

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, July 19, 2019/Ashadha 28, 1941 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Commerce and Industry; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Food Processing Industries; Panchayati Raj; Railways; Rural Development; Skill Development and Entrepreneurship)

Total number of questions — 160

Making PMFBY compulsory for States

†3014. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) is optional for States;

(b) if so, whether it is being considered to make this yojana compulsory; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Remunerative price to farmers

3015. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers have received remunerative price for their produce under the agricultural price policy, keeping in view the high inflation during each of the last

three years and the current year, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether the Price Support Scheme (PSS) for procurement of oilseeds, pulses and cotton has been implemented across the country, if so, the details of procurement of farmers' produce under the said scheme during the said period, State-wise; and

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

Economic impact of organic farming

3016. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that have been taken for encouraging organic farming in the country;

(b) the total area covered under organic farming in the country, State/UT-wise;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government has conducted any study to check the economic impact of organic farming in the country; and

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

Initiatives to boost agricultural growth

3017. SHRI G. V. L. NARASIMHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the factors that are responsible for reduced growth in the GDP for agricultural sector;

(b) the specific initiatives that are being taken and proposed to be taken to boost agricultural growth;

(c) the public investments in agriculture sector that are being made and proposed to boost agricultural growth; and

(d) the specific initiatives that are being made and proposed to promote private investment in agriculture sector?

Development of fishermen

†3018. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing some schemes for the development and enhancement of the income of fishermen;

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

(c) whether Government has undertaken any review to implement above schemes in appropriate manner; and

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

Assistance to bamboo producing farmers

†3019. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance is being provided by Government to bamboo producing farmers in the country at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of work carried out in this regard in Maharashtra, especially in Konkan region, during the last three years?

Horticulture Mission in Telangana

3020. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Horticulture Mission is being implemented in Telangana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the difference between Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture and Horticulture Mission;

(d) the progress of Horticulture Mission in Telangana; and

(e) the efforts being made to push horticulture in Telangana?

Production of mangoes in the country

3021. SHRI G. C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of mangoes in various States, including Karnataka during last three years;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether there is a decline in mango production in the country even though India is the largest producer of mangoes in the world, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering any proposal to provide assistance to the affected farmers, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has any scheme for setting up mango food processing units in Karnataka, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to boost the production and export of mangoes of Karnataka?

Landless farmers in the country

‡3022. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of landless persons in the country;

(b) the details of the schemes being implemented by Government for these landless persons;

(c) the number of *Dalits* and tribals among these landless persons; and

(d) the number of farmers rendered landless during the last twenty years?

Impact of scanty rainfall on Kharif cropping season

3023. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, with 31 out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions recording deficient-to-scanty rainfall so far, sowing by farmers in the current Kharif cropping season has been over 25 per cent below the normal levels for this period;

(b) whether pulses have taken maximum hit, with oilseeds and coarse cereals following closely; and

(c) whether, as a sop, the positive effects of Cyclone Vayu have resulted in somewhat decent monsoon in Rajasthan and Saurashtra region of Gujarat?

Introduction of private sector companies in agricultural farming

3024. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to introduce private sector companies in agricultural farming;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Decrease in the number of farmers

3025. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per last census, the number of farmers has dipped by over 8.6 million in the past decade and also as per study of the Centre for Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) in 2018 76 per cent farmers want to give up farming and this trend is continuing till date;

(b) if so, the number of farmers who have shifted from agriculture to other occupations, since 2014; and

(c) the steps being contemplated to curb such decline in the number of farmers and their shifting to other vocations, apart from direct benefit transfer/waiver/subsidy?

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Decline in crop output in
Maharashtra**

3026. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a recent survey has predicted crop output of Maharashtra to dip by 8 per cent in 2018-19;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind this decline; and

(c) the remedial measures Government has taken or proposes to take to substantially increase crop output in Maharashtra?

Implementation of ATMA scheme

3027. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) scheme;

(b) the details of 'farmer friend' identified from the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

(c) whether Government is considering to appoint one 'farmer friend' in every village for more effective implementation of ATMA scheme;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details of grant-in-aid given to Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, since the implementation of the Scheme, State-wise and district-wise; and

(f) to what extent ATMA scheme would help farmers to double their income by 2022?

Implementation of PMFBY

3028. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of farmers enrolled under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has decreased in the current year as compared to previous years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State/UT-wise and cropping season-wise;

(c) the details of the premium collected by public sector insurance companies and private sector insurance companies since the inception of the Yojana, year-wise, State-wise, season-wise and company-wise; and

(d) the details of compensation paid by public sector insurance companies and private sector insurance companies since the inception of the Yojana, year-wise, State-wise, season-wise and company-wise?

Slow pace of agricultural growth

3029. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in the area under cultivation of major food crops in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, crop-wise and State/UT-wise;

(c) whether the slow pace of growth in the crucial agriculture sector is a matter of concern for food security in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective step taken by Government in this regard?

Marketing of agricultural products with organic tag

3030. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to sell agricultural products with organic tag across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Schemes implemented in Rajasthan and Delhi

3031. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the list of the schemes being implemented by the Ministry in Rajasthan and Delhi;
- (b) the financial and physical progress reported in each of these schemes in the past three years in these two States, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether any proposal from the Governments of Rajasthan and NCT of Delhi is pending with the Ministry; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response thereto?

Monitoring of farmers' welfare programmes

3032. DR. C. P. THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers of Bihar have benefited from the farmers' welfare programmes initiated by the Central Government;

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

- (c) whether the Ministry has any mechanism to monitor and ensure that the welfare measures reach the needy farmers, if so, the details thereof?

Development of infrastructure for beekeeping

†3033. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any report from the Beekeeping Development Committee, if so, by when the recommendations given in the said Report would be implemented;
- (b) the definition of a farmer and whether Government will accept the suggestion of the said committee to recognise landless beekeepers as farmers;
- (c) whether Government plans to develop national and State-specific infrastructure for storing, processing and marketing of honey and other products sourced from bees; and
- (d) if so, the details of standards laid down to facilitate the export of honey and other bee products?

