

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, November 22, 2019/Agrahayana 1, 1941 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 160

Decline in production of foodgrains

641. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of foodgrains has declined during the last three years and the current year in the country, including Tripura;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise and crop-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase the production of foodgrains in the country?

(a) the details of the amount of financial assistance provided to the beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN) in Maharashtra, district-wise and installment-wise;

(b) whether payment of all installments under the scheme has been made to beneficiaries in Maharashtra, and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which the remaining installments are likely to be disbursed to the eligible beneficiaries; and

(d) whether Government proposes to take any measures to ensure time-bound disbursement of installments under the scheme?

Disbursement of installments under PM-KISAN Yojana

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

Filing of lawsuits

643. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of lawsuits the Ministry

is facing in various High Courts and the Supreme Court as on 31st August 2019, and the High Court-wise, statistics of the cases that have been filed and since when;

(b) the number of these lawsuits that are filed by the Government Departments/ Government establishments or State Governments; and

(c) whether the Ministry has evolved any structured mechanism to minimize the number of lawsuits being filed, if so, the nature of the same, if not, the reasons therefor?

Reducing agrarian distress

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

(a) whether Indian agriculture is confronted with high price volatility, climate risks and indebtedness, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the farmer's welfare/ supporting programmes and schemes are disjointed and function independently of each other, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has any practical solution for reviving the agrarian sector which would reduce the agrarian distress, if so, the details thereof?

Uneven increase of coverage and premium on crop insurance

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

(a) whether the number of farmers covered by crop insurance has gone up by 0.42 per cent only while the premiums paid to insurance companies have increased by 350 per cent, if so, whether Government has taken any measures to find the cause of this unevenness;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide a remedy for this issue?

Requirement of fertilizer to meet targeted foodgrain production

646. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has set a target to meet the production target of 300 million tonnes of foodgrains by 2025;

(b) if so, the quantity of fertilizers required to achieve the target along with the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of production of fertilizers in the country?

Doubling income of farmers

647. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has planned to increase the income of the farmers to double annually;

(b) if so, the plan to double the income of farmers; and

(c) the growth rate of agriculture in 2017-18, 2018-19 and at the end of second quarter of 2019- 20?

Distress sale of vegetables by farmers

648. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to

formulate any long term plan to prevent distress sale of vegetables by farmers which is witnessed almost every year, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government would like to hold consultations with stakeholders and States in this regard, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Agriculture policy in the country

†649. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agricultural policy in the country, if any, and if no such policy is in place, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether farmers are not able to get fair price for their produce for want of agricultural policy in the country;

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

(d) if not, the steps being taken by Government to protect farmers' produce in the market from going into the hands of middlemen?

Implementation of recommendations of National Commission on Farmers

†650. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the main recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers;

(b) the present status of their implementation;

(c) whether problems of farmers still persist despite follow-up action by various stakeholders on the recommendations of the Commission;

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

(e) the comprehensive steps taken by Government to resolve problems being faced by the farmers?

Credit linkage for agricultural project based activities

651. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state whether Government would consider to relax the credit linkages for the agricultural project based activities up to ₹ 25 lakhs?

Assistance under National Horticulture Mission

652. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there would be an increase in assistance under area expansion programme taken up in National Horticulture Mission under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH); and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

PPP for setting up of cold storages

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

(a) whether Government is considering to promote Public-Private Partnership (PPP) for setting up of cold storages in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the steps taken by Government to increase the cold storage infrastructure across the country along with the amount allocated, sanctioned and disbursed to various States, especially in Punjab, during the last three years and current year, State-wise?

Assistance to farmers of Kerala affected by rains and floods

654. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the facilities/benefits provided by the Central Government for small and marginal farmers including others affected by the havoc caused due to rains and floods in the State of Kerala;

(b) whether Central Government has received any report of the damages in the affected areas of Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Adoption of IOFS

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

(a) whether 'One acre Integrated Organic Farming System' (IOFS) model has been developed with the objective to generate more than 80 per cent of inputs required for organic farming within the farm itself;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any suggestions/inputs from the farmers regarding the feasibility of this model; and

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

Scientific agricultural practices

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

(a) whether the Ministry is focusing on developing scientific and sustainable agricultural practices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of hi-tech hubs and custom hiring centres set up in the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the total expenditure incurred on setting up the facilities and maintenance in the last three years?

Implementation of ICAR projects

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

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) projects would be implemented in 25 districts (one district from each State) through the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and each KVK would involve about 200 youths below the age of 35, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has made B.Sc. Agriculture a mandatory qualification to get licence for sale of agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and pesticides which would create several thousand jobs for agriculture graduates, if so, the details and the present status thereof?

Non-receiving of financial benefit by farmers

658. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of

Central Government's announcement on financial benefit to farmers, the farmers of the country are still in the dark about getting their benefits in their account since April 2018;

(b) if so, the details of announcements made by Government from 2017-18 financial year onwards;

(c) the support that has been extended to farmers since 2018, State-wise; and

(d) the proposal of Government to meet the demands of and commitments to farmers of the country and the time schedule thereof?

Utilisation of paddy stubble for commercial purposes

659. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government is aware that stubble of paddy can be used as fodder for animals and in paper industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry proposes to announce schemes for utilization of paddy stubble for commercial use;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Selling of agricultural produces to Government

660. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any increase in the percentage of agricultural households across the country who are actually able to sell their produce to Government; and

(b) if so, the details about the percentage

of such agricultural households in the last five years, year-wise and State-wise?

Share of small and marginal farmers in the average yearly income from cultivation

661. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farm income of small and marginal farmers is decreasing;

(b) if so, the details about average yearly income from cultivation of small and marginal farmers, who hold less than 3 hectares of land, during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the share of small and marginal farmers in the total national income of the last five years from farming?

Drought management

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

(a) the regions affected by drought during the last three years;

(b) the steps taken for drought management; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

Drought management plans

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

(a) whether there are regions that have no drought management plans;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when drought management plans would be introduced in these regions; and

(d) the steps taken to deal with Maharashtra's drought issue?

