defaulters were shortlisted, the details thereof along with details of recovery, if any and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether CAG has reasoned out for increase in NPAs, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of the loan disbursed since May, 2014 till date and the loans termed as NPAs from these loans, Bank/date-wise?

Selling of riskier assets of loss making banks

- 979. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government intends to push loss making Banks to sell their riskier assets to larger banks to reduce their capital requirement; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Outstanding taxes by corporate sector

- 980. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the total outstanding amount of various taxes payable to the exchequer by corporate sector, accumulated during the last four years;
- (b) the list of the top 50 such tax defaulters among corporate sector, including name and amount payable to the exchequer;
- (c) whether any concrete steps are being taken to collect such outstanding tax from such corporate defaulters; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

GST on agriculture related products

- 981. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of GST levied on agriculture related products;
- (b) the reasons why high GST is levied on tyres, tubes and transmission parts;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to provide subsidies to poor and marginal farmers to purchase agricultural tools and associated products with high GST rate; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Mudra loan targets

†982. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: SHRI P.L. PUNIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the amount targeted to be given to the entrepreneurs under the Mudra Yojana and the budget sanctioned every year in compliance to the target and amount spent, the number of beneficiaries, State-wise; and
- (b) the details of number of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and female beneficiaries along with amount of loans distributed under the Mudra Yojana, Statewise?

Standard credit appraisal process of PSBs

- 983. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) what is standard credit appraisal process of Public Sector Banks (PSBs);

- (b) whether it varies from customer to customer or there is certain Standard Operating Procedure (SOP); and
- (c) why Public Sector Banks failed to monitor the early warning signals of the defaulter companies?

MUDRA Loan gone bad

- 984. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether around ₹11,000 crores of lending under MUDRA has gone bad;
- (b) whether the loans are secure against future earnings of the borrowers who are young and unfunded; and
- (c) whether under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) ₹1.50 lakh crore worth of loans were disbursed over 30 million loan accounts, if so, whether 74 per cent of the beneficiaries are women entrepreneurs?

Introduction of Integrated e-filing system

985. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is contemplating on introduction of integrated e-filing system;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is bringing a portal of integrated and processing centre-2.0 in this regard;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether this new system will come into effect from this financial year?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Funds allocated for agriculture

986. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds allocated for agriculture in the budget during the current year and under which head the said funds were allocated along with the amount of funds fixed as quota in this regard;
- (b) the details of the budget allocated for agriculture during each of the last three years, year-wise; and
- (c) whether the budget allocation regarding agriculture development is sufficient for development of agriculture sector, if not, the reasons therefor?

Rise in Government debt liability

987. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the status report on Government debt released recently, total liabilities of Government have increased upto 49 per cent during the last four and half years;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) the reasons for the same?

Reversion of employees to Old Pension Scheme

988. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether lakhs of Central and State Governments employees under NPS have courted arrest on 21st January, 2019 against Government's decision of non-reversion of NPS to Old Pension Scheme;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government would reconsider its decision and would revert the employees to Old Pension Scheme in view of courting arrest by employees on large scale;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the time-frame; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Income tax refunds

989. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of income tax compliance in the last three financial years;
- (b) the total amount of refunds made to the assesses in the last three years and in the current year;
- (c) how many returns are still pending for scrutiny and refund in the current financial year, as on 15th of January, 2019; and
- (d) the efforts made to expedite scrutiny of returns and make refunds for the middle class people?

Pension under Atal Pension Yojana

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

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present slabs of pension being distributed to senior citizens under Atal Pension Yojana;
- (b) the total number of subscribers under the scheme and the number added in the current year;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to increase the pension limit up to $\ref{10,000}$ and to increase the age limit;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has completed actuarial valuation of portfolios; and
- (f) by when the pensioners would get the additional benefits of increased pension, and the number of beneficiaries, the details thereof?

Converting SHCs and PHCs into Health and Wellness Centres

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

- (a) whether the objective of Government is to convert approximately 1.5 lakh Sub-Health Centres (SHCs) and Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs) into Health and Wellness Centres for providing holistic primary healthcare service of good quality throughout the country by 2022 while ensuring the principles of equality, universality and affordability;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) whether the progress made in this direction so far conforms to the target; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Upgradation of district hospitals with super-speciality medical treatment facilities

- 992. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any plan to upgrade the district hospitals in the country at par with privately-owned super speciality hospitals to make them affordable even for economically poor people; and
- (b) if not, how the economically poor people can avail the benefits of so much of advancement taken place in the field of medical science at district HQs level?