Steps to encourage organic farming

3034. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has declared any package for the farmers engaged in organic farming in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise, including Punjab; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the steps taken by Government to encourage organic farming in the country in order to control the excessive use of pesticides and chemicals in the production of agricultural produces?

Implementation of crop insurance scheme

3035. SHRID. RAJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of insurance companies involved in implementing the crop insurance scheme of the Government; and

(b) the details of the premium collected per year by these companies and the compensation paid to the insurance beneficiaries during the past years since its inception?

Damage to crops due to attack by grasshoppers

†3036. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lakhs of grasshoppers enter the border areas of the country alongside Pakistan every year and damage the agricultural crops;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government for its prevention;

(c) the details of the losses to farmers because of these grasshoppers during last three years and till date;

(d) the details of the plan of Government to compensate for the losses incurred due to grasshoppers; and

(e) the details of the number of farmers who have been provided compensation and

the details of amount of compensation paid during last three years and till date?

Impact of climate change on agriculture

†3037. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:
SHRI SURENDRA SINGH
NAGAR:
DR. R. LAKSHMANAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether food production and food security in the country are likely to get affected by climate change;

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

(c) whether Government has asked the agricultural scientists to study the impact of climate change on agriculture in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to protect agriculture from climate change?

Conservation of water in agriculture

3038. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the Ministry's plan and allocation of funds for specific horticulture crops which are water-use efficient and promote sustainable farming;

(b) the estimated amount of water that can be saved through farming of these crops in comparison to other agricultural crops;

(c) whether the Ministry has estimated the export demand of horticulture crops and the likely impacts on the agricultural economy; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the manner in which the Ministry plans to employ similar techniques being used in Israel for conservation of water in agriculture?

Role of cooperatives in agriculture sector

3039. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to strengthen the role of cooperatives in agriculture sector;

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

(c) the details of the performance of cooperatives in organic farming, milk production, poultry farming and fisheries in different States of the country?

Increasing private expenditure in agricultural sector

3040. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the current data of private and public expenditure in the agricultural sector;

(b) the projected amount of private expenditure required;

(c) the details of how these funds would be utilised; and

(d) the plans to encourage private expenditure in the agricultural sector?

Linking of rural agricultural markets in the country

3041. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a proposal to link all the rural agricultural markets in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of implementation of the said proposal;

(d) by when all the rural agricultural markets in the country would completely come under the network; and

(e) to what extent this would be helpful for the agricultural sector?

Subsidy to farmers for purchasing modern equipments

3042. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of farmers in rural areas use modern agricultural methods instead of old fashioned methods of agriculture;

(b) whether any subsidy is also available to farmers for the purchase of these equipments; and

(c) if so, the number of farmers who availed such subsidy and the conditions attached therewith?

Effects of indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides

†3043. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that due to indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides by farmers, the fertility of land is getting depleted, if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether humans, animals and other creatures are being afflicted with various types of diseases on account of chemical fertilizers and pesticides being used in fields and many animals as well as birds species are on the verge of becoming extinct; and

(c) if so, whether Government has formulated any action plan to minimise the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in the agricultural fields?

Assistance to drought-affected States

3044. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that several parts of the country are affected by severe drought;

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

(c) whether Government is providing financial assistance to drought-affected States, especially Karnataka;

(d) if so, the details of such assistance given to various States during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;

(e) whether Government has any plan to enhance the compensation/financial assistance to drought-affected States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Implementation of MIDH in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

3045. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided

any assistance under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for development of horticulture and establishment of cold storages in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, during the last three years, to save foodgrains, fruits and vegetables from deteriorating;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the role of APEDA in assisting growers and producers in the two States to store their produce in cold storages for better remunerative price including exports, along with details thereof?

Tree-based farming in the country

3046. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
DR. AMEE YAJNIK:
SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government is taking to promote sustainable livelihood through agriculture; and

(b) the number of schemes that have been devised by Government to popularise tree-based farming in the country?

Judicious use of pesticides

3047. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made by Government regarding losses incurred due to improper use of pesticides and insecticides;

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

(c) whether Government proposes to formulate any scheme to educate farmers

about judicious use of pesticides and insecticides; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Establishment of automatic weather stations under NADP

3048. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:
SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has established automatic weather stations under National Agricultural Development Programme (NADP) in various States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of automatic weather stations established under the NADP in the last three years along with the details thereof?

Employment opportunities in agriculture sector

3049. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH
TOMAR:
SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:
DR. AMEE YAJNIK:
DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether employment generation avenues have declined in agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has worked on any action plan for the creation of additional employment opportunities in agriculture sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Interest Subvention Scheme to farmers

3050. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to provide three per cent interest subvention to farmers for timely repayment of crop loan;

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

(c) the details regarding the amount provided for this purpose to the Government of Rajasthan during the last three years;

(d) whether Government of Rajasthan has requested to provide interest subvention in the beginning of the financial year; and

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

Cropping of wheat, millets, rice and pulses in the country

3051. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total cropping of wheat, millets, rice and pulses in the country in the last five years;

(b) the percentage, out of total grown wheat, millets, rice and pulses, which are procured at MSP; and

(c) the corresponding imports of these grains in the last five years?

Establishment of Indian Institute of Pulse Research in Odisha

3052. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state whether the Central Government will take necessary steps for early establishment of Indian Institute of Pulse Research at Bhubaneswar in Odisha as the site for establishment of this Institute has already been visited by the Central Team?

National policy on loan waiver for farmers

3053. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is aware of the fact that the Government of Odisha has sent a proposal for making a national policy on loan waiver for farmers; and

(b) if so, the actions that have been taken by the Central Government in the matter?

High level of aflatoxin in groundnut and maize

3054. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government is drawn to the reports that the groundnut and maize produced in the country are having high levels of aflatoxin and unfit for human consumption according to international standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government has taken to educate the farmers as well as consumers

regarding use of groundnut and educating farmers to produce aflatoxin-free crops?

