

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Monday, July 15, 2019/Ashadha 24, 1941 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 160

#### Allotment of coal blocks

†2374. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH:  
Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal for allotment of land for the dump area of M/s Sasan Power Limited, Mohan Amal Extension Coal Block has been received from Madhya Pradesh Government;

(b) if so, the reason for not granting permission for land use till date; and

(c) by when land will be made available?

#### Enhancement of royalty on coal

2375. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the study group constituted by the Ministry to consider revision of rates on royalty submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, whether Government is

considering enhancement of royalty on coal; and

(c) by when the decision of enhancement of the rate of royalty on coal is expected to be taken by Government?

#### Pilferage from coal mines

2376. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any information on the cases of pilferage from coal mines in the country and if so, details thereof; and

(b) details of action plan of Government to stop this pilferage?

#### Reduction of import of coal

†2377. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

is seriously contemplating on reducing the import of coking coal;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any effective steps in this regard so far; and

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

#### **Safety audit of coal mines**

2378. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted safety audit of all coal mines across the country including the mines of Neyveli Lignite Corporation in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any deficiencies were identified and pointed out to the concerned authorities to rectify the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Environment friendly procedure for coal mining**

2379. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Green Tribunal (NGT) has passed many orders relating to coal mining in the country regarding unscientific/obsolete method of mining, with a view to protect environment;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government has adopted any environment friendly coal mining procedure across its mines spread over the country;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

#### **Death of workers in SECL**

†2380. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints of illegal coal mining in various parts of Chhattisgarh and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the action taken by Government in this regard;

(c) the number of deaths of workers in the coal mines of South Eastern Coalfield Limited (SECL) during last three years;

(d) whether Government has taken any steps for improvement of working conditions of coal mining workers; and

(e) if so, the effect of these steps on the health of workers and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Terrorist attacks in the country**

2381. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of terrorist attacks reported in the country in the past two years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of terrorists killed during the said period, year-wise; and

(c) the number of Indian soldiers martyred in these attacks during the said period, year-wise?

#### **Re-fixation of pension under OROP**

2382. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRA-SEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the letter from Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) dated 5th April, 2019 that

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

seeks clarification on Notification 12 (1)2014/D (Pen/Pol)-Part II dated 7th November, 2015 on re-fixation of pension under One Rank One Pension (OROP);

(b) steps taken by Government on the queries raised in the letter from CGDA; and

(c) whether Government will implement re-fixation of pension under OROP on 1st July, 2019 as per notification dated 7th November, 2015?

#### **Defence industrial corridors**

†2383. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working towards establishment of the Defence corridors for the manufacturing of defence equipments in the country;

(b) if so, the details of States, where the Government proposes to establish said corridors;

(c) the estimated expenditure to incur on establishment of these corridors;

(d) whether Government has made any efforts in this regard during last three years; and

(e) whether Government proposes to set up at least three corridors in Uttar Pradesh, in view of its backwardness, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Establishment of ordnance factories**

†2384. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in percentage of the participation of women in defence forces during last three years;

(b) the number of ordnance factories established in the country before the year 2014 and the details of arms and ammunition being manufactured for the defence forces by them;

(c) the number of ordnance factories established in the country after the year 2014 and details of arms and ammunition being manufactured for the defence forces there; and

(d) the details of arms and ammunition slated to be manufactured by year 2025 which would make country's defence far more stronger?

#### **Proposal to relocate HQ Army Training Command**

2385. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to relocate HQ Army Training Command based in Shimla to Meerut;

(b) if so, when was this decision taken and at what level;

(c) the rationale behind the move;

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(e) whether serving officers and employees of the Army Training Command at Shimla have represented against this move; and

(f) whether Government will reconsider shifting this to Meerut in view of exorbitant expenditure involved?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Upgradation of AN-32 transport Aircrafts**

2386. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Air Force's (IAF's) AN-32 military transport aircrafts have been upgraded with airframe strengthening, advance avionics and radars and also suffer from poor serviceability, shortage of spares and overhauls, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of AN-32 aircrafts with the IAF at present and whether the aircrafts have outlived the operational life, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to constitute a high level Committee to go into the causes of AN-32 mishap with a timeline, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Challenges faced by jawans at Siachen Glacier**

2387. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of challenges faced by the jawans posted in the Siachen glacier; and

(b) whether some of the challenges, which came to light with the visit of a high ranking person, in that area have been taken care of, to the satisfaction of jawans, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Encroachment of defence land**

2388. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a lot of defence land has been encroached in various States;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken to free this land from encroachers, State-wise?

**Seizure of narcotics by Coast Guards**

†2389. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coast Guards have seized narcotics from a Pakistani boat inside Indian maritime border in Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any action in this matter so far; and

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

**Separate recruitment of women in the armed forces**

2390. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to make women eligible for permanent careers in all the branches of the Army;

(b) whether Government proposes to hold separate recruitment of women in all the wings of Defence forces; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Privatisation of BEML, Kerala**

2391. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to privatise the Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML), if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government is aware of the nationwide protest from all sections against this move, if so, explanation of Government for the concerns raised in the protests;

(c) whether the Centre received proposal from the Kerala Government that it is ready to take over BEML, Palakkad plant and operate it as a PSU; and

(d) the view of Government on this proposal from Kerala Government and status thereof?

#### **India's defence expenditure**

2392. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated under the capital expenditure and revenue expenditure heads of the defence budget for the last three years;

(b) the details of unutilised funds under the capital expenditure and revenue expenditure heads of the defence budget for the last three years; and

(c) reasons for the non-utilisation of these funds and steps being taken to avoid inefficient budgetary planning by the Ministry?

#### **Transportation along with the China border**

†2393. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is a huge problem of transportation due to lack of road networks in the territorial region adjoining China, especially, there is no facility to transport Army and

Military equipments at the time of Military exigencies;

(b) if so, whether Government would undertake road construction in border areas on priority basis; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Proposal to set up Defence Industrial Corridor in Salem, Tamil Nadu**

2394. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to set up Defence Industrial Corridor in Salem in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the status of the project; and

(c) by when the corridor is likely to come up?