Guidelines on examination of rape victims

- 993. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there are any guidelines that the rape victims should be examined by qualified forensic pathologist to prevent denial of justice to the victims in view of lack of proper evidence;
- (b) whether any guidelines have been issued to avoid unnecessary visits of doctors in the court to submit evidence; and
- (c) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain India's forensic report and the percentage of conviction of the accused in rape cases?

Guidelines regarding re-use of medical devices

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

- (a) whether Government has issued any guidelines with regard to prohibiting the re-use of disposable medical items, like the same gloves being used for several patients, if so, the details thereof, including the list;
- (b) the number of cases registered against hospitals in last three years for such use and whether the affected patients have been reimbursed for the same;
- (c) whether there is any regulation on re-sterilization of such devices and of obtaining special consent from patients to permit use of such re-sterilized items; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure that cost saved by re-sterilization is passed on to the patients?

Monitoring of healthcare service provided under PPP mode

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that healthcare services under Public Private Partnership mode are being offered across the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has put in place any comprehensive policy to control/ regulate/monitor the private service providers entering into healthcare services;
 - (d) if so, details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, reasons therefor?

Cashless facility under PMJAY

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

- (a) whether the objective of Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana is to bring more than 10 crore poor and weak families under this Scheme by providing the coverage upto ₹ 5 lakh to each family every year for admission in secondary and tertiary hospitals;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana provides the paperless and cashless access to the beneficiaries during the services taken by them in the empanelled hospitals (both Government and private) throughout the country; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Non-implementation of reservation norms in UG medical college admissions

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

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the State Government of Andhra Pradesh is not implementing reservations for SCs, STs and OBCs in undergraduate medical college admissions conducted by NTR University of Health Sciences by violating GO No. 550 of 2001;
- (b) whether such action tantamounts to violation of reservation rights of SC, ST and OBC students; and
 - (c) if so, the manner in which

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Government will ensure that reservations are strictly followed in the undergraduate medical college admissions in Andhra Pradesh?

Swine Flu cases in Andhra Pradesh

- 998. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware of rapid increase in Swine Flu cases in Visakhapatnam, Kurnool, Chittoor etc., in Andhra Pradesh and also death of nearly 20 people;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the manner in which Government is helping the above districts and other districts in the State to contain Swine Flu?

Prevention of mortality from vectorborne diseases

- 999. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of deaths in the country, year-wise, for the last three years due to vector-borne diseases like dengue, chikungunya etc.;
- (b) whether any advanced research work is being carried out by Government to study the severity as well as possible treatments to prevent mortality in such cases: and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Medical colleges in Assam

1000. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to

strengthen the Medical Colleges and District General Hospitals in the State of Assam;

- (b) if so, the action taken by Government during the last three years;
- (c) whether Government proposes to extend financial assistance to existing medical colleges in the State and if so, the details of the financial assistance given during the aforementioned period;
- (d) whether Government had received a proposal from Government of Assam for the financial assistance to new medical colleges at Assam; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government in this regard?

Progress in implementation of Ayushman Bharat

- 1001. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the progress made in implementation of Ayushman Bharat Scheme; and
- (b) the targets fixed for implementation of the Scheme and progress made in achieving them?

Ban on FDC drugs

1002. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has banned several Fixed Dose Combination (FDC) drugs recently, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons which prompted Government for such action; and
- (c) whether efficacy of such drugs had been verified by any expert panel, if so, the details thereof?

Widening the scope for coverage under Ayushman Bharat Yojana

- †1003. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of patients who received treatment so far under the Ayushman Bharat Yojana and the amount spent by Government for the said purpose, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government has any plan to further widen the scope of this Scheme to cover more beneficiaries; and
- (c) if so, the categories of citizens to whom Government proposes to provide the benefits of this Scheme in future?