Production of exportable crops

†664. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers in the country could avail better prices for their yields on producing exportable agro products which could help towards doubling their income;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that adequate measures have been adopted by Government in the said direction and results have come on expected lines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Minimum wages for women farmers

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

(a) whether the women engaged in agriculture sector are not being paid minimum wages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to remove such problems?

Benefits of MSP to farmers from vulnerable communities

666. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any specific information on the numbers and extent of benefits that farmers from

vulnerable communities, including low income groups, obtain under the MSP, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the specific efforts made by Government to ensure that farmers from these communities benefit from MSP; and

(d) the steps Government plans to undertake to augment their income?

Use of modern technology for assessing damage to crops

667. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reports on pilot studies for assessment of damage caused to crops using modern technologies under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) have been submitted by the concerned agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action Government proposes to take on the basis of reports submitted; and

(d) whether Government has fixed any timeline for change in the methodology for assessment of damage to the crops?

Implementation of PMFBY in Bihar

668. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of success accomplished by Government in implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) in the State of Bihar;

(b) the number of farmers insured under this Yojana in Bihar; and

(c) the kind of crops for which insurance

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

claim has been demanded under this scheme and the insurance amount disbursed so far in this regard?

MSP for Kharif crops

669. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of some Kharif crops;

(b) whether farmers unions/State Governments concerned have been consulted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Status of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojana

670. SHRI SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojana since the inception of this programme, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the challenges faced in implementation of PM-KISAN Yojana; and

(c) the plans for development of PM-KISAN Yojana in the future?

Fixing of MSP of crops

†671. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:

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

(a) whether there is a demand by farmers' organisations to fix production cost of their crops by changing the existing formula of fixing Minimum Support Price (MSP) on the basis of C-2 system;

(b) whether Government would consider the demand of farmers' organisations and the recommendations of MS Swaminathan Commission on fixing MSP for farmers crops so that their financial condition may improve; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

MSP for Rabi crops

672. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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

(a) whether Government has increased the MSP of various crops for Rabi season 2019-20;

(b) if so, the details of increase in MSP, crop-wise;

(c) whether the above increase is in accordance with the recommendations of Swaminathan Commission;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the details of other measures Government has taken to double the income of farmers by 2022?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Crops loss due to floods and storms

†673. SHRI LAL SINH
VADODIA:
SHRI RAMKUMAR
VERMA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the crops of farmers have suffered losses due to frequent heavy rains, floods and storms this year;

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

(c) the details of the steps to be taken by Government to compensate the farmers of the country for the losses of their crops?

MSP for Kharif and Rabi crops

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

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

(a) the details of MSP for various Kharif and Rabi crops, cost of production and profit margins over the cost of production of all principal crops during the last two years, crop-wise;

(b) the percentage of increase made in the MSP during the last two years, year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that farmers are not getting remunerative prices for their produce, if so, the corrective steps taken by Government to provide relief to the farmers; and

(d) whether Government proposes to announce the MSP for various agricultural

produce for the current year, if so, the details thereof, produce-wise?

Sale of pesticides with banned chemicals

675. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of sale of pesticides with banned chemicals and herbicide-tolerant cotton seeds have been reported from different parts of the country;

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

(c) the likely impact of such pesticides and seeds on crops and health of farmers; and

(d) the action being taken by Government thereon and to check their sale in the country?

Damage to crops due to heavy rains and floods

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

(a) the total loss incurred by the farmers whose crops have been damaged due to heavy rains/floods during the last six months in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether in certain districts, the entire crop has been destroyed, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any survey/ investigation to assess the extent of the loss incurred by farmers in such States; and

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Implementation of pension scheme for farmers

†677. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to swiftly implement the pension schemes for farmers;

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

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

Zero Budget Natural Farming

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

(a) the details of Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) implemented and practised in various States, including the area of land covered and the number of farmers practising ZBNF, for the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the details of farm output and income per hectare under ZBNF and under fertilizer-based chemical farming, for crops including but not limited to wheat, sugarcane, paddy and banana; and

(c) the details of any study or survey carried out to evaluate the proclaimed effectiveness of ZBNF in increasing output?

Implementation of PKVY in Uttar Pradesh

679. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of fund allocation under

Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) to Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the number of farmers benefited under PKVY, district-wise in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) whether any suggestions have come from Government of Uttar Pradesh for improvement in implementation of PKVY?

Implementation of PM-KISAN Yojana in Madhya Pradesh

†680. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to cover all the farmers of the country under the ambit of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the beneficiary farmers in Madhya Pradesh have been identified under this Yojana and whether the amount is being transferred to their accounts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Controlling the prices of medicines

681. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps being taken by Government for controlling the prices of medicines and providing medicines at cheap/ fair rate to the poor;

(b) whether it is a fact that some medicines have been added and some have been removed by making large changes in the control-list by Government for providing medicines at cheaper price; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Sanitary napkin scheme

682. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently launched a scheme for making available sanitary napkins for ensuring menstrual hygiene of women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the sanitary napkin is environment friendly;

(d) the number of sanitary napkins sold in India so far under this new scheme, whether the price of the said sanitary napkin is cheaper as compared to similar sanitary napkins available in the market;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether country-wide awareness programme has been launched by the Department of pharmaceuticals; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Divestment of Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

683. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to divest the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.; and

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

Purchase of fertilizers under DBT subsidy scheme

684. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers are

not interested to purchase fertilizers under DBT subsidy scheme;

(b) the State-wise consumption of fertilizers during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many of the fertilizer companies are reluctant to produce fertilizers due to pendency of payment from Government; and

(d) if so, the details of pendency of payment to fertilizer companies as on date?

Employment in chemicals and fertilizers industry

685. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons employed in chemicals and fertilizers industry in the country;

(b) whether potential for creating opportunity for additional employment has been asserted and, if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Ministry has instituted training programmes for facilitating the recruitment of efficient manpower; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Performance of fertilizer PSUs

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

(a) the financial and physical performance of National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), Ramagundam Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited (RFCL) and Project and Development India Limited (PDIL) during the last three years;

(b) whether these companies are paying dividend to Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof for the last three years?