#### **Land procurement for proposed defence cluster**

2395. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Tamil Nadu has sought re-conveying unutilised land of 1400 acres in the possession of Salem Steel Plant for setting up Defence Industrial Cluster;

(b) if so, the steps taken to re-convey the land in larger public interest; and

(c) if so, by when Government is expected to re-convey the land for setting up Defence Industrial Cluster?

#### **Encouraging research for smaller companies in Defence Projects**

2396. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government has any proposal to simplify rules for smaller Indian Companies to enable them to take part in military projects with a view to leveraging research and innovation;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the other measures being taken by Government to encourage new Companies to undertake research projects to develop or upgrade weapon systems and to work towards reducing imports?

#### **Compliance of reservation system in Army schools**

†2397. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether equal reservation rules are not being followed *vide* Para (c) of Article 16(4A) of the Indian Constitution in the reservation system for admission of children in Army schools operating in States which come under VIth Schedule of Indian Constitution due to which the opportunities of people belonging to deprived communities are being wasted;

(b) if so, reasons therefor and steps to be taken by Ministry to ensure compliance of reservation in Army School, Ambikapur; and

(c) whether OBCs registered under State and Central list are being given reservation in admission in Army schools, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Establishment of AQI monitoring stations**

2398. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND

CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up National Air Quality Index (AQI) monitoring stations in all the major cities/towns of all the States and Union Territories and if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has planned to establish more AQI monitoring centres in all major cities and towns across India and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of funds allocated by Government during the last three years for the establishment of such monitoring stations?

#### **Air pollution in the country**

2399. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) details of increase in air pollution in India in comparison with global scenario;

(b) effects of air pollution on human health specially in metropolitan cities; and

(c) details of steps to be taken to control the air pollution?

#### **Allocation of funds for various schemes**

2400. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated/released/spent and remaining under various schemes during the last three years, State-wise;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether the funds released are sufficient for early completion of various projects under the schemes; and

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

**Satellite Town Ring Road across Bannerghatta National Park**

2401. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has accorded Terms of Reference for the Satellite Town Ring Road around Bengaluru city;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the Satellite Town Ring Road will cut across any area of Bannerghatta National Park or its proposed Eco-Sensitive Zone; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

**Financial assistance to States for prevention of forest fires**

2402. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is rampant increase in incidents of forest fires in the country;

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

(c) whether Government has extended financial assistance to the States for prevention of forest fires and management of the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Forest fires in the country**

†2403. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of forest fire incidents in the country during the last three years;

(b) the details of the damage done to forest property as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to prevent the incidents of forest fires?

**Hazards of air pollution**

2404. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether data on deaths due to air pollution is available, State-wise, year-wise during last three years, if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) details of action taken to tackle factors causing air pollution like industrial waste, CO<sub>2</sub> emission from cars, State-wise, year-wise during last three years and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) details of assessment made to understand about regions most susceptible geographically to hazards of air pollution and measures taken to counter it, during last three years, State-wise details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) budget allocated to make efforts for reduction of air pollution and if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Dumping of plastic waste into water bodies**

†2405. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that twenty major economies of the world have agreed on a deal to reduce the quantum of the plastic waste being dumped into the sea and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the quantum of plastic waste that is dumped into the sea, rivers, drainage, dumping yards and landfills or being burnt respectively, in the country; and

(c) the total landfill area used for disposal of plastic waste, so far and the area therefrom turning unsuitable for cultivation and the impact thereof on agriculture and environment?

**Air pollution due to particulate matter**

†2406. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:  
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi was the most air polluted city in terms of Particulate Matter (PM) during three months of this year due to which people of Delhi had to suffer health related loss;

(b) the steps being taken by the Ministry to control air pollution in the Metropolitan cities of the country and the effect thereof; and

(c) the extent of effect of polluted air in terms of Particulate Matter (PM) on human body?

**Changes in rain cycle**

†2407. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:  
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:  
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

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

(a) whether any study has been conducted on the changes in rain cycle during the last decade due to climate change to ascertain the extent of reduction in rainfall and its effects;

(b) the details of the areas affected due to changes in rain cycle in the last decade and the steps taken by the Ministry to resolve this; and

(c) the details of the steps taken to provide accurate forecast related to changes in rain cycle to farmers and common people?

**Rise in air pollution levels**

†2408. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that air pollution level is on the rise in big cities of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith names of cities which have recorded highest level of air pollution during the last three years; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(c) if not, steps being taken by Government to reduce air pollution levels?

**Violation of E-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011**

2409. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment to identify the e-waste generated annually by each State in the country and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the number of recyclers/authorized dealers of e-waste in each State of the country;

(c) whether the cases of violation of E-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 by recyclers/authorized dealers have come to the notice of Government since the said Rules came into force and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

**Forest fires**

2410. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) the number of forest fires which happened in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether any investigation was made and action suggested to prevent such fires;

(c) the quantum of loss of the forest ecosystem, diversity of flora and fauna and economic wealth, due to such forest fires;

(d) whether there is lackadaisical approach in preventing and tackling the forest fires; and

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

**Environmental clearance to Mekedatu dam project**

2411. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given environmental clearance to Mekedatu project of Government of Karnataka to construct a dam across the river Cauvery;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had considered all aspects including the final verdict of Cauvery Water Tribunal before granting environmental clearance to this project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Plantation drive in 2019**

†2412. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the density of forest cover and green belt existing in the country in post-independence era, and the number of trees added through plantation drives in the forest area, the State-wise and year-wise details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the measures undertaken to promote plantation, preservation and irrigation and the expenditure incurred on plantation corresponding to the target fixed, in this regard, during the rainy season and thereafter, in the year 2019, the State-wise details thereof, including the State of Madhya Pradesh?

#### **Decreasing pollution in rivers**

†2413. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy in place for protecting rivers from getting polluted and the measures taken therefor;

(b) the names of the pollution free, as well as polluted rivers in Madhya Pradesh out of the 20 major rivers in the State and the measures taken to protect these rivers from getting polluted; and

(c) details of the rivers which have water flowing in them throughout the year and those have water flowing in them until the month of March?