Use of antibiotics in animal husbandry

3055. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the regulatory structure for use of antibiotics in animal husbandry in the country;

(b) whether there are any restrictions on the use of antibiotics in animals such as antibiotics for growth promotion, antibiotics for disease prevention without clinical diagnosis and antibiotics that are critically important for human medicine;

(c) whether there are re-import of antibiotics for animal husbandry; and

(d) whether the country has complied with WHO's guidelines on use of medically important antimicrobials in food-producing animals, if so, the details thereof including restriction of the above-mentioned classes of antibiotics and if not, the reasons therefor?

Implementation of schemes in Rajasthan and Delhi

3056. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the list of schemes being implemented by the Ministry in Rajasthan and Delhi;

(b) the financial and physical progress reported in each of these schemes in the past three years in these two States, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether any proposal from the Government of Rajasthan and NCT of Delhi is pending with the Ministry; and

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

Drought in Maharashtra

3057. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided Central funds to the State Government of Maharashtra during the current year to tackle the severe drought conditions in its rural areas, particularly in Marathwada and Vidarbha regions; and

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

Cattle population in Kerala

3058. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the latest livestock census has been completed by the States/UTs, if so, the details thereof?

(b) whether any State has demanded extension of time to complete the livestock census, if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) the details of cattle population in Kerala State (cow, goat, buffalo, etc.) from 2014 to 2019, year-wise?

Cow sanctuaries in the country

3059. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has developed cow sanctuaries in some parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of all the cow sanctuaries in the country;

(c) whether Government is planning to develop such cow sanctuaries in Jharkhand also;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the employment these sanctuaries are generating annually?

Animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries in NER

3060. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to establish more animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries farms by providing infrastructure and raw material at reasonably low price in North-Eastern Region (NER);

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

(c) the details regarding the number of farms established and sanctioned in the last three years in North-Eastern Region (NER); and

(d) the details of funds sanctioned for projects under animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries in the last three years?

Shortage of veterinary doctors

†3061. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of veterinary doctors in the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and the plan formulated by Government to deal with such a shortage; and

(c) the details of the current status and shortage of veterinary doctors, State-wise?

Construction of houses for fishermen community

†3062. SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released by the Central Government for construction of Machua Awas (Housing for Fishermen) under Modern Fishermen Housing Scheme;

(b) the number of houses constructed under the Scheme during the last five years, State-wise;

(c) the amount of funds being provided by the State and Central Governments for construction of houses under the said Scheme;

(d) whether any study has been conducted to find out the number of homeless fishermen in fishermen community; and

(e) the target date set to provide accommodation to all the homeless fishermen under the said Scheme?

Cattle insurance and livestock entrepreneurship programmes

3063. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY,

DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps for cattle insurance in order to insure the farmer/livestock producers against the loss of cattle;

(b) if so, the proposals for the implementation of the same; and

(c) whether Government has taken any initiative for developing women entrepreneurship along the livestock value chain, as proposed in the report of the Working Group on Animal Husbandry and Dairying 12th Five Year Plan?

Production of milk

†3064. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that milk production has increased in almost all parts of the country this year;

(b) if so, the details of the milk purchased during the last five years along with the current year, year-wise; and

(c) the effects of extra milk production on the prices of milk products and milk of cow and buffalo?

Difficulties in providing subsidy on fertilizer

3065. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is providing subsidies on fertilizers that are used by farmers across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government came across any difficulties/identified bottlenecks in providing subsidies to farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of remedial measures that Government proposes to take in this regard?

Use of pesticides on crops

3066. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers in Punjab use the highest amounts of pesticides on their crops;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the reasons for the data showing otherwise; and

(d) the steps taken to reduce the amount of pesticides being used?

Subsidies on fertilizers

3067. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:
SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH
TOMAR:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to cut subsidies on fertilizers which are used by the poor farmers;

(b) if so, the details worked out so far;

(c) in what manner Government would protect the poor people who are unable to purchase them in the open market at such high rate; and

(d) the reasons why Government is failing to provide fertilizers at the rates affordable to the farmers in the current year?

Availability of banned chemicals

3068. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several chemicals which are banned in foreign countries are still being sold and used in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such chemicals and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government proposes to ban these chemicals in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when all these chemicals would be banned in the country?

Poisonous waste from chemical factories

3069. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of waste generated by chemical factories every year and the amount of poisonous waste in it;

(b) the details of processes carried on such poisonous waste from chemical factories before letting it in water bodies;

(c) whether due care is taken to handle the waste in proper way, also whether there are any guidelines for such companies; and

(d) whether any case has been registered under mishandling of poisonous waste, if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of PMBJP

3070. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is

implementing Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP);

(b) if so, the details of the number of districts in which it is being implemented in the country and the details of generic medicines made available through this scheme;

(c) whether Government has taken any decision to implement this scheme throughout the country and if so, the details thereof; and

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

Access to essential medicines

3071. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of having Essential Commodities Act, 1955 from where the Drug Price Control Order (DPCO), National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) policy developed, still around 60 per cent of the population lacks regular access to essential medicines; and

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

Growth of FDI inflow

3072. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) in the last three years;

(b) whether Government is aware that FDI inflow growth is falling at a six year low, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to enhance FDI in India?

Withdrawal of GSP

3073. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government was negotiating with the US on the issue of withdrawing the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) status to Indian business houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that while India exported over US \$50 billion or about ₹ 4 lakh crore, GSP benefits were given to an export basket worth ₹ 42,000 crore; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Removal of MEIS

3074. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry, as per media reports, is planning to remove Merchandise Exports from India (MEIS) scheme for exports, which was introduced primarily with a view to make our labour intensive export industry more competitive; and

(b) whether it would affect our exports and lead to more unemployment in the country?

Takeover of tea gardens in West Bengal

3075. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has taken over seven tea gardens in the northern part of West Bengal, as declared;

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

Country of Origin norms

3076. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of strict Country of Origin norms proposed by India in the recently concluded Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) trade talks;

(b) whether it is a fact that not just RCEP, but ASEAN block is also opposing this move;

(c) if so, the reasons for such opposition; and

(d) in what manner the Ministry is planning to go ahead in this regard?

