RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Thursday, August 2, 2018/Shravana 11, 1940 (Saka)

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Development of North Eastern Region; External Affairs; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Housing and Urban Affairs; Human Resource Development; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Social Justice and Empowerment; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Tribal Affairs; Women and Child Development)

Total number of questions — 160

India-based Neutrino Observatory

1761. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that environmental rules and regulations were relaxed to a considerable extent with a view to obtain environment clearance to proceed further with India-based Neutrino Observatory (INO);
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has chosen any alternative location for this project in view of severe protest by locals against the project;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Latest R & D achievement of ECIL

- 1762. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL) is also engaged in its own research and development in the field of nuclear power sector;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the major areas in which ECIL has excelled in R & D during the last three years; and
- (d) whether ECIL has entered into collaboration with major players in R & D with other countries known for excellence in nuclear power generation?

Technology for detecting contamination in water

- 1763. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether National Centre for Compositional Characterisation of Materials (NCCCM) has developed a portable visual detection kit for detection of contamination in water within five minutes:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to introduce the technology in the country for providing safe drinking water to the public; and
- (d) if so, by when the technology is likely to be introduced in Himachal Pradesh?

Projects under Central Package and North East Industrial Development Scheme, 2017

- 1764. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has established a proper mechanism for implementation of projects identified under Central Package and North East Industrial Development Scheme, 2017;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the projects identified under each of the above with financial outlays; and
- (d) whether Government has set any target dates for completion of the projects so that benefits accrue to the people of the region early?

Special package for North-Eastern region

- 1765. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is considering special package for North-Eastern region;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether under the north east special infrastructure scheme Government is providing financial assistance for infrastructure projects relating to water supply, power and connectivity for promoting tourism in the region; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Provision for proper utilisation of funds in the NER

- 1766. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is making any provision for the proper utilisation of funds in the North Eastern Region;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the funds allocated to different projects in the North East are utilised as prescribed;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether any major irregularities have occurred in the utilisation of these funds; and
 - (f) if so, the details thereof?

Initiatives by North Eastern Development Finance Corporation

- 1767. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the North Eastern Development Finance Corporation has taken some initiatives to guide new entrepreneurs in establishing tourism and finance related ventures;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total number of beneficiaries during the last three years in the North Eastern region and the amount spent, State-wise?

North East Venture Fund for North Eastern region

- 1768. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has created North East Ventures Fund (NEVF) for development of North-Eastern region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with total capital earmarked for the fund;
- (c) the details of proposals considered by Government for funding and those cleared; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to ensure proper implementation of the projects undertaken under NEVF and their timely completion?

Role and functioning of North Eastern Council

- 1769. SHRI K. G. KENYE: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:
- (a) the status of the North Eastern Council in the Constitution of India;
- (b) what has been its role and functions since inception;
- (c) the fund allocations to the NEC since the Third Five Year Plan in figures and percentage up to the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and
- (d) the funds allocated to the NEC during the three financial years period of 2017-18 to 2019-20 along with detail breakup of specific purposes meant to be spent against in figures and percentage?

Marketing of agricultural products in North-Eastern region

- 1770. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is taking any steps for the revival of North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited for the marketing of agriculture products;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

New law against exploitation of Indian workers abroad

- 1771. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether any new law that provides

adequate protection against exploitation of Indian workers abroad is under consideration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Pro Khalistan activities in London

- 1772. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the campaign calling for a global referendum to determine whether Sikhs should have their own independent State was launched in London;
- (b) whether the pro Khalistan group would hold its first global rally at Trafalgar Square in London on August 12, 2018;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether India has lodged its protest against holding of such a rally and against the movement that is spearheading pro Khalistan activities; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Measures for geopolitical balance and security

- 1773. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the measures taken by Government to ensure geopolitical balance and security in the light of recent tensions across the border; and
- (b) the response of Government to China's increasing military spending during the last three years?

Indonesia opening sea port for India

- 1774. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether it is a fact that Indonesia

proposes to open the sea port for India;

- (b) if so, whether India proposes to set up deep sea port in the marine line of Andaman sea;
- (c) whether India also proposes to set up economic zone with its counterpart; and
- (d) if so, the proposal of the counterpart in building bilateral relations with our country?

Custodial deaths of Indians in foreign jails

1775. SHRI RIPUN BORA: SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any report on custodial deaths of Indians in different jails of foreign countries;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of Indians currently in foreign prisons, country-wise; and
- (d) the proposals and necessary action taken by Government with its counterparts to meet justice and take back the imprisoned Indians?