Research on medicinal benefits of rivers

- 1004. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government proposes to conduct a comprehensive research for establishing the medicinal benefits of rivers and related health impact on people in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the financial and operational modalities worked out for the purpose;
- (c) whether a study conducted by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi has found antibiotic medicines in the water of Yamuna river; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

Holding of dual posts by faculty member

- 1005. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is fact that as per rules of the Medical Council of India (MCI), a faculty member in a medical college cannot hold two administrative posts at the same time:
- (b) whether the post of Additional Medical Superintendent in Safdarjung Hostpial, New Delhi is a full time administrative post and accordingly an Additional MS has never been made Head of the Department;
- (c) whether an Additional MS has been made Head of the Department of Cardiology, Safdarjung Hospital, in contravention of laid down rules and norms; and
- (d) if so, corrective action proposed to be taken in the matter?

Postponement of Polio Immunization Day campaign

- 1006. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that National Immunization Days (NIDs) are mass campaigns during which doses of Oral Poliovirus Vaccine (OPV) are given to children under the age of five across the country; and
- (b) whether polio immunization day campaign has been postponed and if so, the reasons therefor?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Shortage of bivalent Oral Polio Vaccine in the country

- 1007. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details regarding the required quantity of bivalent Oral Polio Vaccine (bOPV) for each polio National Immunization Days (NIDs) programme;
- (b) the details of the current stock of BOPV with Government; and
- (c) whether there is any shortage of BOPV in the country, if so, reasons therefor?

Progress made under PMJAY

- 1008. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) has begun its implementation;
- (b) if so, the progress made under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), State-wise;
- (c) the details of allocation made under the Scheme, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of third-party administrators associated, State-wise?

Current status of family planning in India

- 1009. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the country has a higher replacement level fertility rate in comparison with global standard;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the details of the difference in replacement level fertility rates between urban and rural areas, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether funds allocation for family planning under the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) flexi-pool budget has been minuscule in last three years, if so, State/UT-wise details thereof and reasons therefor:
- (e) the measures taken by Government for family planning; and
- (f) the details of beneficiaries of family planning initiatives by Government in last three years, State/UT-wise?

Mass awareness programmes on measles and rubella

- 1010. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government had organised mass awareness programmes in various places including schools and educational institutions to bring awareness of rubella and measles:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the various vaccination and other related programmes Government has taken up for eradicating these diseases?

Fatalities form swine flu

- 1011. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of cases of deaths reported so far this year in various parts of the country due to swine flu and the number of cases which have been detected as positive, State-wise;

- (b) whether Government has adopted any new methods and taken concrete steps to curb this dreaded disease so as to save the lives of human beings; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Enforcement of Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010

- 1012. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of States and UTs that have enforced the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010;
- (b) the number of cases registered against medical practitioners and hospitals under this law, State-wise, in the States in which it is enforced;
- (c) the details of States that have enforced their own laws to ensure uniform standards in healthcare; and
- (d) the steps being taken to ensure uniform standards in private healthcare and tackle medical negligence?

Swine flu cases

- †1013. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether number of cases of swine flu (H1N1) have come to light recently, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the measures being taken/proposed to be taken by Government for its prevention;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to facilitiate for immediate

treatment to the patients of swine flu; and

(d) whether Government proposes to start any campaign to spread awareness among people and the steps being taken by Government for this?

Transforming SHCs and PHCs as Health and Wellness Centres

- 1014. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any plan to transform Sub-Health Centres (SHCs) and Primary Health Centres (PHCs) as Health and Wellness Centres;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps being taken for providing quality primary care close to the community; and
- (d) the total Health and Wellness Centres presently operational in the country?

Action against ill-equipped diagnostic centres

- 1015. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware about the mushrooming diagnostic centres in Maharashtra, the National Capital and other parts of the country, which are functioning without having requisite infrastructure and qualified staff;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action Government has taken or proposes to take against such mushrooming diagnostic centres in the country?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Misleading/false advertisements on food products

- 1016. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has noticed any trend of misleading advertisements by companies about their food products, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the extant penal provisions to check this trend and action taken during last three years against major food companies on this count; and
- (c) whether these provisions are sufficient to check the malpractice, if not, the steps Government proposes to take to strengthen the provisions in this regard?

Low spending out of GDP on health

- 1017. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the percentage of the GDP which has been spent on health during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government has achieved its target of spending 2.5 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on health as proposed under the National Healthcare Policy 2015; and
- (c) if not, the steps Government has taken to ensure at least 2.5 per cent of GDP is spent on health during the current year?