Quantitative Restrictions on import of pulses

3077. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Quantitative Restrictions (QRs) imposed by Government on import of certain pulses;

(b) whether additional volume has been included in the quota specified under QRs;

(c) if so, the details thereof as well as reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government is planning to extend the impositions;

(e) if so, the details thereof as well as reasons therefor; and

(f) the likely ramifications of these decisions to be faced by Government at the WTO if the impositions continue?

Sectoral export promotion strategy to boost the country's merchandise exports

3078. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry is working on an export promotion strategy to boost shipments of chemicals, plastics and allied products sector to push the growth of the country's overall exports;

(b) for the formulation of the strategy, whether the Ministry has constituted a sub-group to deliberate upon the issues of the sector; and

(c) the details of exports of organic, inorganic and agrochemicals, plastics and its products in the last four years including the current year?

Reduction in logistics cost

3079. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Governments have been asked to reduce the logistics cost to 9 per cent of GDP by 2022 from the current 14 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any response from the State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

New National Logistics Policy

3080. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

is considering to come out with a new National Logistics Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government held discussions with all counterparts and States in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details of deliberations made in the meetings?

Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council

3081. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council has been playing an important role in promoting Indian pharmaceutical interests overseas;

(b) if so, the details of the products handled by the Council during the last five years; and

(c) the extent to which the Indian pharmaceutical industries have gained and extent to which foreign exchange was earned during the period?

Doubling of exports

†3082. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering to double the exports;

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

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

Achieving of goals under 'Make in India'

†3083. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's 'Make in India' scheme has failed to achieve its desired goals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the details of foreign investments made in India under 'Make in India' scheme; and

(d) the details of the ratio between the amount spent on publicity and investment made under this scheme?

Vizag-Chennai Industrial Corridor

3084. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to put Vizag-Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC) on fast track so that it becomes operational soon and generate employment in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Review of performance of Export Promotion Councils

3085. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government reviews the performance of Export Promotion Councils periodically;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the Export Promotion Councils presently functioning and whether there are any proposals to start new Export Promotion Councils?

Meeting of Prime Minister with US President

3086. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US President and our Prime Minister held a meeting recently on the sidelines of the G-20 Summit in Osaka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the issue of tariffs levied by India on American goods was also discussed; and

(d) if so, the response of Government, with details thereof?

National Traders Welfare Board

†3087. SHRI D. RAJA:
SHRI LAL SINH
VADODIA:
DR. BANDA PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to establish a National Traders Welfare Board and a National Policy for Retail Trade;

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

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

Working women's hostels in SEZs

3088. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of working women's hostels built in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) over the last five years, year-wise;

(b) whether Government plans to improve the transportation facilities for women working in SEZs; and

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

Preventing Chinese goods from flooding the country through duty-free route

3089. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chinese garments are making their way into India through the duty-free route under the South Asia Free Trade Pact and the Duty-Free Quota-Free window from Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, Government's response thereto and the steps taken to prevent Chinese goods from flooding the country through member countries that may have lower or no duty levels?

State of hunger in the country

3090. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country, with 277 million tonne food production, stands at 103rd position out of 119 countries in the Global Hunger Index with a score of 31.1;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the steps Government is going to take to face this challenge of serious hunger state; and

(c) the reasons for this condition?

Distribution of nutritious rice under PDS

3091. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government would roll out a pilot project in 15 districts to fortify rice with iron, folic acid and vitamins A and B 12 in a bid to reduce nutrition deficiencies among the beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that it would be available in ration shops from November, 2019?

Allocation of foodgrains to Tamil Nadu

3092. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand has been made by States, including the State of Tamil Nadu, to allocate more foodgrains, including rice from Central quota;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has acceded to such demand; and

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

Setting up of laboratories by FCI

3093. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new laboratories, if any, that have been established by the Food Corporation of India for effective monitoring of quality of foodgrains in the past few years;

(b) the efforts that have been made by the Ministry in the past five years for upgrading the existing laboratories with latest equipments; and

(c) the number of new jobs, if any, that have been created in these laboratories by the quality wing of the Food Corporation of India in the past five years?

Formation of review committee to look into PDS

†3094. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to form a review committee to look into Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, the number of PDS centres in the country; and

(c) whether Government also intends to reorganise PDS on keeping in view the zonal diversities of the country?

Funds allocated and spent for various schemes

3095. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS,

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated for various schemes of the Ministry during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of funds released under various schemes during the last three years, State-wise including the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the details of spent/unspent funds under various schemes in the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) whether the funds released under various schemes are sufficient to achieve the desired objectives?

Procurement of farm produces at MSP by private players

3096. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has approved a new scheme for procuring farm produces at MSP by private players;

(b) if so, the reasons for permitting private players and how it helps in smooth distribution through PDS; and

(c) the amount that has been earmarked for the year 2018-19 for the new procurement mechanism?

Payment of dues to sugarcane-growing farmers

3097. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount the sugar mills owe to the cane-growing farmers in the country, State-wise;

(b) the reason for not paying the dues to the sugarcane-growing farmers and the steps taken by the Ministry to resolve the issue;

(c) the measures taken to boost the liquidity position of sugar mills, especially in Punjab; and

(d) by when, the total dues to the sugarcane-growing farmers would be paid by the sugar mills of the country?

Wastage of foodgrains

†3098. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ratio and quantity of production and wastage of food products in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that according to previous studies, the wastage of foodgrains is continuously increasing, if so, the reasons and details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken to prevent the wastage of food products during the last five years, along with the details of achievements thereof?

Steps taken to implement "One Nation-One Ration Card" Scheme

3099. SHRIMATI SARAJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to adopt the "One Nation-One Ration Card" Scheme in order to bring more transparency and efficiency in the Public Distribution System for crores of consumers of the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the effective steps Government is taking to implement this scheme at the earliest?

Vacancies in consumer courts

3100. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to set up more consumer courts in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to take steps to fill up the vacancies in the consumer courts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Digitisation of BPL and APL cards

3101. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any provision for homeless people who do not have any BPL card;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has a detailed list of all the BPL members in the country;

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

(e) the steps taken to digitize BPL and APL cards?