#### **Lapses in the EIA study for infrastructure of power projects**

2414. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any serious lapses in the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) study conducted for infrastructure of power projects have been noticed during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) name of the organisations which conducted the aforesaid studies in which serious lapses occurred;

(d) whether any specific step has been taken to avoid such lapses in future and to make the organisations which conducted the EIA accountable towards environmental norms; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Commitment of India at WSDS**

2415. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) commitment of India at World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) to protect the environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

#### **Pollution in Delhi**

2416. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pollution has become very alarming in Delhi;

(b) if so, proposals of Government to tackle this alarming pollution;

(c) the percentage of green cover in Delhi and whether the percentage of green cover has decreased or increased during the last three years and the plans of Government to increase the green cover in Delhi; and

(d) proposal of Government to tackle the water pollution in the capital?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

#### **Pollution due to e-waste**

†2417. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total e-waste generated in the country during the last three years;

(b) the details of the e-waste recycled from the total e-waste;

(c) whether e-waste is the reason behind rising pollution in the country, especially in metropolitan cities and people are also becoming vulnerable to lung cancer as a result of this;

(d) whether it is a fact that e-waste is being imported in the country from developed countries;

(e) if so, steps taken by Government to stop this; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Climate Justice and Climate Change**

†2418. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in his address in United Nations on 26 September, 2015, Prime Minister had talked about Climate Justice along with Climate Change;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether policy measures have been taken towards realising the concept of Climate Justice at national and international level, and whether the concept of Climate Justice is taking shape as envisaged; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Assessment of harm caused by pollution**

†2419. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government assesses the harm caused by pollution emanating from development projects on regular basis and whether development projects are approved only on the basis of such assessment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Danger posed by Ghazipur landfill**

2420. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Ghazipur dumpyard has grown to approximately 65 metres in height, way beyond its maximum capacity, which was crossed in 2002;

(b) if so, reasons that no step is being taken to close the same;

(c) whether red warning lights will be put on the dump to alert passing jets if there are no immediate plans to prevent further dumping at the site, as directed by Supreme Court in 2018; and

(d) steps being taken to prevent any collapse as had occurred in 2018 in view of the approaching rainy season?

#### **Rapid decline of riverine fisheries**

2421. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

with declining health of rivers, riverine fisheries are declining and collapsing rapidly;

(b) whether the Ministry has taken cognisance of the fact that riverine fisheries are very crucial component in livelihood and nutritional security of the rural poor; and

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

#### **Land degradation and desertification**

2422. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether land degradation and desertification are causing serious problems to the country's land map;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) measures being contemplated by Government to tackle the situation?

#### **Increase in forest area**

2423. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where the forest area has increased during each of the last three years; and

(b) steps taken to increase the forest area in the Southern States?

#### **Rehabilitation of villages under CAMPA**

2424. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh relating to special grant for rehabilitation of villages in protected areas under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) funds; and

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

#### **Shelf life of bottled water**

†2425. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any study on the effect of plastic bottles for bottled water on environment, human health and diseases borne by them and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) shelf life of bottled water with respect to Indian climate, the details thereof?

#### **Pollution of surface and ground water**

2426. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of increase in surface water and ground water, category-wise, during the last three years;

(b) the measures Government is taking to reduce pollution of water bodies; and

(c) the measures Government is taking to reduce the pollution especially from industrial discharge and dumping of solid waste?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Destruction of mangrove trees due to  
Bullet Train Project**

2427. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Bullet Train Project will cost the destruction of 54,000 Mangrove trees;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) if so, the number of hectares of mangrove that will be affected;
- (d) whether there will be an impact on the environment; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Effect of climate change on crops**

2428. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a study in United States of America (USA) has shown that climate change affects five major crops of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to protect such major and other crops from climate change; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Plantation for combating Green  
House Gases**

2429. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state the details of the alternative tree plantation done to combat the ill effects of the emission of Carbon Dioxide and

other "Green House Gases" and the details of the policy framed by Government and the steps taken by the Ministry in this regard during the last three years?

**CPSEs established in West Bengal**

2430. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) established in West Bengal till date;
- (b) whether Government has identified land for disposal, regarding those CPSEs that have been earmarked for closure;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the guidelines issued for disposal of land and the current status of the same;
- (d) the details regarding proceeds realised from disposal of assets of such CPSEs; and
- (e) the other new initiatives taken by Government for CPSEs during the last three years?

**Adoption of hybrid and electric  
vehicles**

2431. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of personal vehicles which are hybrid or electric, currently in use, State-wise; and
- (b) the steps being taken to promote adoption of hybrid and electric vehicles among public?

### **Reducing stake in PSUs**

2432. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to reduce its stake in various PSUs such as NTPC, Power Grid Corporation and BHEL; and

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

### **Performance of loss making PSUs**

2433. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh initiatives have been taken by Government for improving the performance of loss making Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs);

(b) whether there is any plan for better or alternate utilization of excess employees in many of these PSUs;

(c) whether there are any attempts to bring down the component of wasteful or avoidable expenditure in these PSUs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Promotion and availability of electrical vehicles**

2434. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the updated data on the promotion and availability of electrical vehicles, particularly for public transportation;

(b) the number of these vehicles which are fully electric like buses and places where are they being used across the country;

(c) whether payment based charging kiosk can be installed to ease the mobility and reduce dependence on petrol/diesel vehicles; and

(d) if so, city-wise details thereof?

### **Formula of creamy layer in PSUs**

2435. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any representation alleging discrimination against OBC employees working in PSUs over calculation formula of creamy layer in the country;

(b) if so, the detail of complaints received so far therein;

(c) Government's policy and decision applied during the last three years to determine creamy layer formula therefor; and

(d) reason behind in not applying uniform formula in calculating PSU creamy layer row thereof?