Supply and import of fertilizers

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

(a) the details of various fertilizers that are being imported into the country through its various ports during the last three years;

(b) the agencies involved in importing fertilizers from various countries through various ports of the country during these years;

(c) the rationale behind selection of ports and foreign supply for importing fertilizers into the country and the details thereof; and

(d) the rationale and planning of supply of fertilizers in the country by fertilizer companies along with the justification on logistic advantage of these supply plans of the fertilizer companies?

Impact of closing of pharma companies in China

688. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to notice of the Ministry that the environmental disruptions resulting in closing of tens of thousands of pharma companies in China is impacting Indian Pharma Sector;

(b) whether any assessment has been made about shortage of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) and closing down of nearly 200 API units in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and how the Ministry is planning to address this serious problem; and

(d) whether there are alternative countries for importing APIs and if not, how would the Ministry ensure that drugs manufactured with help of APIs are kept at a reasonable price?

Status of Namrup based Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited

689. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Government team has recently visited Assam to take stock of the Namrup based Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL) which has been lying closed for years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether ₹ 100 crore has been sanctioned for Namrup fertilizer plant's unit I and II;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the closure of the production units at Namrup has led to skyrocketing of prices of urea in the black market; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to resolve the issue?

Generic drugs in the country

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

(a) whether Government has introduced generic drugs in the country;

(b) if so, whether the prices of generic drugs are cheaper than other drugs available in the open market with the same composition;

(c) the reasons behind the price variation of the same products;

(d) whether Government proposes to fix "one product-one price" all over the country; and

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

Setting up of new chemical fertilizer plants

†691. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up new units/plants for production of chemical fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to set up any plant with the help of external assistance to manage the shortage of fertilizers in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps proposed/taken by Government to increase domestic production of fertilizers?

Demarcation of roles between pricing regulator and Government control

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the pharmaceutical industry has raised issue that there is no clear demarcation of roles between pricing regulator (NPPA and NPPP) and Government's control; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the course of action to clearly define duty of each authority?

BIS standards of different chemicals

693. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR:
SHRI VINAY DINU
TENDULKAR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that many chemicals produced and imported in the country are not having BIS standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has recently made BIS standard mandatory for some chemicals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Setting up of plastic parks

694. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE:
SHRIMATI VIJILA
SATHYANANTH:

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

(a) whether the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has any scheme for setting up of plastic parks in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of plastic parks functioning in the country along with details thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up new plastic parks in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Monitoring of supply and availability of fertilizers

695. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE:
DR. VIKAS MAHATME:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

(a) whether Government has created any platform to monitor supply and availability of fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether State Governments are also monitoring the availability and supply of fertilizers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Disinvestment of public undertakings

696. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI VAIKO:

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

(a) whether Government has taken decision to disinvest public undertakings under the Ministry;

(b) if so, the names of the undertakings and the details thereof;

(c) whether profit-making companies are also being disinvested or privatized and if so, the rationale therefor;

(d) whether any protest/objections were raised by the stakeholders, especially, employees' union and associations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to review the disinvestment decision, with details?

India's new Free Trade Agreement

697. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is moving towards a new Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with some countries in the Asia-Pacific Region, if so, the contours thereof;

(b) whether as a result of this new FTA, India's local market would be flooded with comparatively cheap foreign farm, dairy and plantation products, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the domestic products which could be at risk?

Monitoring system for steel imports

698. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently developed monitoring system which would provide advance information on steel imports to Government and other stakeholders, if so, details thereof;

(b) whether steel importers would have to submit advance information in online system to get automatic Registration Number, if so, details thereof;

(c) details of validity of Registration Number and documents which have to be entered by importer in bill of entry to enable clearance from customs for consignment;

(d) whether this would bring transparency and help solve issue of over invoicing and under invoicing, if so, details thereof; and

(e) further steps taken by Government in this regard?

World Economic Forum's 33rd India Economic Summit

699. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government organized the World Economic Forum's 33rd India Economic Summit;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the theme of the Summit;

(c) the number of leaders and delegates from different countries who participated in the Summit;

(d) the issues discussed in the Summit and its outcome thereof;

(e) the advantage that India got out of organizing such a Summit; and

(f) the other steps taken by Government for overall development of the country?

India's Ease of Doing Business 2020 Survey rankings

700. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite India climbing up the Ease of Doing Business 2020 Survey rankings to 63 (among 190 economies), the marked deterioration in business sentiments on the ground suggests otherwise;

(b) whether latest gain in the EODB rankings has come at a time when the country's industrial production is on downswing, credit flow to industry is seized up and unemployment is rising; and

(c) whether World Bank's methodology for this Survey is flawed since the investigation on different parameters relies on interactions with a panel of business facilitators situated in urban business capitals alone, ignoring the MSME sector operating from the vast hinterland?

RCEP Agreement

701. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Government appointed high-level advisory group led by economist

Surjit Bhalla has batted strongly for India joining the proposed RCEP agreement;

(b) whether in the panel's view, it may not be an option for India to keep out of the RCEP because this will deprive India from a large regional market; and

(c) whether there has also been a chorus of strong protest by many trade and activist unions and political outfits, calling India to be wary of the trap that would befall the domestic farming community in India?

Decision on RCEP

702. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has decided against RCEP at the meeting held at Bangkok on 4th November, 2019;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the reasons for rethinking;

(c) whether Government may make a rethinking when the co-members in the RCEP pave the way for resolving India's concern; and

(d) whether the decision would affect India's trade with ASEAN and other "MFN" status countries?

RCEP meetings

703. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether two levels of RCEP meetings were held in Bangkok recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of countries which participated in the meeting;

(c) the details of the points and subjects

raised by India along with the outcome thereof; and

(d) the details of the issues discussed, negotiations and decisions taken in the said meeting?