Field Inspection Committees to check PDS functioning

3102. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps Government has taken to strengthen the Public Distribution System;

(b) whether Government proposes to constitute Field Inspection Committees to check the functioning of PDS and whether people are getting their due quota under PDS; and

(c) the number of cases that have been registered against persons deputed in PDS, for diverting any item or caught in malpractices in PDS, during last three years, the details thereof?

Shortage of potatoes and onions

3103. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is anticipating any shortage of potatoes, onions, etc., in the country;

(b) if so, whether there is a gap between demand and supply in the domestic market; and

(c) whether Government has taken necessary steps for creation of buffer stocks of potatoes and onions to avoid any shortage, if so, the details thereof?

Unavailability of foodgrains to poor people due to implementation of biometric system

‡3104. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the poor are unable to avail subsidised foodgrains easily under Antyodaya Yojana after implementation of biometric system;

(b) whether Government is aware of such incidents, where unavailability of internet is a big obstacle in implementation of biometric system resulting in unavailability of foodgrains to the poor for months which drives them on the verge of starvation; and

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

Automation of fair price shops

3105. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether automation of fair price shops is completed along with Aadhaar authentication;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether proper caution is being taken to disburse PDS rice to people with fading fingerprints; and

(d) if so, the details of fair price shops and shops equipped with automation facilities, State-wise?

Starvation deaths in Jharkhand

3106. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports of starvation deaths in Jharkhand in last five months;

(b) whether it is a fact that such deaths occurred because of non-availability of entitled ration;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether linking of Aadhaar was cited as the reason for the denial of ration in any such cases?

Storage benefit to Rajasthan

3107. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides storage benefit to States under Decentralised Procurement Scheme for wheat;

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

(c) the details regarding quantum of storage benefit provided to States;

(d) whether Rajasthan Government has requested for pending storage benefits for the year 2016 onwards, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government has taken any decision on the request of the Rajasthan Government and if so, the details thereof?

Starvation deaths in Jharkhand due to denial of ration

3108. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been various

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

reports of deaths in Jharkhand due to starvation and allegations have been made that they were denied ration earlier too;

(b) if so, the actions Government has taken to track these cases; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of One Nation-One Ration Card Scheme

3109. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether One Nation-One Ration Card Scheme would be implemented only on Centre-supported subsidies, if so, how would it solve the problem of inter-State migrants wishing to access State subsidies;

(b) how would the public distribution mechanisms of the State function, if the ration system is regulated by the Centre; and

(c) the measures which would be taken to ensure that all ration shops have a Point of Sale (PoS) Machine?

Assistance to sugar mills to offset the cost of sugarcane

†3110. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to offset the cost of sugarcane, sugar mills were given assistance at the rate of ₹ 5.50 per quintal

during 2017-18 and at an increased rate of ₹ 13.88 per quintal during 2018-19;

(b) if so, details of amount given to sugar mills under this head as assistance and whether any assessment has been done to know the number of farmers who were paid in time;

(c) whether the amount given by Government for sugarcane payment to farmers is being utilised by sugar mills under other heads; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

Augmentation of storage facility

3111. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:
SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH
TOMAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the current capacity of storage of foodgrains in the country is sufficient to meet the demand for the same;

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

(c) whether Government has any plan to increase the warehousing and storage capacity; and

(d) if so, whether Government intends to use public-private-partnership (PPP) to augment the storage capacity?

Study on fluctuation of price and its effect on farmers

3112. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study about the fluctuation of price of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

various crops like rice, wheat, potato, onion, brinjal etc., and its effect on farmers and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has decided to use the Price Stabilization Fund for assistance to farmers during distress sale of agricultural products, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any financial support have been released to the State Government to assist the distressed farmers of Kerala during 2014-19, if so, the details thereof?

Repackaging of expired food

3113. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of packed food which expires in a year in the country;

(b) the amount of loss that must be borne by the company for expired goods;

(c) the use of food items after their expiry; and

(d) whether expired food is re-used for some other purposes or it is repacked and reused, if so, the details thereof?

Compliance of standards by food processing units

3114. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has carried out any periodic inspections of the existing food processing units through its enforcement agencies to ensure compliance with laid down standards of food processing;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of the agencies which have been engaged for the purpose;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is fact that during periodic inspection of a factory in Valsad, Gujarat, some rotten mangoes were found for making mango-flavoured ice cream; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon?

Monitoring of processed food companies

3115. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is monitoring the turnover, production, sourcing of materials and marketing of the small packed food products like Kurkure, Wafers etc., which are openly sold in market;

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

(c) whether the said information regarding manufacturers of processed food are centrally maintained in the Ministry;

(d) if so, the details of the growth of the turnover of these companies during each of the last three years; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Production in Getalsud food park in Ranchi

†3116. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the food

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

park in Getalsud near Ranchi in Jharkhand is reportedly functional;

(b) if so, the details of total production, number of labourers along with the electricity consumption therein during last five years;

(c) the details of the subsidy given by the Central Government to this food park till date;

(d) the names of the banks and the amount that remains outstanding against the said food park; and

(e) the details of the ownership of this food park?

Draft new National Food Processing Policy

3117. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drafted a new National Food Processing Policy and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether several stakeholders have given their opinion in the matter, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the time-frame prescribed by Government to finalise the same and the efforts made to implement it at the earliest?

Wastage of fruits and vegetables

†3118. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fruits and vegetables of farmers are still getting spoilt due to the lack of proper processing and storage facilities;

(b) whether any study has been conducted to find out the quantity of fruits and vegetables being wasted every year due to lack of proper processing facilities and because of which farmers are directly facing loss; and

(c) the expenditure incurred by the Ministry on food processing and storage facilities during the last five years and to what extent the wastage of the said items has been prevented?

Job opportunity in value addition of cereals

3119. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of major cereals produced in the country over the past five years;

(b) the percentage of them which are given value addition;

(c) the number of jobs created by value addition of cereals; and

(d) the steps that are planned by Government to increase value addition?