Diplomatic immunity for ambassador in Portugal

- 1776. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Government has pleaded diplomatic immunity for its ambassador in Portugal from testifying as witnesses in court proceedings initiated by 1983 Mumbai blast convicts;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Portuguese authorities have assured India that it would guarantee that the extradition treaty is fully respected; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Concern of outsourcing agency for POPSKs

- 1777. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there are 214 Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSKs) operated by the Department of Posts and manned by the staff of Postal Department;
- (b) whether at 75 regular Passport Seva Kendras, operated by an outsourced agency, Government handles all sovereign functions and the agency manages the data centre operations only;
- (c) whether the outsourcing agency has now raised its concerns with Government for utilising postal staff as Citizen Service Executives at POPSKs; and
- (d) if so, Government's reactions thereon?

Monitoring system for visa applications

- 1778. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any check and monitoring system to record the details of Indians applying for various types of visas from embassies, consulates, high commissions of foreign countries in India;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has appointed adequate numbers of staff to mitigate such

- problems faced by Indians in getting their visas:
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the role of officials of the Ministry in solving various kinds of problems faced by Indians going abroad particularly in getting their valid visas to the respective countries?

Indian IT professionals in USA

- 1779. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the defeated Border Security and Immigration Reform Act in the US House of Representatives recently had proposed a merit based Green Card programme benefitting Indians;
- (b) whether this has come as a setback for a large number of Indian IT professionals dreaming big to secure a green card in US and settle there for good;
- (c) whether Government or the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) had engaged professional consultants for lobbying in USA pleading for a more dignified treatment to Indian IT professionals; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Indians returning from Gulf countries

- 1780. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a number of Indians have returned from Gulf countries;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of remedial and rehabilitation measures taken for those who returned from there?

Red corner notice against Nirav Modi

†1781 SHRIMATI CHHAYA

SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRI P. L. PUNIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the passport of absconding Nirav Modi, wanted in bank forgery worth crores of rupees, was cancelled in February, 2018 and it was intimated to INTERPOL but Nirav Modi travelled several countries even after that;
- (b) whether a red corner notice was not issued against him;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) how his journeys were made possible and whether Nirav Modi took up these journeys on Indian Passport; and
- (e) the details of success achieved, so far, in bringing this absconder back to the country?

Applicants under mPassport Seva App

1782. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of applications received for the travel documents *via* its newly launched mPassport Seva App;
- (b) the details and number of people from Jharkhand, who are staying outside their State, and have applied for the passport *via* this application;
- (c) whether Government has received any suggestions or complaints from users regarding the usage of this application; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Vacancies and cadre review under Recruitment Rules

1783. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total sanctioned strength of IFS cadre and the number of vacancies, as on date:
- (b) the details of vacancies of Ambassadors/High Commissioners existing and since when; and
- (c) whether Government has conducted the cadre review under the Recruitment Rules and if so, the details thereof?

Safety at work place in foreign countries

1784. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has signed Memorandum of Undertakings (MoUs) with various countries including Gulf countries in the field of manpower;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether "safety at work places" in foreign countries was given special attention/focus when MoUs were signed;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Security architecture in Indo-Pacific region

1785. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made

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

to develop tie-up with US, Japan and Australia for building some kind of security architecture in the Indo-Pacific region;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any action plan has been drawn to fine tune the cooperation between the partners and Indo-Pacific Region countries to ensure security in the region; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Passport Seva Kendras in Maharashtra

1786. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) presently functioning in Maharashtra with location-wise details thereof:
- (b) whether Government proposes to set up more PSKs in the State; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Border between India and Myanmar

- 1787. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of conventions and agreements under which the border between India and Myanmar is pursued to be settled:
- (b) whether there has been a joint exercise between India (along with the representatives, Government of Manipur) and Myanmar to settle the border issues;
- (c) if so, the names of representatives of the two countries;

- (d) the submission made by the representatives of Government of Manipur; and
- (e) the details of resolutions made in the joint exercise?

Forgery from GPF accounts of employees

†1788. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that an instance of forgery of lakhs of rupees from the GPF accounts of the employees of the Ministry has come to light;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) since when the amount is being withdrawn from GPF accounts illegally and the steps taken to compensate the people from whose account the money has been withdrawn; and
- (d) whether people from whose account the money is withdrawn have to wait till the money is trailed or the Ministry would itself afford it?

Intrusions by Myanmar Army in Manipur

1789. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of intrusions/incursions by Myanmar Army in Indian territory, particularly in Manipur;

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

- (b) whether Government has taken up the matter at diplomatic level with Government of Myanmar;
- (c) if so, the details thereof during the last six months and the outcome thereof; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Persons benefited from metro rail projects

- *1790. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the estimated number of persons benefited from metro rail projects commenced to improve the traffic system in cities:
- (b) whether the revenue earned through metro rail operations has increased;
- (c) if so, the details thereof during that last four years;
- (d) if not, the reasons for the losses incurred, city/metro-wise;
- (e) whether Government has any proposal for leasing metro rail operations in future and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the share of Government in metro rail projects in different cities?