### **FM/commercial radio by linguistic minorities**

2436. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to give concession/exemption to linguistic minorities for starting FM/commercial radio in metro cities;

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

#### **Increase in price of TV channels**

2437. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the wake of TRAI ushering in a changed tariff regime making pricing of TV channels low and transparent, complaints have been pouring in, alleging that the rates have actually gone up with all round confusion on faulty implementation of the scheme;

(b) whether a Crisil rating agency report says that after the new order came into force on 1st February, 2019, bill amount of most cable TV and DTH subscribers has increased;

(c) whether the TRAI is floating a new consultation paper to find where the scheme went wrong and to rectify the shortcomings in the implementation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Plantation of trees in Ganga basin**

†2438. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Government to make Ganga clean during last three years;

(b) whether Government is planning to plant trees in basin areas of Ganga; and

(c) if so, the places where these trees would be planted and by when and the amount that would be spent?

#### **Cleaning of Yamuna river**

†2439. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan for cleaning of Yamuna river;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Award of Polavaram work on nomination basis**

2440. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has awarded contracts worth crores of rupees after due process on nomination basis in each components of Polavaram viz. Head works, LMC and RMC by removing the Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of works given to other contractors on nomination basis and their value, in each component of Polavaram?

#### **Central Assistance in National Irrigation Projects**

2441. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the irrigation projects declared as National Projects are getting 90 per cent of the project cost as grant from the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, Government's commitment on the Irrigation Projects declared as National Projects; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) reasons as to why Polavaram Project is not being treated at par with other National Projects and granted 90 per cent cost of the Project, as grant by Government and the reasons for deciding that Government will bear only project cost at 2013-14 Price Level?

**Funds spent for cleaning of Ganga river**

2442. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Government under Clean Ganga Mission as on date; and

(b) the data on levels of contamination at the time of inception of mission and at present, at various testing spots?

**Water crisis in the country**

2443. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian States are grappling with water crisis, with the depletion of aquifers especially in Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether half of the ground water in country is contaminated, causing various water borne diseases among its population;

(d) whether Government has identified the dark zones and prepared a model legislation for Conservation, Protection, Regulation and Management of Ground Water in the country, especially in Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh; and

(e) the details of other measures taken by Government for conservation and augmentation of the ground water level in almost all the States/UTs in the country?

**Testing for drinking water contamination**

2444. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any regular programme to test contamination of drinking water to provide safe drinking water;

(b) if so, number of samples tested during the last two years, State-wise;

(c) the number of samples found contaminated and unsafe for drinking, State-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Use of groundwater for irrigation**

2445. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that 80 per cent of groundwater is being used for irrigation of crops;

(b) if so, whether Government has any plan to make judicious use of groundwater for irrigation by adopting new technology to save precious water;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Release of funds to Odisha for drinking water**

2446. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) by when funds for the year 2019-20 is going to be released against the Annual Action Plan submitted by Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department of Odisha to Central Government;



(b) whether more funds would be allocated under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for eight saline affected districts of Odisha, as coverage of habitation as well as households connection through piped water is less as compared to national average; and

(c) whether funds would be allocated for provision of spot sources in NRDWP to supply drinking water to scattered tribal habitations, where supply of water through pipes is uneconomical?

#### **Drought conditions in Maharashtra**

2447. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that during the recent worst drought conditions, the villages of Marathwada and adjoining regions in Maharashtra solely depended on drinking water supplied by water tankers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that water supply in such areas was very erratic due to shortage of water tankers;

(d) if so, the details thereof and reasons for the shortage of water tankers; and

(e) remedial measures Government has taken or proposes to take to deal with drinking water woes in Marathwada and adjoining regions of the State?

#### **Jal Shakti Abhiyan**

2448. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is set to initiate the Jal Shakti Abhiyan to ramp up rainwater harvesting and

conservation efforts in 255 water stressed districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the campaign will be coordinated by 255 central IAS officers of Joint Secretary or Additional Secretary rank; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Coverage of blocks in Jal Shakti campaign**

2449. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jal Shakti campaign will be covered in 313 blocks with critical groundwater levels;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the campaign will also be covered with 1816 blocks with over exploited groundwater and 94 blocks with low groundwater availability; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Ganga river cleaning**

2450. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether any stretches of Ganga or other major rivers have become contamination free and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any town/city on the river banks have succeeded in treating all wastes before they are released into rivers and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of money spent during the last three years for Ganga river cleaning and other development projects and the physical targets achieved thereunder so far?

### **Water storage in dams**

2451. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the details of dams hitting zero level water storage, the relief measures that are proposed to be provided to affected regions and the method of estimation regarding the requirement and if there is no such proposal, the reasons therefor;

(b) the plan and budget which has been allocated to restore dams to their former level, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of alternative measures to be provided in case of natural disasters like droughts etc. and the budget allocated, State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Rational use of water**

2452. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the various initiatives being taken by this new Ministry for conservation and promotion of rational use of water;

(b) whether Government has made any tie-up with the State Governments, in order to carry forward the initiatives so as to get effective results; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

### **Pending irrigation projects in Jharkhand**

†2453. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the major irrigation projects initiated in 1970s and 1980s which are under construction in the State of Jharkhand;

(b) whether these pending projects would be completed with the help of resources provided by the State Government, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the factors responsible for the non-completion of these pending irrigation projects by the State and action taken against them; and

(d) whether the Central Government is willing to provide special grant, assistance and technical support to complete these projects, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Interlinking of rivers**

†2454. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is making any plan of interlinking the rivers of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government is making any plan to avoid the rising water crisis in the country?

### **Rain water harvesting for residential complex**

2455. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is constant pressure on groundwater resources in the country and its level has gone down;

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

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government proposes to popularize and campaign for rainwater harvesting scheme for residential complexes and office buildings throughout the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any monitoring is being done to ensure that all new buildings have rainwater harvesting facility, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Simplification of irrigation projects by CWC**

†2456. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the simplification process of guidelines for clearance and approval of irrigation projects by Central Water Commission (CWC) since May 2014;

(b) the details of the improvement brought about in the complex process of the Central assistance given under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme for irrigation projects; and

(c) whether the condition of obtaining approval of Central Water Commission and NITI Aayog for investments, mandatory for the Central assistance has been abolished?