Violation of FDI rules by e-Commerce companies

704. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the e-Commerce companies are cooperating with Government in following the rules of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI);

(b) whether any complaints are being received regarding alleged violation of FDI rules by e-Commerce companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the guidelines being framed by Government in this regard?

Index of Industrial Production

705. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Index of Industrial Production has contracted by 1.7 per cent, the biggest decline since 2012;

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

(c) the steps Government proposes to review investments, production and demand?

Growth rate of industrial, core and manufacturing sectors

†706. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the growth rate of industrial, core and manufacturing sectors of India;

(b) the details of growth rate of the industrial, core and manufacturing sectors of the last five years;

(c) whether it is a fact that the industrial, core sector and manufacturing growth rate is decreasing;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures being taken by Government in this regard?

Challenge to export subsidy scheme

707. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of export subsidy scheme that the US has challenged before the WTO;

(b) how the provisions have been violative of WTO Rules and how the Ministry looks at the loss of India with US at the WTO;

(c) the impact of this ruling on SEZs and export-oriented units;

(d) whether the Ministry is planning to go in for an appeal; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Export Development Fund

708. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government is drawn to the concern about falling exports of the country which have shown downward trend during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether taking cognizance of the declining exports trend, Government is

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

planning to create an 'Export Development Fund' to propose a financing mechanism; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to increase the exports and thereby earn foreign revenue for the country?

Certifying agency for organic food-grains

709. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether Government is aware that in the absence of proper regulatory body for certifying the organic foodgrains, consumers are being cheated and charged heavily by selling ordinary food material in the name of organic food;

(b) if so, whether Government has any proposal to develop proper certifying agency; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Imposition of ban on export of onions

710. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government recently imposed ban on export of onions from the country after surging of prices of this commodity in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware that this decision has upset the onion growers in the country, particularly in Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial measures Government has taken in the matter?

Creation of special fund for Agro-Processing Units

711. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has created a special fund of ₹ 2000 crore with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for providing affordable credit to Agro-Processing Units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has issued any guidelines as to which Units/Food Parks would receive financial assistance in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Consultations with Export Promotion Councils

712. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry had consultations with various Export Promotion Councils to contain the fall in exports and to help the export growth;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has found the reasons for the dip in exports and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the trade promoters have urged Government to announce foreign trade policy at the earliest; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Use of plastic for packing of food items

713. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that most of the food processing units are using plastic for packing of food items in the country;
- (b) if so, the measures taken to control/ reduce usage of plastic in food processing sectors;
- (c) whether the sale of loose oil to public is banned in the country; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefore?

Shortage of coconut oil

714. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the coconut oil market is likely to firm up this season due to short supply from key States like Kerala and Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that India is the world's biggest buyer of vegetable oil, importing nearly 60 per cent of its 16-17 million tonne annual consumption; and
- (d) whether it is also a fact that the shortage of coconut oil may further add the requirement to import more vegetable oil in the coming days?

Procurement of surplus rice from Chhattisgarh

†715. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has received proposal for the procurement of surplus rice from the Government of Chhattisgarh;
- (b) the details of procurement of rice from Chhattisgarh State during the last three years, month-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that there is an apparent delay towards procurement of surplus rice from Chhattisgarh State Government in the current year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Agro warehouses in the country

716. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and number of functional agro warehouses under FCI in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government is aware of any gap in the actual and desired number of agro warehouses;
- (c) whether it is proposed to increase the number of agro warehouse, if so, the details of the proposed number, time-frame and revenue sources for the same; and
- (d) whether it is also proposed to ease the multiple regulatory requirements to improve the viability of agro warehousing as a business?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Downward revision of output
of sugar**

717. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Sugar Mills Association has revised the output for the current sugar season downwards to 30.7 million tonnes against 31.5 million tonnes as estimated earlier in October, 2018;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this is after considering estimated diversion of 5 lakh tonnes of sugar into production of ethanol through heavy molasses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Hoarding of onions

718. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the revision in the prices of onion declared by Competition Commission of India (CCI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that hoarding of onions by the retailers and wholesalers in various States are the main reasons for increase in the prices of onions;

(d) if so, whether CCI has conducted any inquiry into this matter; and

(e) the action that has been taken by Government against the hoarders of onions in the country?

FRP dues to sugarcane growers

719. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 99 per cent farmers were paid their Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) dues in 2016-17 concerning sugarcane;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the sugar mill owners failed to deposit the full FRP amount into farmers' bank accounts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Overstocking of wheat and rice by FCI

720. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the current stock of wheat and rice in the FCI godowns;

(b) the steps taken by the Ministry to reduce overstocking of wheat and rice by FCI; and

(c) the number of scientific silo storage units that have been built in the last year, State-wise details thereof?

Wastage of foodgrains

†721. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the recently released report of UNICEF, according to which every second child in India is suffering from malnutrition;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that 40 per cent of the annual foodgrain production is getting wasted every year in the country;

(c) if so, whether steps are being taken by Government to prevent starvation and wastage of food in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Procurement of farmers' crops by private players

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

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

(a) whether Government remains lackadaisical about implementation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for procurement of the agricultural produces of the farmers owing to which the produces of farmers are procured by private players at a rate lower than the MSP fixed by Government;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to formulate any policy for private players to procure the crops of farmers at the fixed MSP rate; and

(c) whether there currently exists any official guideline for the private players to buy farmers' crops or are they free to act at their discretion?

Implementation of Consumer Protection Act, 2019

723. SHRI AMAR PATNAIK:
SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

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

(a) whether the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 is in force and has been implemented;

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

(c) whether the Consumer Disputes Resolution Commissions are issuing orders under the provisions of the new Act; and

(d) the status and details of implementation of the rules and regulations under the new Act?

E-commerce guidelines for consumers

724. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:
SHRI AMAR PATNAIK:

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

(a) whether Government is in the process of drafting new rules and/or guidelines to regulate e-commerce in the interest of consumers;

(b) if so, the details and salient features thereof;

(c) whether Government has held consultations with stakeholders in this regard; and

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

Prices of food items

725. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:
DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH
VERMA:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that the prices of food items including vegetables, especially onions and tomatoes, have risen abnormally which are beyond the reach of the common people;

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

(c) the action Government has taken to curb the price rise along with the action taken against the hoarders and the result achieved thereof?