Involving private insurance companies in PMJAY

- 1018. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
 - (a) the rationale behind involving private

- insurance companies in the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY); and
- (b) the manner in which the bearings of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) are incorporated in PMJAY with reference to working with the private insurance companies?

Deciding of package rates for PMJAY

- 1019. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the manner in which the package rates for Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) were decided and the details thereof:
- (b) the data at the disposal of Government when it decided the package rates; and
- (c) the frequency at which these rates will be decided?

Food testing laboratories

- 1020. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of food testing laboratories across the country, State/UT-wise including Haryana and Punjab;
- (b) whether the present number of these laboratories are as per international standards and capable to meet the demand of industries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken by Government for modernisation of these laboratories and setting up new food testing laboratories in the country?

Healthcare facilities for migrant workers and nomadic tribes

- 1021. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the steps or provisions made for providing healthcare facilities to the migrant workers in Delhi and other metropolitan cities of the country;
- (b) the steps taken to ensure healthcare facilities to nomadic tribes whose number is no less than one and half million; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal to issue health cards to persons belonging to both the categories?

Mechanism to ban ENDS

- 1022. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is considering any mechanism to bean E-Cigarettes and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) in the country and if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether Government had issued advisory to States for introducing Vendor Licensing for sale of tobacco products; and
- (c) whether Government has received any compliance report from States in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

Measures to reduce neo-natal mortality rate

- 1023. 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 neo-natal mortality rate in the country is 25 per 1000 live births, as per the report of UNICEF;
 - (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any effective and concrete steps to reduce the current neo-natal mortality rate from existing 25 per 1000 live births to single digit neo-natal mortality rate; and
 - (d) if so, details thereof?

Eradication of Tuberculosis

- 1024. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRA-BUDDHE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that India has a target to eradicate Tuberculosis by 2025;
- (b) how does this target date compare with global targets;
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to achieve this target; and
- (d) whether Government is coordinating with the States in this regard?

Adulteration in fishery products

- 1025. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has taken note of large scale adulteration and use of hazardous chemicals in fish as a preservative to keep it a long time;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken against such practice by Government;
- (c) whether Government proposes to bring any effective mechanism to protect the eatables free from poison and chemicals;
 - (d) whether Government has taken note

of the request from Kerala to help the State Government to keep the fish trade in the State free of adulteration; and

(e) if so, the response of Government thereto?

Granting of "Fellow" status by National Academy of Medical Sciences

1026. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a practice of grant of "Fellow" status to doctors by the National Academy of Medical Sciences without following the extant guidelines in this regard; and
- (b) the details of number of grant of "Fellow" status in last three years in respect of General, SC, ST, OBC and women doctors, State-wise, particularly in Punjab?

Availability of large number of dialysis machines

- 1027. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) predicted an increase in kidney diseases due to increasing number of patients with diabetes and hypertension and increasing cases of acute kidney injury which may require huge number of dialysis machines in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any scheme to ensure availability of

adequate dialysis machines at all District Hospitals (DHs) across the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana

1028. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY);
- (b) the details of the number of beneficiaries reached through the PMJAY and funds spent for the same; and
- (c) whether there have been any concerns regarding private hospitals enrolling to provide care for beneficiaries under the PMJAY, if so, the details thereof?

Support for treating TB patients in private hospitals

1029. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the mechanisms/steps taken by Government to provide public health action (e.g. Contact Tracing, Direct Benefit Transfer) for TB patients under the private sector hospitals as their number is more than those in public sector;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to support TB/Drug-resistant TB patients to complete their treatment other than the free medicines; and
- (c) the budgetary allocation made to provide psycho-social and economic support to the TB patients under the private sector?

Engaging of analytics firms for fraud detection in PMJAY

- 1030. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Health Authority has engaged five analytics firms to detect fraud in the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the company which detects the most frauds over a six month period will get the job after a tendering process, if so, the details thereof?