Provision of computers and TV sets in panchayats

3120. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided computers and TV sets to every panchayat in the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the number of gram panchayats that have received such things; and

(c) whether services of any computer literate person is also available in the panchayats to operate computers?

Direct funding to the panchayats

3121. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has withheld the funds allocated for local bodies in Himachal Pradesh for implementing various rural projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated for the implementation of rural projects and schemes during the last three years in the State;

(d) whether Government has fixed any specific norms and rules for direct funding to the villages and panchayats; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the measures taken by Government in this regard?

Uniform Panchayati System in the country

†3122. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is contemplating to make such a provision in which uniform Panchayati System would be implemented in the entire country under Panchayati Raj Act;

(b) whether any study has been conducted in this regard and whether Government would take any step in this regard; and

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

Construction of ROB's in Telangana

3123. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that twenty-six Road Over Bridges (ROBs) are under construction in the State of Telangana;

(b) if so, the details of progress of constructions of each of ROB; and

(c) by when they are likely to be completed?

Assigning National Rail and Transport Institute the title of Institute of National Importance

3124. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Ministry to make the National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI) an institution of national importance and bring it to one of the top 500 institutions and then one of the top 100 institutions in the world;

(b) whether the Ministry sent the proposal before the Empowered Expert Committee (EEC) of UGC for giving it the tag of an institution of national importance:

(c) if so, the recommendation of the EEC;

(d) whether there are any plans to set up NRTI centre in Andhra Pradesh; and

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Subsidy on rail tickets

3125. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in an effort to mop up possible savings, Railways proposes to invoke the sense of sympathy of affluent passengers to forego the subsidy on their ticket, on the lines of 'give-it-up' campaign of the Ministry of Petroleum for forgoing (LPG) subsidies;

(b) whether Railways would also appeal to senior citizens to consider not to avail concession/subsidies on their tickets for contributing to Railways' savings mobilisation drive; and

(c) the other salient features of the proposed scheme?

Unpopularity of flexi fare

3126. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted a survey to find out the level of disappointment of the common man after the introduction of flexi fare;

(b) whether Government is aware that long distance travel in the country by trains is not a luxury but a necessity; and

(c) whether Government plans to remove flexi fare, if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

High-speed trains plying through Tamil Nadu

3127. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced

any high-speed trains plying to and from Tamil Nadu over the last five years, and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government plans to increase the connectivity of high-speed trains across the country; and

(c) if so, the details of the budgetary allocation therefor?

Replacement of obsolete equipments

3128. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the equipments used by Railways are now obsolete and need immediate replacement; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Railway projects in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

3129. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of new railway lines laid in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in the last five year;

(b) the number of pending projects and ongoing projects in the two States;

(c) the number of projects that are held up due to token allocation of funds; and

(d) by when the pending projects in the two States would be completed?

Railway projects in Kerala

3130. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going projects in the State of Kerala, at present;

(b) the status of each railway project, as on date; and

(c) whether any project is running behind the schedule, if so, the reasons therefor?

Refund of fare of delayed trains

‡3131. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a refund is granted to passengers on account of trains not arriving on scheduled time or running excessively late;

(b) if so, the details of amount refunded; and

(c) the number of passengers who got their fare refunded during the last five years, the details thereof?

Decline in demand for rail coaches

3132. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand for coaches in Railways has come down drastically during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many coach factories of Railways are not producing coaches upto their capacity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Station redevelopment programme

3133. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that station

redevelopment is the biggest non-fare revenue generation project for redeveloping railway stations in the country and has been included in the harmonized list of infrastructure sub-sectors;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the station redevelopment programme is envisaged to be done by leveraging commercial development of spareable space in and around railway stations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Steps taken to make rail transportation attractive

3134. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have taken various measures to make rail transportation attractive and to arrest the declining trend of rail share;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that these measures are focusing on prioritizing investment in important areas, viz. dedicated freight corridors, high-speed rail, high capacity rolling stock, last mile rail linkage, port connectivity and attracting private and foreign direct investment; and

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

Upgradation, doubling and electrification of railway track

3135. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of upgradation, doubling and electrification of railway track carried out by Railways in the country during the last three years, Zone-wise; and

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the details of the budgetary allocation made and the amount spent by Railways in this regard?

Laying of third rail line between cities

3136. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to lay third railway line between cities to run more trains;

(b) if so, whether Government has received any proposal and plan from NITI Aayog and or from any private operators on PPP model therefor;

(c) the detailed plan and proposal received so far, if any; and

(d) the proposal of Government along with time-frame, land acquisition and other formalities in this regard?

Old coaches in running trains

3137. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many trains are running with very old coaches whose validity has already expired;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many trains have been running with refurbished coaches without much facilities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Railway projects in Haryana

3138. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to

increase inter-connectivity in Haryana through rail links;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the current status of ongoing and announced railway projects for Haryana in the last five years;

(d) whether there is a delay in completion of the ongoing projects, if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the number of railway stations developed and modernised in Haryana in the last five years; and

(f) the budgetary allocation made for projects in Haryana, funds utilised and achievements made in the last five years?

Modernisation of railway stations

†3139. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated a detailed scheme for the modernisation and upgradation of railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of modernisation of Ambikapur, Bishrampur, Baikunthpur and Udalkachar railway stations during the last five years;

(d) whether it is a fact that even today, the railways coach display system is still not in place at Baikunthpur railway station due to which passengers have to face a lot of difficulties; and

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

Pending railway projects in Gujarat

†3140. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from Gujarat for the construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and railway underpasses during the last three years, if so, the details thereof, proposal-wise;

(b) the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the number of proposals of Gujarat pending with Railways at present and the place-wise details of these proposals; and

(d) the details along with present status of ROBs and railway underpasses being constructed in the State of Gujarat at present, place-wise?

Ticketing racket in railways

3141. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that due to summer rush, ticket agents have become active across the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Railway Protection Force (RPF) has launched operations, conducted raids in various cities and arrested a number of culprits involved in the racket;

(c) if so, the value of tickets which have been seized and the number of passengers affected due to this malpractice;

(d) whether any investigation has been carried out to find out the involvement of insiders or lower staff in the racket; and

(e) the steps being taken to audit the software to make it foolproof?