Power of Central Consumer Protection Authority

726. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has been established;

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

(c) whether the CCPA is empowered to imprison manufacturers or service providers for false or misleading advertisements?

Starvation deaths

727. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of starvation deaths that

have been reported between 2017-2019, ever since Aadhaar became mandatory to avail subsidised foodgrains and cash transfer of food subsidy;

(b) the number of the deceased who were denied ration due to unavailability of Aadhaar card or related software problem; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to address the fatal lapses?

Miserable living condition of cattle

728. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the bad treatment of cattle in large scale farms, such as the cattle being forced to live in unacceptable conditions in large, dark rooms without windows/natural sunlight, lie in their own feces all day without good quality feed and lack of healthcare;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken or proposes to take any action in this regard; and

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

Constitution of Central Approval and Monitoring Committee

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a Central Approval and Monitoring Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Joint Secretary, Fisheries, under the aegis of Department of fisheries towards

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the development of fishery and welfare of fishermen;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of meetings convened by the Committee so far, and the details of the shortcomings observed during these meetings; and

(d) to what extent Government has addressed these shortcomings?

Construction of cyclone shelter at fishing villages

730. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exist any multi-purpose cyclone shelters at fishing villages in Maharashtra, especially in the light of Cyclone Maha, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has any proposal for rehabilitation/assistance of fishermen communities affected by Cyclone Maha, if so, the amount of budget allotted for the purpose; and

(c) the details of the construction of multi-purpose cyclone shelters?

Assistance to Tamil Nadu under FIDF

731. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided any financial assistance to the State Government of Tamil Nadu under Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Fishing capacity in ocean

732. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has good inland fishing, but very poor in-ocean fishing capacity;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the present ocean fishing activity is way below country's potential;

(c) if so, to what extent the Blue Revolution is helping the Ministry to address this problem;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the National Committee for Strengthening Maritime and Coastal Security is preparing a mechanism for this purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Assistance to Kerala for fishing sector

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

(a) the details of production and export of marine and aquaculture products in the country during last five years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether Government has noticed the decline in employment opportunities of fishermen and allied workers, if so, the remedies likely to be taken by Government;

(c) the details of amount sanctioned to Kerala from Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), National Cooperatives Development Corporation (NCDC) and all scheduled banks; and

(d) the details of financial assistance

sanctioned for the development of new fishing harbours and fish landing centres?

Achievements under Rashtriya Gokul Mission

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

(a) the details of steps taken and achievements under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission to protect cows in the country so far;

(b) the details of animals identified tagged and data uploaded on INAPH database till date, State-wise; and

(c) the details of achievement under e-pashuhaat portal so far?

Assistance to fishermen

†735. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds allocated and utilised for fisheries in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) the facilities provided to fishermen under fishery schemes; and

(c) the details of development work carried out in Gujarat in the field of employment generation and fishery during the last three years?

Action plan for animal husbandry and dairying

†736. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated

any action plan towards granting the status of an industry to Animal Husbandry and Dairying and for encouraging new entrepreneurs towards it, if so, the details thereof and number of new industries opened in this field during last three years and the growth registered in their products; and

(b) whether Government has also formulated any plan to provide special assistance to encourage farmers to start Dairy and Animal Husbandry industries besides growing crops to increase their income, if so, details of said plan and the number of farmers benefited by such plans during last five years?

Milk production in the country

737. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) the average milk production from a cow in the country;

(b) whether the average milk production increased over the past ten years; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the stagnation or decline?

Shrimp production in Maharashtra

738. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) the production of shrimp in coastal Maharashtra during the last four years; year-wise;

(b) whether shrimp is being exported abroad from the State;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof for the last four years, year-wise; and

(d) the incentives Government proposes to provide to substantially increase shrimp production in the State?

Basic facilities provided to panchayats in Chhattisgarh

†739. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of facilities provided by Government to panchayats in Chhattisgarh;

(b) the extent to which the objectives of panchayats have been achieved, area-wise, during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether Government has reviewed the basic facilities provided to panchayats in order to improve the standard of living of people living in remote villages of Chhattisgarh, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by Government for the empowerment of panchayats and for providing panchayats with basic facilities during the next two years?

Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan

740. SHRI G.C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched the "Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)" for capacity building of Panchayati Raj Institutions and ensuring delivery at the grassroots;

(b) if so, the progress made under the RGSA since its inception, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has undertaken a Mission Antyodaya to bring one crore households out of poverty and to make 50,000 Gram Panchayats poverty free;

(d) if so, the progress made, State-wise; and

(e) whether there is urgent need for implementation of e-governance in panchayats to make them transparent, accountable and effective institutions of self-governance, if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Reconstruction/strengthening of railway bridges

741. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have evolved any parameters for reconstruction/strengthening of railway bridges in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated/earmarked for the said purpose in the current financial year, Zone-wise including the tribal areas of the country;

(d) whether any inspections are carried out by Railways in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by Railways for strengthening the railway bridges?

Lawsuits in High Courts and Supreme Court

742. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of lawsuits Railways is

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

facing in various High Courts and the Supreme Court as of 31st August, 2019 and the High Court-wise and Department-wise statistics of these cases that have been filed and since when;

(b) the number of lawsuits that are filed by Government Departments/Government establishments or State Governments; and

(c) whether Railways have evolved any structured mechanism to minimise the number of lawsuits being filed and if so, the details of the nature of the same and if not, the reasons therefor?

Linking capitals of all North Eastern States by rail network

743. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to link all the capitals of North Eastern States by rail network;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this is proposed to be executed under the PPP model, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time-frame within which the proposal is to be initiated and completed?

Expediting electrification of Railways

744. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways is ready to expedite electrification process and to run all trains with electric engines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways have identified the rail divisions/rail routes where electrification work is pending;

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

(e) the steps taken/being taken by Government to complete electrification work in the country?