#### **Construction of dam on Mahanadi by Chhattisgarh Government**

2457. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) number of water arresting structures that have been constructed/proposed for construction by Chhattisgarh Government across Mahanadi and its tributaries;

(b) whether Chhattisgarh Government has obtained clearance/concurrence from Central Government and Odisha Government prior to construction of such structures on the inter-state river basin of Mahanadi;

(c) whether Chhattisgarh Government has considered the lower riparian requirement of Odisha in Mahanadi water while planning its water sector development on Mahanadi basin; and

(d) whether Chhattisgarh Government in its planning on Mahanadi basin has considered the guidelines of Ministry of EF&CC for minimum downstream environmental flow, if so, the quantity of flow proposed to be furnished?

#### **Soil erosion from rivers**

2458. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the constant soil erosion from various rivers in the country during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether financial assistance has been provided to check this type of soil erosion during the above said period; and

(c) the quantum of funds spent thereon by Government during the said period along with the amount proposed to be provided/ utilized during 2017-18?

#### **Interlinking of rivers for distribution of water**

2459. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

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

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

shortage of water in various parts of the country;

(b) steps taken by Government to tackle the water shortage in the country;

(c) if so, steps taken for interlinking of rivers so that there is equitable distribution of water in various parts of the county; and

(d) the time frame by which the interlinking of rivers would be completed?

#### **Piped water coverage**

2460. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that piped water coverage in the country is very low and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has taken some fresh initiatives to increase the piped water coverage in consultation with all concerned authorities of Government and State Governments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which States played their role, as it is a State subject?

#### **Protection of groundwater**

2461. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that groundwater is the largest useable source of freshwater on the planet and more than two billion people rely on it to drink or irrigate crops;

(b) whether Government is aware that only half of all groundwater supplies are likely to fully replenish or re-balance within

the next 100 years, potentially leading to shortages in drier areas; and

(c) if so, the counter measures Government taken so far to replenish or re-balance has groundwater?

#### **Allocation levels under SBM in Chhattisgarh**

†2462. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) in Chhattisgarh during the last three years along with status of the Mission;

(b) the details of targets set and made under the Mission; and

(c) the number of Key Resource Centres (KRC) to be identified in the State of Chhattisgarh under the Mission?

#### **Water harvesting and conservation activities**

2463. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jal Shakti Abhiyan would aim to accelerate water harvesting, conservation and borewell recharge activities already being carried out under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and the Integrated Watershed Management Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the progress would be monitored in real time through mobile applications and an online dashboard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

#### **Installation of AMRIT plants**

2464. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Arsenic and Metal Removal Indian Technology (AMRIT) plants operational in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of the capacity of each plants to cover the Arsenic affected households; and

(c) the details of AMRIT plants proposed to be installed during 2019-20, along with their locations, State-wise?

#### **Framework for governing of Ground Water Resources**

2465. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has in place an adequate framework for governing Ground Water Resources and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has collaborated with any private or foreign bodies on Ground Water Management projects and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Construction of Polavaram project in A.P.**

2466. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) status of construction of Polavaram project in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the extent to which the claims that 60 per cent of work has been completed made by earlier Andhra Pradesh

Government and reported in the media is correct;

(c) whether CAG has said that completion of Polavaram cannot be done before 2019 and now Government says that Polavaram can be completed only by 2021;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) package for displaced people of Polavaram has not yet been completed; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and by when R&R package would be completed?

#### **Construction of Mekedatu dam**

2467. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any final decision on the request of Tamil Nadu Government regarding restraining State of Karnataka Government in constructing Mekedatu dam across river Cauvery;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has written to Karnataka Government in this regard referring to the final order of Cauvery Water Tribunal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Lack of safe drinking water and sanitation**

2468. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether lack of safe drinking water and sanitation are the most serious

challenges of the 21st century in developing countries like India;

(b) whether unsafe water and poor sanitation are primary causes for the vast majority of water borne and primarily diarrhoeal diseases; and

(c) if so, steps taken by Government to provide safe drinking water and proper sanitation facilities in rural, semi-urban and urban areas?

#### **Entrepreneurs in MSMEs**

2469. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) details of initiatives taken by Government to start up entrepreneurs in MSME sector;

(b) steps taken by Government to develop entrepreneurship mentality/skills among youth; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Financial assistance to MSME traders**

2470. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:  
SHRI T. G. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to provide financial assistance to MSME traders under various schemes of the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the schemes that are being implemented in the State of Telangana;

(d) the quantum of funds being released under each programme; and

(e) the details thereof?

#### **Sinha Committee recommendations for MSMEs**

†2471. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee of RBI led by Shri U. K. Sinha has made some recommendations for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises sector, if so, by when these recommendations would be implemented;

(b) whether Government has any plans to create a ₹ 5000 crore reserved corpus to assist MSME in cluster, if so, by when it would be started; and

(c) whether MSME employees are covered by insurance, if so, the details thereof and if not, by when such cover would be provided?

#### **Relief to textile MSMEs**

2472. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to bring relief to textile MSMEs which are in crisis due to the implementation of GST, alterations in income tax policy and rise in cost of production; and

(b) the details thereof, including impact of such steps?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

#### **Protection of MSMEs**

2473. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that with the import liberalisation and entry of MNCs into India, the Indian small scale entrepreneurs are not able to face competition and finding it difficult to survive;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to reserve certain sectors/ entrepreneurship exclusively for Indian entrepreneurs in order to save and protect the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Issues and concerns of Unorganized Sector**

2474. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any effort of the National Commission for Enterprises in Unorganized Sector to assess the situation of the Unorganized Sector, after the 2007 report on Condition of Work and Promotion of Livelihoods in the Unorganized Sector workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quarterly and annual figures of employment growth in the Unorganized Sector for the last three years?