Charges on cancellation of train tickets

3142. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the charges on cancellation of train tickets have increased manifold in comparison to the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the cancellation charges last revised and the cancellation charges existing at present, class-wise; and

(c) the remedial steps being taken by Railways to minimise the cancellation charges to benefit the commuters?

Merger of railway manufacturing units and workshops to form new public sector unit

3143. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to bundle its manufacturing units and workshops into a new public sector unit;

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

(c) whether Government held any talks with all stakeholders before arriving at this decision;

(d) if so, the details thereof including opposing views; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Quality of food served in the trains

†3144. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government has received some complaints regarding poor quality of food being served in trains;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no mechanism in place to test the quality of food being served in most of the trains;

(c) if so, whether Government would conduct, periodic test of quality of food being served to the passengers, so that quality food is made available to the passengers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Increasing speed of premium trains

3145. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI:
DR. SANTANU SEN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to reduce the journey time of premium trains such as Rajdhani, Shatabdi etc., if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) in what manner Government plans to ensure safety of these trains while increasing their speed?

Vacant posts in Railways

†3146. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR
SABLE:
SHRI C.M. RAMESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has adequate staff for smooth functioning of its work, if so, the details of personnel working in all departments coming under the Ministry, category-wise;

(b) the number of posts lying vacant in operation and safety category in Railways, Zone-wise and whether any difficulty is being faced due to these vacancies;

(c) if so, by when these vacant posts would be filled up, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has made any temporary/contractual appointments in safety category; and

(e) if so, the details of the contractual employees, Zone-wise?

Rationalisation of fare and subsidy

†3147. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering rationalisation of fare and subsidy as well;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Execution of schemes by District Rural Development Agencies

3148. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of functions and schemes that have been entrusted and are being executed by District Rural Development Agencies; and

(b) the details of funds that have been allocated to District Rural Development Agencies during last five years including in the State of Tamil Nadu?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Study to assess the impact of
MGNREGA on agricultural
wages**

3149. SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any study to assess the impact of MGNREGA on agricultural wages in different States of the country;

(b) if so, the major findings thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Ministry is planning to conduct such a study;

(d) whether the Ministry is aware that implementation of MGNREGA scheme has made availability of agricultural labour scarce; and

(e) whether the Ministry is considering any suggestions to make labour under MGNREGA available to farmers for sowing and harvesting operations?

**Target set for mandays under
MGNREGA**

3150. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry had set a target of 215 crore mandays under MGNREGA in 2017-18 and the target set for 2018-19 and 2019-20, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) if so, the reasons for setting a lesser number of mandays when compared to 235 crore mandays in 2016-17, in spite of drought conditions in States like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Telangana, etc.;

(c) whether Ministry has taken any decision to provide additional mandays in

drought-affected States, particularly in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban
Mission**

3151. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the developmental activities that have been taken up at the 100 approved clusters under the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission, the State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry plans to increase the number of clusters under the above mentioned scheme, if so, by when the Ministry would start the procedure for shortlisting; and

(c) the number of new jobs, if any, that have been created due to the developmental activities undertaken through the above-mentioned scheme?

Phase-III of PMGSY in Karnataka

3152. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as part of 100 days plan, the Ministry has proposed to roll out Phase-III of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for strengthening and widening of rural roads of 1.25 lakh kilometers;

(b) if so, the details and the number of kilometers of rural roads in Karnataka going to be taken up under Phase-III; and

(c) the details of expected expenditure involved and blueprint that the Ministry has prepared for this purpose?

**Construction of Anganwadi Centres
in Uttar Pradesh**

3153. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mandays created under MGNREGA are used for construction of Anganwadi Centres in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of mandays used in Uttar Pradesh for last three years for construction of Anganwadi Centres, district-wise; and

(c) the number of Anganwadi Centres constructed by using MGNREGA manpower?

Revitalisation of ponds

3154. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether rural ponds can be revitalised utilising funds from the Ministry of Rural Development;

(b) whether it could be done under MGNREGA; and

(c) if so, the number of ponds which have been revitalised with funds from the Ministry?

**Construction of bridges under
PMGSY in Uttar Pradesh**

3155. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bridges sanctioned and completed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the last three years and the current year in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether any proposals have been received from the State Government for construction of more bridges in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Schemes for benefit of rural poor

3156. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced any schemes for benefit of rural poor in the country;

(b) if so, details thereof along with funds allocated/released during last three years and current year, State-wise and Scheme-wise;

(c) whether Government has formulated a National Level Monitoring (NLM) scheme to monitor progress of schemes being implemented for benefit of rural poor in country;

(d) if so, whether NLM has recently submitted its reports to Government; and

(e) if so, details thereof along with flaws identified by NLM in implementation of various rural development schemes in country, State-wise, and action taken by Government in this regard?

Wages under MGNREGA

3157. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether wages paid to labourers under MGNREGA are uniform in all the States;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the criteria laid down for automatic increase in the wages;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether the Central Government has issued any directive to the State Governments in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Facelifting of construction of houses in villages

3158. DR. C. P. THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that many villages are turning out to be like slums due to rising population and construction of four/five houses at places where there was only one house earlier;

(b) if so, the different infrastructural changes/interventions required; and

(c) in the context of Adarsh Gram Yojana, whether the Ministry would contemplate village architectural design and providing subsidy to those who come forward to facelift the villages?

Allocation and expenditure under MGNREGA

3159. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India ranks 103rd out of 119 countries in Global Hunger Index and is home to largest number of malnourished people in the world, accounting for 25 per cent of the global total;

(b) if so, in MGNREGA, whether the expenditure in the head of SC persondays for year 2018-19 is lower than that of allocation for 2015-16;

(c) whether total number of works taken and overall utilisation percentage in

2018-19 is also less as compared to 2015-16; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and proposal to generate more persondays, thus generating income per people?