Ayushman Bharat Yojana

- 1031. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has finalized the number of eligible beneficiaries for the Ayushman Bharat Yojana;
- (b) if so, the details of the number of beneficiaries, State-wise and district-wise;
- (c) whether Government has identified adequate number of hospitals under the scheme, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has taken steps to create awareness among people in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

Malnourished and stunted children

- 1032. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that nearly onethird of world's 150.8 million stunted children lived in India, as revealed by 2018 Global Nutrition Report recently;

- (b) whether it is also a fact that over 46 million children under five years of age in India are stunted due to malnutrition;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to curb malnurtrition and allied diseases like anaemia and stunting in the country; and
- (d) the number of deaths of children due to malnutrition in India since 2014, year-wise?

Rise in cases of autoimmune diseases

- 1033. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a rise in cases of autoimmune diseases in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has any statistics regarding the number of people suffering from autoimmune diseases in country, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any special programme or scheme to help the people with autoimmune diseases; and
- (d) whether Government is creating awareness among the public on the autoimmune diseases?

CGHS coverage for more cities

- 1034. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of retired Central Government pensioners who migrate to their native places/States suffer because of non-coverage of their places/cities by CGHS;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of cities which are CGHS covered so far, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the action taken by Government to cover more cities under CGHS, State-wise?

Report on laws related to post-mortem examination

1035. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Law Commission of India has been asked to prepare a report on laws related to post-mortem examination or autopsy in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the status of the afore-mentioned report?

States refraining from adopting Ayushman Bharat Yojana

1036. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: DR. BANDA PRAKASH:

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

- (a) whether certain State Governments have refrained from adopting the Ayushman Bharat Yojana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps Government is taking to convince those States of the benefits of the scheme and bring them on board?

AIIMS-like institute at Haryana

†1037. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal has been received from the State Government of Haryana to

set up new AIIMS at Manethi in Rewari District of the State;

- (b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the State Government of Haryana has already acquired land for the new AIIMS and the details of points highlighted by the State Government in support of the proposal as standards for the new AIIMS; and
- (d) the number of new AIIMS proposed in the country including Uttar Pradesh and the status thereof?

Containing dengue

1038. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has been able to contain dengue cases in the country;
- (b) whether any survey has been conducted by Government as to which part of the country is affected most, the reasons for so and the details thereof; and
- (c) the action Government has initiated to make people aware of dengue cases and preventive measures thereof and the details thereof?

Increase in cancer cases

1039. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the most prevalent types of cancer found in the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there is an increase of 16 per cent in cancer cases in the country since 2012;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) the efforts being made by ICMR, National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research and Government to control and contain spread of cancer in the country;
- (d) whether there is a reduction in cases of cervical cancer in the country when compared to other types of cancer; and
- (e) if so, the manner in which Government would replicate the approach to cervical cancer to other types of cancer?

Ayushman Bharat Scheme

- 1040. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of rates that insurance companies would pay hospitals for the 1,350 procedures covered under the scheme;
- (b) whether there is a clash between Government and hospitals over the rate that insurance companies would pay to hospitals under the scheme or not; and
- (c) if so, the steps Government has taken in order to overcome the issue?

Increasing the remuneration of ASHA workers

- †1041. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of ASHA workers engaged in Maharashtra;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps to increase the remuneration of ASHA workers for their inspection visits and other duties being performed by them; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Shortage of pharmacists with wellness centres of CGHS

- 1042. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has prescribed any service rules for pharmacists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of patients they have to attend in a day, particularly when the senior citizens are present in large number in queue and when their official duty time is likely to get over;
- (c) whether Government is aware that many wellness centres of CGHS are facing shortage of staff including pharmacists particularly in Wellness Centre, CGHS Rohini, Delhi; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by Government to provide adequate staff, particularly pharmacist, in Wellness Centre, Rohini, Delhi?

Proposal for setting up medical college at Dausa, Rajasthan

- †1043. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to open about 82 new medical colleges in the country, if so, the Statewise numbers and timeline for these colleges:
- (b) whether it is also a fact that a memorandum was submitted to the Prime Minister's Office to set up a medical college in Dausa district of Rajasthan, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government intends to open a medical college in Dausa, Rajasthan, if so, by when?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Engaging small scale medical equipment suppliers in Government hospitals

- 1044. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any mechanism to engage small scale medical equipment suppliers to be accommodated in Government hospital requirements;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of the concerned department and nodal officer along with the entire mechanism regarding the same?