#### **Funds to MSME sector in Haryana**

2475. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MSME sector in the country is severely undercapitalised and is in the need of capital infusion and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of such undercapitalised MSMEs sector in the State of Haryana; and

(c) whether Government has taken steps to provide an easy access to finance by MSMEs and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Closure of MSMEs**

2476. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total number of micro and small industries, which have been closed in the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the reasons Government envisage for the closure of these industries in different parts of the country;

(c) whether Government has devised any strategy to prevent this rampant closure of MSMEs in different parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Extension of statutory approvals for leasing of mines**

2477. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that environment

and forest related clearances are major irritants to auction mines;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to extend the validity of key statutory approvals like environment and forest related clearances by three years in respect of mining leases which are due for expiry by March 31, 2020;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the steps, if implemented, will ensure hassle free auctions of the mines besides facilitating seamless change in ownership; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Illegal sand mining**

2478. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any step to stop the illegal mining of sand from river banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is planning to allow the import of sand for construction?

#### **Auction of Iron ore mines and the extension of lease**

2479. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to extend the mining leases of Iron ore leaseholders (private merchant miners), which are due to lapse in March, 2020;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether any steps have been taken to expedite the auction of Iron ore blocks which are due to lapse in March, 2020; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

#### **Scrambling for auction of mines**

2480. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had asked the States involved in mining to prepare the roadmap for a transition;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that these States are scrambling to auction blocks whose licences are lapsing by 31st March, 2020; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Educational institutions run by minority community**

†2481. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medical, engineering and management colleges/universities or other institutions being run by Muslim and Christian minority communities in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of students belonging to minority communities and that of general category studying in these institutions; and

(c) the number of teachers in these institutions and their pay scales?

#### **Scholarships for minorities**

2482. SHRI VEER SINGH: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pre-matric, post-matric, merit-cum-means and other scholarships disbursed by Government to the students of minority community during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(b) the manner in which the number of such scholarships is proposed to be doubled during the next five year plan?

#### **Seekho aur Kamao Scheme**

2483. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of people who have availed skill upgradation training under Seekho aur Kamao (Learn and Earn) scheme, State-wise;

(b) details of the number of youth from Minority community who have secured jobs over the past three years post the training, State-wise; and

(c) the estimated amount spent by the Ministry for the above mentioned scheme in the past three years?

#### **Cases of corruption and irregularities in implementation of schemes**

2484. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the welfare schemes intended for the benefits of the persons belonging to the minority communities in the country;

(b) the details of the funds allocated and utilised for such schemes during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise and State/UT-wise;

(c) whether the cases of irregularities and corruption in the implementation of such schemes have come to the notice of Government during the said period and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Vehicles linked to Aadhaar**

2485. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vehicle licenses and registrations already linked to Aadhaar;

(b) the number of biometrics collected by Road Transport Offices (RTOs) to issue smart cards for vehicle licenses and registrations; and

(c) whether the Ministry will link Aadhaar with vehicle licence and registration again?

#### **Conversion of State Highways into NHs in Odisha**

2486. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Odisha State roads which have been approved in principle for declaration as NHs during last three years along with the present position of those projects; and

(b) steps taken by Government for declaration of those roads as NHs?

#### **Improvement work of NHs in Odisha**

2487. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of stretches entrusted to NHAI for improvement under different programmes in Odisha;

(b) whether Government is contemplating any alternative method for improvement of those NHs in Odisha where improvement work of NH is yet to be taken up, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is aware of the alarming condition of the NHs in Odisha entrusted to NHAI due to lack of proper maintenance; and

(d) if so, the steps been taken in this regard?

#### **Use of plastic waste in roads/highways construction**

2488. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is utilising plastic waste in building roads/highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof and length of roads built, the State/UT-wise; and

(c) details of cost incurred in building these roads, State/UT-wise?

#### **Environmental clearances for NHs**

†2489. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the National Highways (NHs) pending for environmental clearance during last three years;

(b) the reasons therefor and quantum of cost over-run on account of pendency of said projects;

(c) the details of the efforts made by Government to complete these pending projects; and

(d) the total length of National Highways, in kilometers, on which the work has been completed during last three years?

#### **Cases of deaths due to drunken driving**

2490. SHRI VEER SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of road accidents reported due to drunken driving from various States/UTs in the country during the last three years including Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to encourage road safety measures to put a check on drunken driving cases?

#### **Declaration of new NHs in Odisha**

2491. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Odisha Government in Works Department letter No. 16451 dated 19th December, 2016 had recommended 30 State roads covering 2483 k.m. in length to the Ministry for consideration as new National Highway; and

(b) if so, the reasons as to why the Ministry is not taking any decision in the matter whereas Central Government has declared various State roads as National Highways in other States in the meanwhile?

#### **Status of road development projects**

2492. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of road development projects have been delayed or stopped in Jharkhand in particular and the country in general;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the number of projects delayed, scheme-wise;

(c) the details of steps taken to fast track completion of the road development projects;

(d) whether Government has identified any fault on part of Government agencies involved in planning and development of the road projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard?

#### **Debris dumping on roads/NHs of the capital**

2493. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that ring road and National Highways passing through the national capital have become dumping ground for debris;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is also aware that stretch of ring road between Naraina and Mayapuri is full of debris and is creating problems for road users; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action Government has taken or proposes to take to effectively deal with the menace of debris dumping on roads and highways of the national capital?

#### **Accidents due to the bad roads**

†2494. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that accidents occur due to the bad roads also;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government does not have any data to ascertain which accidents occurred due to the bad roads; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

#### **Declaration and upgradation of SHs to NHs**

†2495. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering any plan to declare State Highways (SHs) as National Highways (NHs), for which an approval has been granted, in principle;

(b) whether there is any policy for the upgradation of State Highways and National Highways and a plan for maintenance of excessively damaged roads; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Implementation of Bharatmala in Telangana**

2496. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to develop National Highways across the country under proposed Bharatmala project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the road projects initiated in the State of Telangana;

(d) the total funds released so far and the work undertaken/completed so far; and

(e) the details of the estimated time of completing the road projects?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Four laning of NH 30 in  
Chhattisgarh**

†2497. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that four laning work from Raipur to Jagdalpur at National Highway No. 30, is moving at a slow pace;

(b) the targets set for the construction of this road and the present status of the work completed;

(c) whether the work is progressing as per the target; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to construct a bypass at Keshkalghati in Bastar and if so, the details thereof?