Decreasing strength of Railway employees

745. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to bring down the strength of Railway employees by three lakhs;

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

(c) the reasons therefor?

Introduction of a new Sampark Kranti Express to Telangana State

746. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any representation requesting for introduction of a new Sampark Kranti Express from New Delhi to Telangana State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of Ministry to the request and the details thereof?

Strategic sale of CONCOR

747. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to hive off the profitable PSU, Container Corporation of India (CONCOR), the Railways' logistic arm, through a strategic sale of the Navratna PSU;

(b) whether CONCOR's container terminals are strategically located in proximity of dedicated freight corridors; and

(c) whether CONCOR currently serves sensitive security items like currency, nuclear fuel, defence-related items and would its proposed sell-off to private operators pose security problems?

Feud among loco pilots

748. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an unseemly row has erupted between loco pilots of the Kota Division and loco pilots of other divisions of the Delhi-Kota section over the claim for additional kms. covered beyond the mandatory duty hours, delaying running of the trains in this section inordinately;

(b) whether loco pilots belonging to Kota Division often refuse to take along co-pilots of other divisions and refuse to provide them training to run trains on this route; and

(c) the service conditions that prevent Railways from cracking down on the erring loco pilots of the Kota Division to end the inter-division feud among loco pilots?

Preventing accidental deaths of elephants and implementation of "Buzzing Bee" plan

749. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many elephants have died due to accidents while trying to cross the railway tracks;

(b) if so, the Zone-wise data of number of such accidental deaths of elephants;

(c) the status of implementation of the "Buzzing Bee" plan recently introduced by Government across various zones to prevent such mishaps; and

(d) whether Government is working on similar plans to curb accidental deaths of other animals that die while trying to cross railway tracks?

Solar power tenders

750. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways is planning to come up with solar power tenders of 4 gigawatt (GW) soon, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways currently requires 16 billion units of electricity every year, equivalent to supplies from 13 GW of generation capacity; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways spends around ₹10,000 crore on electricity every year with the average per unit cost being around ₹ 6?

ESIC account for contract labour

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway contractors are required to apply and obtain an employer code from Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), get ESI account number allotted to the contract labour, ensure that the contribution towards ESI is deducted from the contract labour and the same along with contribution from the employers is deposited with ESIC;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of number of contractors working under the Ministry till date and how many of them are registered with their concerned regional offices of ESIC, Zone-wise?

Privatisation of Railways

752. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to privatise the Railways;

(b) if so, the planning for privatisation of the different wings of Railways stage by stage; and

(c) the reasons that prompted the Government to opt for privatisation of Railways?

Recruitment of 2.3 lakh people

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to recruit 2.3 lakh people in various posts over the next two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that, taken together with the ongoing process to recruit 1.5 lakh people, the total number of jobs up for grabs in Railways would be almost 4 lakh; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that this includes around one lakh vacancies that may arise due to retirements in the next two years?

Security cameras in trains

†754. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the

trains of Indian Railways are equipped with security cameras;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a large number of cameras installed in the trains are not functioning properly; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Total land owned by Railways

†755. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total land area owned by Railways across the country;

(b) the total land area being utilised out of this and in what manner and the details of land area remaining unutilised;

(c) the market price of the land area owned by Railways;

(d) the total land area of Railways under illegal occupation; and

(e) the steps taken to set Railways' land area free from illegal possession?

Trains from Begusarai-Barauni

†756. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains running from Bihar's industrial city Begusarai-Barauni to Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai;

(b) whether Government is considering to run new trains;

(c) by when the construction of Barauni-Hasanpur rail line would be completed; and

(d) the hurdles in the construction of the Barauni-Hasanpur rail line?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Derailment of trains

757. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the Zone-wise details of derailments that have occurred during the last three years;

(b) the steps taken by Government to avoid such incidents; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of tracks for the last three years?

Convenience fee on e-tickets

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the convenience fee on e-tickets withdrawn by IRCTC is going to be reintroduced again with GST;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is not contradictory that on the one hand Ministry wants to push digital payments and on the other hand it is putting hurdles in the form of convenience fee etc., which restricts online bookings; and

(d) if so, would the Ministry reconsider its decision of reintroducing convenience fee on e-tickets?

Adarsh Railway Stations

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

(a) whether Government is developing railway stations as Adarsh Stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of stations developed as Adarsh Stations and the number of stations to be developed till date, Zone-wise; and

(d) the details of funds allocated for the said purpose?

Bullet train terminus

760. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) had suggested Railways to have bullet train terminus on its land at Dadar or Bandra and not at Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC) and if so, whether the Ministry has decided to shift the terminus from BKC; and

(b) whether there is a possible loss of revenue to the tune of ₹ 48,000 crore, if the MMRDA land in BKC is given to Railways?

Reserved coach in newly introduced trains

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to attach a reserved coach in all the newly introduced trains such as Vande Bharat Express;

(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?

Privatisation of railway production units

762. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to privatise the railway production units;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether stakeholders like workers' unions were consulted before taking the aforementioned decision;

(c) if so, the details of the consultation process including objections raised and responses to these objections; and

(d) the details of steps taken by Government in the past five years to upgrade the existing production units?

Construction of additional lines in Tamil Nadu

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

(a) whether there was a proposal to construct additional lines in the State of Tamil Nadu which has been struck down;

(b) if so, the details of the places that these proposed lines were to connect; and

(c) the reasons for deciding against implementing the said proposal?

Rat menace at railway stations

764. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chennai Division of Railways spent approximately ₹ 22,300 on trapping one rat and have spent nearly ₹ 6 crore on tackling rat menace at the railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the expenditure of all other Railway Divisions thereon; and

(c) the details of new cost-effective measures being taken by Railway authorities to eliminate rats at various railway stations across the country?