Ayushman Bharat Programme

- 1045. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has launched its ambitious healthcare scheme Jan Arogya Abhiyan or Ayushman Bharat Programme recently, if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether some of the prices of medical services to be given to people are very less and are negligible in comparison with present day rates, and private hospitals have expressed their unwillingness to accept such low rates, if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether any request from IMA and other private hospitals have been received to review the prices, if so, details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to take care of these apprehensions and make modifications accordingly?

Total budget allocated and spent for FP

1046. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the break-up of the total budget allocated to the Family Planning (FP) components under National Health Mission (NHM), namely Terminal methods, Spacing methods, Training, Procurement of equipment, Information Education Communication/Behaviour change and communication, and ASHA incentives in the year 2017-18 State-wise; and
- (b) the break-up of the total budget expenditure on the Family Planning components under NHM, namely Terminal methods, Spacing methods, Training, Procurement of equipment, Information Education Communication/Behaviour change and communication and ASHA incentives for the same period State-wise?

Budget allocation for Family Planning

1047. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the budget line item and activity-wise break-up of the 7.4 per cent of the National Health Mission (NHM) budget which was allocated to Family Planning (FP) in 2017-18; and
- (b) the budget allocated to the Family Planning and its budget-line items in absolute numbers?

Status of health workers

1048. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Anganwadi workers and helpers in the country at present, the details thereof State-wise;
- (b) the total number of ASHA workers in the country at present, the details thereof State-wise:
- (c) whether Government is aware of the recommendations of the 45th Session of Indian Labour Conference regarding basic minimum wage and regular employment of health workers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Distribution of modern methods of contraception

- 1049. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state.
- (a) the types of contraception available which are approved by Government, their percentage of usage, State-wise, in the last three years:
- (b) the method and extent of distribution of modern contraceptives "Chhaya", "Injectable Contraceptive-MPA" and "POP-Progesterone Only Pill", State-wise, since their launch;
- (c) the reasons why modern contraceptive usage is very low in India;
- (d) whether any study or survey has been undertaken by Government to understand the reasons why modern contraceptive penetration is low in India, and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to increase the usage of modern contraceptives?

Demand for setting up AIIMS at Varanasi, U.P.

1050. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that a number of people including few doctors are sitting on indefinite hunger strike for setting up of AIIMS at Varanasi, to cater to the people of eastern UP, Western Bihar and Nepal in view of the overcrowded IMS, BHU;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and response of Government thereto;
- (c) whether Government would set up AIIMS at Varanasi; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

People benefited under PMJAY

1051. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

- (a) the number of poor people who have taken advantage of the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) as health insurance scheme in the last four months, State-wise:
- (b) the number of hospitals empanelled under the scheme;

- (c) whether there was any restriction in some States that the hospitals should have accreditation of NABH, if so, the details thereof: and
- (d) the steps taken to broad-base the scheme in the rural areas and to include more hospitals under this scheme, for the poor people?

Bridging healthcare divide between rural-urban areas

1052. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

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

- (a) whether healthcare in the rural areas of the country is very poor despite several efforts made by Government;
- (b) if so, the details of steps taken to address the problems of rural healthcare sector in rural areas of the country;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to draw a long term perspective plan to address the prevailing inequalities in the rural health sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating programmes/schemes being implemented/ proposed to be implemented by Government to reduce rural-urban gap in access to quality healthcare and advanced treatment and diagnostic facilities in the country?

Registration by ineligible people for Ayushman Bharat

†1053. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV: SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that names of rich and influential people have been registered under "Ayushman Bharat Yojana" as its beneficiaries;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken at the level of Government to tackle such discrepancies so that the scheme may reach to the intended people and those people who are not entitled may remain out of it?

Physiotherapists in Government Hospitals

1054. SHRI RAM NATH
THAKUR:
SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of physiotherapists working in each hospital/institution under the Ministry all over India including autonomous organisations;
- (b) the promotional hierarchy, pay and allowances extended to them;
- (c) when the cadre was formed, and restructuring done till date;
- (d) if cadre restructure has been done, whether physiotherapists are involved with equal opportunity or not, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) if involved, whether their views were considered or not, if not, the reasons therefor?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Nai Manzil scheme

- 1055. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the beneficiaries of Nai Manzil scheme till date, religious community-wise and State/UT-wise;
- (b) the details of the fund allocated, released and utilised by the Government under the Nai Manzil scheme till date, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) the details of the proposals received from project implementing agencies for the scheme till date, State/UT-wise?