**Status of Chennai-Bangalore  
Expressway**

2498. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the date when Chennai-Bangalore Expressway was conceived and the initial estimated cost of the project;

(b) length of the above Expressway;

(c) the time when DPR was supposed to be prepared and the reasons for not preparing it till now; and

(d) by when DPR is going to be completed and by when the expressway will become operational?

**Six laning of NH-2**

†2499. SHRI GOPAL NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction work involving six laning of National Highway (NH-2) from Varanasi to Aurangabad, which started three years back and wherein fifteen flyovers were to be constructed, has been completed only in parts, so far, leading to a heavy traffic jam, and the one hour journey actually takes three hours to complete and if so, the reasons for such a delay in this regard;

(b) the flyovers already completed/ under construction out of the total number of flyovers proposed on NH-2; and

(c) the reasons responsible for delay in the work and the scheduled target/timeline fixed for completion of the work?

**Progress on BS VI vehicles standards**

2500. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of status of achieving the target of 10 per cent ethanol blending with petrol (E10);

(b) whether the blending enables the refineries to meet the norms as required under BS VI standards; and

(c) the number of automobile manufacturers who have begun to standardise their process to manufacture BS VI compliant vehicles, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Approval status of new NH in Rajasthan**

2501. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has approved ₹ 9635.00 crore committed for construction of roads which has been declared a new NH (1927 kms.) including land acquisition for Rajasthan Government;

(b) whether Government have received letter dated 25th April, 2017 from Government of Rajasthan requesting to enhance the annual plan for sanctioning ₹ 8443.00 crore for financial year 2017-18 by bank;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any steps have been taken to enhance the annual plan and sanctions of bank for the year 2017-18 as requested by Rajasthan Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**One Nation One Card**

2502. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to introduce One Nation One Card for public transport system with a view to have seamless connectivity between various modes of transportation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Status of Centrally sponsored road projects in Kerala**

2503. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the sanctioned/on-going road projects under the administrative control of Ministry in the State of Kerala at present; and

(b) the status of each project?

**Progress in construction of Delhi-Jaipur Expressway**

†2504. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Finance Minister had announced to build an expressway between Delhi and Jaipur in his budget speech, 2006-07;

(b) if so, the reasons for not giving top priority to the construction of said expressway by Government; and

(c) by when the construction of said expressway would be initiated?

**Proposal for NHs in Telangana**

2505. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Telangana has proposed to convert Kodad-Miryalaguda-Devarakonda-Kalvakuriti-Jedcherla road as National Highway;

(b) if so, the time when such request has been made to the Ministry; and

(c) details of the action taken on the stretch?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Compliance of Good Samaritan Guidelines**

2506. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which Ministry is monitoring the compliance of the Good Samaritan Guidelines;

(b) whether Ministry has put in place a grievance redressal mechanism for violation of Good Samaritan Guidelines and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any nodal officer has been designated to receive complaints in case the Good Samaritan Guidelines are not followed; and

(d) the details of all the cases where action has been taken for violation of Good Samaritan Guidelines, State-wise?

### **Status of construction activities on NH-544**

2507. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the major reasons for abruptly halting the ongoing widening activities and construction of tunnel in Kuthiran in Thrissur district in Kerala on NH-544;

(b) whether Government will take any *suo moto* action against the private contractor who had made the commitment to complete the work within three years but the work has been going on for the last ten years and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has given any assurance for the completion of the construction and widening activities on NH-544 and if so, the details thereof?

### **Plantation along the highways**

†2508. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan to plant trees on a large scale along the National Highways;

(b) if so, the amount spent on the same during the last financial year;

(c) the details of highways in the State of Bihar along which tree plantations are planned; and

(d) whether Government plans to promote intensive afforestation along the National Highways in order to increase the forest cover?

### **Condition of various National Highways**

2509. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:  
DR. AMEE YAJNIK:  
DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH:

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

(a) whether Government has taken note of the dilapidated condition of various National Highways (NHs) in the country and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, NH-wise,

(b) whether Government has received proposals from various States including Maharashtra to improve the condition of NHs;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated, released and utilized for the maintenance and repair of NHs during each of the last three years and the current year, State/Union Territory- wise; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the steps taken by Government to improve the condition of NHs in various States?

**Status of upgradation of State Highways of Rajasthan**

†2510. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to take action regarding necessary gazette notification related to National Highways, for 50 earlier in-principle approved roads (4772 km. length) in Rajasthan, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) by when Government of India will declare these 50 in-principle approved roads as National Highways and by when necessary development work will be undertaken therein?

**Funds for NHs**

2511. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount released/spent for maintenance of National Highways during the last three years and current year, National Highway-wise;

(b) the revised guidelines regarding declaration of National Highways;

(c) whether Government is considering to release funds to the National Highway wing of the Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department (HPPWD) for their upkeep;

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when the fund is likely to be released to HPPWD; and

(e) the status of those State Highways which were approved in principle for upgradation as National Highways during the last three years?

**Shortage of marine experts**

†2512. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of marine experts in Maritime Board and it is controlled by non-marine experts;

(b) the number of total members in Maritime Board and number of marine experts amongst them who have marine knowledge at present; and

(c) the action taken by Government to increase the representation of marine experts in the Maritime Board and to hand over its control to them?

**Increased utilisation of waterways**

2513. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects which have been initiated as of May 2019, by the Ministry under the Sagarmala initiative data, State-wise;

(b) the percentage of increased utilisation of coastline and navigable waterways since the inception of the project and the estimated increase in amount of exports, since the launch of the Sagarmala initiative, if any; and

(c) the number of jobs, if any, which have been created through the projects started under the above initiative during the past three years?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Status of the waterways at Sahibganj, Jharkhand**

2514. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the multi-modal terminal at waterways, one project at Sahibganj, Jharkhand was to be completed in June, 2019;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the current status of the project; and

(c) the expected cargo and employment opportunities which could be generated with this project?