Mission Raftaar

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

(a) whether Railways have indigenously designed and manufactured a high-speed locomotive capable of achieving a top speed of 180 kmph;

(b) if so, the details of the amount spent on the project;

(c) the details of funds released under Mission Raftaar since the last two years;

(d) whether the average speed of trains across the railway network has increased under the Mission Raftaar project; and

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

Provisional clearance to Train 18

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

(a) whether it is a fact that citing serious inadequacies, the Electrical Inspector to the Government (EIG) gave only provisional clearance to Train 18 for three months;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the departmental wrangling puts a question mark over the prestigious project before the launch;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in compliance with the technical observations of EIG clearance, Train 18 may have to be sent back to the Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Ratlam-Dungarpur rail line

767. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the new Ratlam-Dungarpur *via* Banswara rail line has been approved by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details regarding original estimated cost of the said rail line and the shares of Central Government and Rajasthan State Government in the cost;
- (d) the details regarding escalation in cost over time and the present estimated cost; and
- (e) the details regarding present status of construction of the said rail line?

Reconstruction/strengthening of railway bridges

768. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have evolved any parameters for reconstruction/strengthening of railway bridges including over bridges in the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Railways is aware that the people of Khetasarai (Jaunpur) in Uttar Pradesh are facing immense problems due to non-availability of railway crossing/over bridge in that area;
- (d) if so, whether any inspection has been carried out by Railways in that particular area, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by Railways for sanctioning railway bridges

across the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh?

Railway projects in Andhra Pradesh

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed an outlay of ₹ 3000 crores for various railway projects in the State of Andhra Pradesh during 2019-20;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has allocated the entire amount for each project that is proposed to be undertaken during the financial year;
- (d) if so, the details of amount allocated and released till date, project-wise; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Quality of food in Tejas train

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

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many passengers fell seriously ill due to supply of inferior quality food in Tejas Train No. 22120 which run between Goa and Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that occurrence of such incidents is not being put to an end because instead of taking action on complaints lodged by passengers

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

with regard to the supply of substandard food products in trains casual attitude is adopted by Railways; and

(d) the details of the action taken by Railways on complaints received with regard to the supply of substandard food products in trains?

Onboard housekeeping services in running trains

771. DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:
SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have decided to discontinue the onboard housekeeping services and toilet maintenance, in the running trains of Railways, including Southern Railways;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of complaints received about poor hygienic conditions in coaches and toilets in Railways in the last three years;

(d) the follow up action taken to improve the conditions;

(e) whether any alternative arrangement has been worked out to ensure cleanliness in the trains, in view of complaints of unhygienic conditions, cockroaches and rats running in the trains; and

(f) if so the details thereof?

Railway station redevelopment in Odisha

772. SHRI AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the techno-economic feasibility studies of the railway station

being undertaken in Odisha for stations redevelopment;

(b) whether the feasibility studies themselves incorporate Innovative Revenue Models, Public-Private Partnerships and Viability Gap Funding while making their assessment;

(c) whether the station redevelopment is intended to cover major cities and centres or would it also target stations in lesser developed regions;

(d) if not, reasons for the same; and

(e) whether Government has introduced any measures to aid in the development of railway stations in the backward areas of Odisha?

Ajmer-Sawai Madhopur rail line

773. SHRI NARAYAN LAL
PANCHARIYA:
SHRI HARSHVARDHAN
SINGH DUNGARPUR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new rail line from Ajmer (Nasirabad) to Sawai Madhopur (Chauth Ka Barwara) *via* Tonk has been approved by Government and if so, details thereof;

(b) whether Government of Rajasthan has agreed to share 50 per cent cost of the project, if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government of Rajasthan has agreed to provide land for project free of cost, if so, details thereof;

(d) whether Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between Central and Rajasthan Government for cost sharing, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor; and

(e) the present status of project and time-frame to complete the said project?

New railway projects and surveys

†774. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing and new railway projects and surveys in the country, especially in the backward and rural areas during the last three years;

(b) the details of the funds allocated for the said projects, project-wise as well as State-wise details of duration in which the said fund was spent; and

(c) by when the said projects are likely to be completed?

Vande Bharat Express

775. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided not to manufacture Vande Bharat Express rakes in the country any more;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the reasons for stopping of the manufacturing of more such high speed Make in India trains in the country; and

(c) the details of the cost to manufacture one Vande Bharat Express train (high speed train) and how many such trains have been produced?

Electrification of Roha-Thokur section

†776. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage-wise details of the electrification work completed at Roha-Thokur section (740 route km.), of Konkan Railways, so far;

(b) the reasons behind the delay in

completing the above mentioned stretch; and

(c) the details of action taken by Government to deal with the delay?

Hindrance to Act East Policy due to poor rail connectivity

777. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poor rail connectivity is acting as a hindrance to India's Act East Policy;

(b) if so, whether Government has proposed to promote trade and tourism through building of railway lines between India and its neighbouring countries like Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Myanmar;

(c) if so, the details on status of current Railway projects under construction between India and the above four countries; and

(d) the time-frame for completion of all of such projects?

Construction of lavatories under Indira Awaas Yojana

778. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that houses constructed under Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) do not have any lavatories, if so, the details thereof and the number of such houses identified;

(b) the details of amount sanctioned for IAY houses during 2019-20 in the State of Telangana; and

(c) the details of the steps being taken

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

by Government for providing lavatories in those houses?

Status of implementation of roads under PMGSY in Jharkhand

779. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of development of roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the State of Jharkhand;

(b) whether it is a fact that many of the works under the PMGSY are held up because of want of 'No Objection Certificates' (NOCs) in respect of the reserved forestlands in the tribal areas;

(c) if so, the details of the works which are pending under PMGSY due to non-availability of NOCs in the State of Jharkhand; and

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

Allowing use of machines in work under MGNREGA

780. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States have requested Government to allow use of machines in work done under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) which is restricted for manual labour, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, whether Government would like to have a re-look in the matter as some States have rocky terrains that makes it difficult to undertake construction work

through manual labour, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Final report of Socio-Economic and Caste Census, 2011

781. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received the final report of the Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC), 2011 and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is aware of the reports that 31 per cent of the rural population is poor and unable to meet basic necessities, such as two-time food for their families?