Educational advancement of religious minorities in Tamil Nadu

- 1056. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the steps taken by Government in the last three years and current year to ensure an increase in educational and employment opportunities for religious minorities in the State of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether Government provides any scholarship for minority students till the university level; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

USTTAD Scheme

- 1057. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has taken any action to ensure implementation of the USTTAD Scheme to upgrade skills and training in traditional arts and crafts for development of minorities;

- (b) if so, the details of the funds allocated and utilised in Tamil Nadu; and
- (c) whether Government has set up any mechanism to monitor the utilisation of these funds by the State Governments and if so, the details thereof?

Insufficient budget provisions for minorities

- 1058. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that only 0.49 per cent of the total 2016-17 Budget had been earmarked for the development of minorities despite the fact that religious minorities constitute 21 per cent of total population as per Census 2011; and
- (b) whether the total expenditure reported for minorities by Centre through 15 point programme and MSDP (Multi-Sectoral Development Programme) has shown a declining trend since 2012-13?

Leadership development of young boys from minority communities

- 1059. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether amount sanctioned under Nai Roshni Scheme has not been utilised in 2017-18:
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has devised any scheme for leadership development of young boys belonging to minority communities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Impact of Nai Roshni on minority women

1060. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRA-BUDDHE: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) number of minority women who have been trained under the Nai Roshni scheme for leadership development since 2015:
- (b) funds that have been disbursed under the scheme so far:
- (c) whether it is a fact that now Indian women can go for Haj pilgrimage without a male guardian; and
- (d) other steps that are being taken by Ministry to uplift the condition of minority women in India?

Solar energy generation in Twelfth and Thirteenth Plan periods

- 1061. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the target set and achievement made in the field of solar energy generation during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period;
- (b) the target fixed for the Thirteenth Five Year Plan and the steps being taken by Government for achieving the target during the Plan;
- (c) the funds released and spent by each State during the Twelfth Five Year Plan; and
- (d) the expenditure likely to be incurred to promote and popularise the solar energy in the country during the current financial year?

Central and State projects in renewable energy sector

1062. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Central and State Government projects in the renewable energy sector and the companies which have been given the projects, in the last three years:
- (b) whether it is a fact that small companies have been unsuccessful in winning the power project auctions and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if so, the steps Government plans to take to resist dominance of large players and give fair opportunities to small companies in the renewable energy sector?

Subsidy for installation of solar light

- †1063. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any provision made by Government of India for a citizen to get a subsidy for installation of the solar light run by solar energy for domestic use or for the purpose of a private institute;
 - (b) if so, the percentage of subsidy; and
- (c) the details of the complete process to get the said subsidy?

Replacement of battery of solar street lights

1064. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

solar street lights provided under various Government schemes become useless after 3-4 years because of loss of battery life;

- (b) whether Government has any plan to replace batteries after their shelf life expire, to make them workable for longer duration; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Research on tidal power

- 1065. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is undertaking any research/study to generate electricity from the tidal waves in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is planning to set up new project in the country to fulfill the demands of electricity from the tidal waves;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Energy generation from biomass

1066. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has a flagship programme for setting up plants for converting biomass to electricity;
- (b) whether such plants are currently operational in any part of India; and
- (c) whether there exists a plan to improve and enable such plants so that they can substantially contribute to the grid?

Measures to popularise roof top solar power system

1067. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that despite the efforts made by Government, roof top solar system has not done well in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government has studied or proposes to study the reasons behind this scenario; and
- (c) the concrete efforts Government proposes to make to popularise roof top solar system in the country?

Status of solar power generation plants in Karnataka

1068. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has set a target of 100 GW of solar power generation capacity by 2022, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise:
- (b) the details of new plants that are going to be set up;
- (c) the details of all efforts made by Government to encourage the States for using solar energy;
- (d) whether Government has considered generation of electricity through solar medium in the vast desert area of the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the current status of setting up of solar power generation plants in Karnataka, the details thereof along with the funds provided for the same?

Installed capacity of various renewable modes of energy

1069. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the present installed capacity of various types of renewable energy in the country;
- (b) the installed capacity of solar, bio, wind and small hydro power projects, State-wise; and
- (c) the amount released to States for taking up schemes under renewable energy programme?