Housing loan for construction of houses in rural areas

†3160. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of beneficiaries of the subsidised housing loan given by Government for construction of houses in rural areas is very low because of its complex process and difficult eligibility conditions; and

(b) if so, whether Government would consider making it simple and easier to make its dream of "Home For All" come true?

Construction of roads under PMGSY in Chhattisgarh

†3161. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the roads constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the Balrampur-Ramanujganj district of Chhattisgarh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of ongoing works under PMGSY in Balrampur;

(c) whether Government has received any new proposal regarding the construction of roads in the said areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Pending works in tribal areas under PMGSY in the absence of NOC

†3162. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many works under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are not being carried out in the absence of No Objection Certificates (NOCs) in respect of the reserved forest lands of tribal areas;

(b) if so, the scheme-wise, place-wise and distance-wise details of the works which are pending under PMGSY due to non-availability of NOC in respect of reserved forest lands in Gujarat; and

(c) the details of reformatory steps taken by Government in this regard and the outcome of the steps taken thereon?

Water conservation and irrigation-related works under MGNREGA

3163. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of water conservation and irrigation-related works, started under MGNREGA, have been left incomplete or suspended in the past five years;

(b) if so, reasons therefor and remedial measures taken by Government;

(c) the total number of works sanctioned and started under MGNREGA in the country since 2014, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) the total number of works completed so far and the rate of work completion in past five years, in the State of Haryana and other States; and

(e) the amount of expenditure incurred

on the completed and suspended or incomplete works in the last five years?

Identification of houses with toilets under SAGY in Madhya Pradesh

†3164. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the verification of pre-build functional toilets and identification of remaining houses which are without toilet facility and non-functional toilets in the State of Madhya Pradesh, district-wise; and

(b) with reference to above, the details of the analysis of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) for the period from 2014-2019 in the State of Madhya Pradesh?

Measures for strengthening of MGNREGS

3165. DR. L. HANUMANTHAI: DR. AMEE YAJNIK: SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any effective measures have been taken by Government to strengthen the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of days and wages in MGNREGS in order to create employment and earning of the people living in rural areas;

(c) if so, the details of the measures taken by the Central Government to address the problems being faced by people

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

in MGNREGS, especially in Karnataka; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

National Skill Qualification Framework

3166. SHRI G. C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) and other major schemes/programmes of Government for imparting vocational education/training for development of skill of youth in the country;

(b) whether Government has provided adequate funds under the NSQF during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof, Scheme/ Programme-wise and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of complaints of irregularities/diversion of funds in implementation of the said schemes/ programmes received by Government, Scheme-wise, along with the action taken thereon; and

(e) the other steps taken by Government in this direction?

Funds for schemes

3167. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated for various schemes during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of funds released under various schemes during the last three years, State-wise, including the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the details of spent and unspent funds under various schemes of the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) whether the funds released under various schemes are sufficient to achieve the desired objectives?

Regulator for skill development bodies

3168. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to set up a regulator for skill development bodies in the country;

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

(c) by when the regulator would come into effect?

Posts of trainers at training centres under skill development programmes

†3169. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the details of existing training centres under skill development scheme in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of trainers for skill development training at existing training centres in the country; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the required number of posts of trainers at training centres along with the details of filled-up and vacant posts respectively?

Integration of skill with education

3170. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to integrate skills and education so that our youth are well-equipped to handle the present challenging employment market;

(b) if so, the initiatives that have been taken in this regard in the last three years;

(c) whether any plan has been drawn or proposed to be drawn in collaboration with the Ministry of Human Resource Development in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Payment of honorarium to trainers in Rajasthan

†3171. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the details of arrangements made to regulate the honorarium of appointed trainers in the programmes being run by the Ministry to train the youth;

(b) whether it is a fact that the trainers working at these training centres in Rajasthan have not received honorarium for the past several months;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Central

Government to protect the interests of these trainers?

Jobs under skill development programme

3172. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various State Governments have demanded more jobs under skill development programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is also taking steps to ensure that the persons who underwent skill development programme get employment quickly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Skill development institutions under PPP mode

3173. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the various skill development institutions set up by the Central Government under Public Private-Partnership (PPP) mode in the country;

(b) their locations and the number of unemployed youth who got training in such institutions; and

(c) the number of trained youth who have been absorbed in the related employments, with detailed year-wise statistics?

NEW DELHI;
The 13th July, 2019
Ashadha 22, 1941 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

INDEX

(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	: 3014, 3015, 3016, 3017, 3019, 3020, 3021, 3022, 3023, 3024, 3025, 3026, 3027, 3028, 3029, 3030, 3031, 3032, 3033, 3034, 3035, 3036, 3037, 3038, 3039, 3040, 3041, 3042, 3043, 3044, 3045, 3046, 3047, 3048, 3049, 3050, 3051, 3052, 3053, 3054, 3055, 3057,
Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	: 3018, 3058, 3059, 3060, 3061, 3062, 3063, 3064,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	: 3065, 3066, 3067, 3068, 3069, 3070, 3071,
Commerce and Industry	: 3072, 3073, 3074, 3075, 3076, 3077, 3078, 3079, 3080, 3081, 3082, 3083, 3084, 3085, 3086, 3087, 3088, 3089,
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	: 3090, 3091, 3092, 3093, 3094, 3095, 3096, 3097, 3098, 3099, 3100, 3101, 3102, 3103, 3104, 3105, 3106, 3107, 3108, 3109, 3110, 3111, 3112,
Food Processing Industries	: 3056, 3113, 3114, 3115, 3116, 3117, 3118, 3119,
Panchayati Raj	: 3120, 3121, 3122,
Railways	: 3123, 3124, 3125, 3126, 3127, 3128, 3129, 3130, 3131, 3132, 3133, 3134, 3135, 3136, 3137, 3138, 3139, 3140, 3141, 3142, 3143, 3144, 3145, 3146, 3147,
Rural Development	: 3148, 3149, 3150, 3151, 3152, 3153, 3154, 3155, 3156, 3157, 3158, 3159, 3160, 3161, 3162, 3163, 3164, 3165,
Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	: 3166, 3167, 3168, 3169, 3170, 3171, 3172, 3173.