Funds to Chhattisgarh under MGNREGA

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

(a) the amount of funds provided to Chhattisgarh under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) during last three years;

(b) the district-wise details of said fund allocation in Chhattisgarh;

(c) the district-wise and year-wise details of funds allocated in Chhattisgarh including Balrampur-Ramanujanj districts during the period mentioned above and the details of wages paid to workers out of the said fund; and

(d) the details of works completed under MGNREGA in Balrampur-Ramanujanj districts of Chhattisgarh during the above said period?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

MGNREGA's help in tackling climate change

783. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Institute of Science has found that drought-proofing activities under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) can achieve removal or sequestration of about 197 million tonnes of carbon dioxide by 2030, which is 8 per cent of Government's target;

(b) whether Government plans to employ workers under MGNREGA in public works projects which help in tackling climate change, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether such projects are already underway, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented by Ministry

784. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), including flagship programmes, being implemented at present by the Ministry; and

(b) the details of targets set and allocations made, funds allocated, disbursed and utilized in these schemes during the last three years, including the current year, scheme-wise and State/UT-wise, particularly in the State of Punjab?

Non-payment of wages to MGNREGA workers in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

785. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the MGNREGA workers have not been paid wages for 5 to 14 weeks in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana States due to non-release of funds from Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of claims submitted, funds released and pending payments in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana under MGNREGA during the last year and in the current year?

Habitations connected by All-weather roads

786. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of eligible habitations connected by all-weather roads in the country, State-wise details thereof; and

(b) the State-wise target of the number of eligible habitations to be connected by all-weather roads and the time-frame for achievement of the target?

Reverse migration from city to village

787. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of reverse migration from city to village/district in last five years;

(b) which State and city has the largest number of reverse migration;

(c) the reasons of this reverse migration, whether these migrated people get jobs, if so, in which sector and their average wages per day;

(d) the percentage of unemployment within reverse migration; and

(e) whether Government has drawn plans to equip these unemployed battery of youth with job oriented skills, if so, the details of the courses offered?

Construction of roads in rural Maharashtra

788. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding shortage of pacca roads in rural Maharashtra;

(b) the roads constructed in rural Maharashtra during the last four years; and

(c) the target date for completion of road construction in rural areas in Maharashtra?

Construction of roads under PMGSY in Madhya Pradesh

†789. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the length, in kilometers, of roads constructed during the last three years under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and the current status of this scheme;

(b) the details of funds and length of roads allocated for construction in Madhya Pradesh under phase-II of the above said scheme; and

(c) the details of work completed and work remaining under this allocation and

whether proposals of the Members of Parliament have been received for this scheme, if so, the details of the action taken/being taken on those proposals?

Release of inadequate funds under MGNREGA

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

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact only ₹ 12,000 crore funds have been provided till September as against ₹ 60,000 crore of funds sanctioned in budget for current financial year under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that demand of work under MGNREGA has increased which is not being fulfilled due to the unavailability of funds; and

(d) whether additional funds have been demanded keeping in view the increasing demand of employment in MGNREGA?

Interlinking of MGNREGA with Agriculture sector

791. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any representation from any State Government requesting to interlink the MGNREGA with Agriculture sector to achieve the desired results;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any decision on this matter, if so, the details thereof?

Allocation and establishment of PMKKs in Maharashtra

792. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Training Centres (TCs) empanelled under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) in the last three years and the current year in Maharashtra, district-wise;
- (b) the total number of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras (PMKKs) that have been allocated across the country, State/UT-wise, including Maharashtra;
- (c) the number of PMKKs that have been established in the last three years and current year in Maharashtra, district-wise; and
- (d) the number of candidates certified and the number of candidates placed under PMKVY in Maharashtra, in the last three years and current year, district-wise?

Allocation of funds for Skill Development Scheme

793. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) the total funds allocated for Skill Development Scheme, State-wise details thereof;
- (b) the categories being covered in Skill Development Scheme;

(c) the duration fixed for training under this scheme;

(d) the stipend being paid to trainees during training;

(e) the number of centres in various States which are providing such training for artisans under Skill Development, the details thereof;

(f) the number of persons who have been trained under the 'Training for Trainers' scheme of Skill India; and

(g) how many of them actually were made to engage in providing training to the concerned category, after being awarded the Completion Certificate?

Simplification of process of getting loan for skill development

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to simplify the process for getting loan for skill development, especially for poor and backward people of the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Persons trained by Skill Development Centres in Kerala

795. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons trained by Skill Development Centres set up by the Ministry in the State of Kerala during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether Government offers jobs to such persons trained by these Centres; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Establishment of Skill Development Centre in Gujarat

†796. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the State of Gujarat regarding the establishment of Skill Development Mission/Centre during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the result after Government has given required approval in this regard; and

(d) the amount of funds allocated by the Central Government to the State of Gujarat in this regard?

Formal vocational/technical training

797. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per unit-level data from the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2017-18, only 1.8 per cent of the population reported receiving formal vocational/technical training in 2017-18;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the details thereof?

Enrolling of ex-servicemen under PMKVY

798. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-servicemen who

have completed skilling courses under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY);

(b) the number of ex-servicemen who have been placed after completing their courses under the PMKVY; and

(c) the State-wise list of ex-servicemen enrolled in the PMKVY?

Training and skill development of youth for employment in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu

799. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the number of youth given training for skill development for employment in the last three years in the country, especially in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu;

(b) how many of them, among the trained youth, have been gainfully employed or self-employed in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether the employment opportunities are very poor for them; and

(d) the efforts made to ensure that all the persons trained under the scheme are gainfully employed?

Enrollment of Persons with Disabilities under PMKVY

800. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Persons with

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Disabilities (PwDs) who have been enrolled for training under the PMKVY from the year 2016 to 2019, year-wise;

(b) the number of PwDs who have been placed under PMKVY from 2016 to 2019, year-wise; and

(c) the provisions made in the training centres to encourage participation from PwDs?

NEW DELHI;
The 16th November, 2019
Kartika 25, 1941 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

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