Floating solar plants in India

1070. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Ministry has studied the new concept of "floating solar plants" in the country, the first one being set up in Banasura Sagar Reservoir in Kerala;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government is mandating CPSUs to invest in solar power, if possible, on floating solar plants;
- (c) the advantages of floating solar plants and in what manner can they be compared with conventional solar farms; and
- (d) whether Government has carried out any study of how floating solar farms are working in China and Japan?

KUSUM scheme

- 1071. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government has formulated and rolled out the Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthaan Mahaabhiyan (KUSUM) scheme to promote the use of solar power among farmers and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the expected timeline by which the KUSUM scheme is likely to be formulated and rolled-out;
- (c) the number of solar pumps and solar power plants that are proposed to be provided/established under the KUSUM scheme, State-wise; and
- (d) the expected/actual budget allocated towards the KUSUM scheme, over the next five years, from the State and Central Budgets, particularly the Central Financial Assistance required?

CSR expenditure by power sector PSUs

- 1072. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:
- (a) total amount spent by the Power PSUs under their CSR funds in North East India during the last three financial years;
- (b) the total amount spent by the Power PSUs under their CSR funds all over India and details, State-wise and PSU-wise, thereof:
- (c) the details of activities in which the Power PSUs spend their CSR funds in North East India; and

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi

(d) whether Government has given any directive to the Power PSUs to spend more funds for the States of North East and if not reasons therefor?

Initiatives for electricity conservation

- 1073. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has taken any steps for electricity conservation in day to day domestic and public usage and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps to regulate standards on energy efficiency of electric goods and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has any programme/scheme for providing benefits to citizens in return for conservation and efficient usage of electricity and if so, the details thereof?

Expansion of Ramayan circuit

- †1074. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the Government's scheme to expand the Ramayan circuit;
- (b) whether any new places of Bihar have been included under the expansion of this circuit including Buxar; and
- (c) the details of the schemes adopted for the development/expansion of the pilgrimages related to Lord Ram under the Ramayan circuit and the details of the funds allocated under this head?

Promotion of tourism in NCT of Delhi

1075. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is decrease in number of tourists in NCT of Delhi in last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken any initiative for promoting tourism in NCT of Delhi area; and
- (d) if so, details of amount sanctioned and expenditure incurred in last three years?

Financial assistance to Uttar Pradesh for Kumbh Mela

- 1076. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has provided Central financial assistance to Uttar Pradesh to make necessary arrangements for the Kumbh Mela which will attract millions of people; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

Tourist sites in Gujarat

- †1077. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) the places of tourist interest in districts of Gujarat;
- (b) the facilities provided by the Central Government, so that, tourists could access these places of tourist interest; and

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the amount allocated for these monumental sites during the last three years and the amount utilised, the details thereof, site-wise?

Heli-tourism in Karnataka

1078. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government introduced helicopter services for providing Helitourism in Karnataka State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the locations in Karnataka where it has been provided; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by when the said helicopter services for promoting tourism in Karnataka State will be set up?

Financial allocation for new tourist places

- †1079. MS SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) whether new tourist places have been identified in the country in the last three years;
- (b) if so, the State-wise names of these tourist destinations;
- (c) whether Government has made any financial allocation to develop these tourist destinations; and
 - (d) if so, the quantum of allocation made

and the time period set as target to spend this amount?

Funds for tourism infrastructure reconstruction in Kerala

1080. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any special package or assistance to Kerala has been provided for the reconstruction of tourism infrastructure damaged by flood; and
- (b) if so, the details of concrete steps taken and the funds earmarked?

Identification and development of new tourist spots

- 1081. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has taken steps to identify new tourists spots in the country during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of new tourist spots added during the said period, State-wise;
- (c) the number of tourist spots in the country as on date, along with the number of new places being developed by the Government to boost tourism; and
- (d) the possibility of increase in tourists and revenue from these newly developed tourist spots?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Development of sea beaches for tourism

1082. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the seashores in different parts of the country which are

being developed as sea beaches for tourism purposes;

- (b) whether any steps are being taken by Government to improve the condition of the sea beaches in different parts of the country;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

New Delhi; <u>The 6th February, 2019</u> <u>Magha 17, 1940 (Saka)</u> DESH DEEPAK VERMA, Secretary-General.

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