**Status of PPP projects by VPT**

2515. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) details of projects taken up and completed on Public Private Participation (PPP) mode by Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) during the last three years, project-wise;

(b) status of each of the above project;

(c) whether PPP projects are facing stiff competition from the nearby private port in view of rigid tariff structure imposed by Tariff Authority for major ports;

(d) why Government is not giving flexibility to VPT to fix flexible terms in cargo handling;

(e) whether any request in this regard has been received from VPT; and

(f) if so, the action taken by Ministry on the above and other requests from VPT?

**Cargo traffic handling by ports**

2516. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cargo traffic handled by ports in India is expected to reach 1,695 million metric tonnes by year 2021-22;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that within the ports sector, projects worth an investment of US \$ 10 billion have been identified and will be awarded over the coming five years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Project for modernisation of ports**

2517. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the capacity addition at ports is expected to grow at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 5 to 6 per cent till year 2022, thereby adding 275-325 MT of capacity;

(b) whether it is also a fact that under the Sagarmala programme, Government has envisioned a total of 189 projects for modernisation of ports involving an investment of ₹1.42 million by the year 2035; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Maritime agenda of ports**

2518. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken several measures to improve operational efficiency through mechanization, deepening the draft and speedy evacuations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the maritime agenda 2010-20 has a target of



3,130 MT of port capacity by the year 2020; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Development of coastal economic regions**

2519. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has announced a massive investment in India's ports sector which is likely to boost the country's economy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to develop ten coastal economic regions as part of plans to revive the country's Sagarmala project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Regulation of ship breaking industry**

2520. SHRI G.C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers employed at various ship breaking yards in the country and the details of ship breaking yards, State-wise;

(b) whether the workers in the ship breaking yards are reported to be facing health hazards due to negligence in waste disposal practices;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to improve waste disposal practices for well being of these workers;

(d) whether there is an urgent need for regulatory framework for ship breaking industry in the country; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Khelo India programme**

2521. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of national Khelo India programme for development of sports;

(b) details of funds allocated, released and utilised for the scholarships under the aforementioned programme so far, year-wise, State/UT-wise; and

(c) details of number of sports activities covered and number of beneficiaries undergoing training under the programme so far, year-wise, State/UT-wise?

#### **Guidelines for National Sports Federations**

2522. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has framed National Sports Development Code of India to bring in transparency and accountability in the functioning of National Sports Federations (NSFs) for healthy development of sports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of NSFs complying with such guidelines and the number of NSFs which have not complied with; and

(d) action taken by Ministry against NSFs which have not followed the guidelines?

#### **Regulations for sports associations**

2523. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to frame any regulation so that only the reputed sportspersons may head sports associations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when such regulations will be made operational;

(d) whether sports federations have expressed reservation in accepting new regulations/sports code; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of Government thereto?

#### **Standard of sports in India**

2524. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the standard of sports in the country is not upto the mark;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve the state of different sports in the country?

#### **Promotion of sports among female students**

2525. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to promote sports among girls in schools and colleges across the country;

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

(c) the details of the allocated expenditure on such activities, year-wise?

#### **Sports as a Fundamental Right**

2526. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to harness inherent strengths in sports, there is a need to use sports as a tool for human resource development at par with health and education;

(b) if so, whether any efforts in this direction have been made by the Ministry and, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry is planning to make sports a Fundamental Right like Right to Education; and

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

#### **Mini sports complex at Kommadi, Visakhapatnam**

2527. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the time when approval for laying of synthetic track at Kommadi mini sports complex, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh was approved;

(b) whether it is a fact that ₹ 7 crores have been sanctioned for this purpose, but so far only ₹ 1.2 crores have been released;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the track would be completed and would come into operation?

#### **New sports universities in the country**

2528. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken for promotion of sports in the country;

(b) details of the sports universities opened till date in the country;

(c) whether Government has any plan/proposal of converting sports colleges into sports universities or opening new sports universities in near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Centralised online reservation system for accommodation in youth hostels**

2529. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) details of the steps taken by Government for promotion of 'youth travel' within the country with the objective of low cost budget accommodations to travellers;

(b) total number of youth hostels constructed across the country, built with the objective of low cost budget accommodations;

(c) whether Government has any plan of centralised online reservation system for accommodation in youth hostels; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

**Doping tests for sportspersons**

2530. SHRI G.C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several sportspersons have tested positive in doping tests conducted by National Anti-Doping Agency;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether the Ministry has constituted a Committee to enquire into issues concerning prevalence of doping;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether doping scandal involving leading athletes will hit India's preparation for Olympics; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

**Construction of stadiums in rural areas**

†2531. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme to build stadiums at district level, especially in rural areas so that the youth in rural areas can hone their talent; and

(b) the details of the areas in the State of Bihar in which Government has formulated a scheme for the construction of stadiums under 'Khelo India' so that the youth belonging to these areas can get the opportunity to showcase their talent on national as well as international level?

**Khelo India Programme in A.P.**

2532. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken up any programmes under Khelo India to promote sports in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the competitions organised and sports programmes taken up so far; and

(d) the amount of fund allocated and released under each programme, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Pension for sportspersons**

2533. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme for providing pension to meritorious sportspersons;

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

(c) whether Government has laid down any eligibility criteria for selection of sportspersons for providing pension;

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

(e) details regarding amount of pension payable to different categories of meritorious sportspersons?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 9th July, 2019*  
*Ashadha 18, 1941 (Saka)*

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,  
*Secretary-General.*

## I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

<b>Coal</b>	: 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380,
<b>Defence</b>	: 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397,
<b>Environment, Forest and Climate Change</b>	: 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429,
<b>Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises</b>	: 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435,
<b>Information and Broadcasting</b>	: 2436, 2437,
<b>Jal Shakti</b>	: 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468,
<b>Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises</b>	: 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476,
<b>Mines</b>	: 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480,
<b>Minority Affairs</b>	: 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484,
<b>Parliamentary Affairs</b>	: —
<b>Road Transport and Highways</b>	: 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511,
<b>Shipping</b>	: 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520,
<b>Youth Affairs and Sports</b>	: 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533.