Installation of border pillars by Myanmar

- 1791. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Myanmar authorities have installed border pillars, three kilometers inside the territory of India at Tengnoupal district of Manipur, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Ministry is aware that the problem of taking over Indian land falling in Manipur by Myanmar authorities is a recurring phenomenon, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government contemplates to solve the border issue on a long term basis?

Vacancies in Board of Directors of CPSEs

1792. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are many vacancies in the Board of Directors including the heads of several Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof, PSU-wise and since when each of these vacancies exists; and
- (c) what effective measures Government has taken or proposes to take to fill up these vacancies within a timeframe?

Study on hybrid cars emitting less smoke

1793. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study on hybrid cars that emit less smoke:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to discourage the use of diesel cars and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has conducted any study on pollution caused by diesel and petrol vehicles in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Misuse of funds released for development of urban infrastructure

1794. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has recently issued directives to State Governments/UTs against diverting urban development funds meant for improving urban infrastructure and if so, the details thereof:
- (b) the details of funds released to Gujarat and Jharkhand for the development of urban infrastructure during the last three years and the current year:
- (c) the reports received by the Central Government about misuse of funds, if any, by State Governments/UTs during the said period; and
- (d) the action taken by Government on such reports?

Pace of construction of houses under PMAY-U

1795. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the construction of houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban (PMAY-U) is moving at a pace far slower than its rural counterpart;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to have a global technology challenge to provide more dynamism to the scheme; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Development of Amritsar under (Smart Cities Mission)

1796. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of proposed, sanctioned and ongoing projects for the development of Amritsar under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM)?

Assistance to Jammu and Kashmir under PMAY

1797. MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has nay records of financial assistance provided to Jammu and Kashmir under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise and district-wise; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Safety and security of DDA flats in Sector-23B, Dwarka

1798. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of registration of flats in case of DDA Housing Scheme 2014 allottees for Sector-23B, Dwarka, New Delhi:
- (b) the measures taken by DDA to ensure proper safety and security of the residents there;
- (c) the current status of award of tenders for repairing internal roads of the area; and
- (d) whether the fire extinguishers installed there have expired and need immediate refill to avoid any unpleasant

incident and if so, the details of and action taken in the matter?

Unauthorised commercial activities in Sector-23B, Dwarka

1799. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken by DDA to check the unauthorised commercial activities going on in Pocket-8, Sector-23B, Dwarka and the position of construction of a police booth near it;
- (b) whether it is a fact that parking of commercial vehicles are growing there day by day though the District Court, Dwarka has ordered not to park commercial vehicles inside the society; and
- (c) if so, the action taken by DDA to implement the order of the court in this regard?

Houses for weaker sections in Maharashtra

1800. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people belonging to weaker sections of society to whom houses have been allocated by Government in Maharashtra under various schemes during the last four years;
- (b) the number of urban poor who are not having housing facilities in the State, at present; and
- (c) the details of efforts being made by Government to ensure that all the people get housing facilities?

Implementation of Shahari Rozgar Yojana in Maharashtra

1801. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is implementing the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) in Maharashtra and rest of the country;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof; and
- (c) to what extent SJSRY has, so far, helped the poor of urban areas of Maharashtra to get employment and lead a decent life during the last three years?

Toilets not in use due to logistical and accessibility reasons

1802. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that toilets constructed under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) remain unused and are excluded due to various logistical, accessibility as well as social reasons;
- (b) if so, the steps Government has taken to counter such social and accessibility reasons and to make toilets accessible to the public during the last three years; and
- (c) the reasons for the failure of the usage and the steps taken to counter the reasons since 2015, year-wise?

Eligibility for houses under housing missions

†1803. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the basis of qualification/eligibility to provide houses under PMAY in the cities and the cost of expenditure on each one, State-wise, the updated status of the number of houses provided, the amount of money spent on it and its future aims; and
- (b) the methodology to add the people left who were 'eligible for houses' under the said scheme?

Construction of houses under PMAY in Bihar

†1804. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and details of houses sanctioned for construction under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) in Bihar, city-wise;
- (b) the number of houses completed and those still under construction;
- (c) the reasons for not completing the construction of houses and by when their construction would be complete;
- (d) whether the number of homeless people is highest in that State due to lower per capita income of the State; and
- (e) if so, whether Government would start providing prompt efforts for providing houses to homeless urban people by way of a special drive?

Smart cities in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

1805. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of execution of development of smart cities in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;
- (b) whether any review has been conducted on the pace of execution of the projects and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the work is going on as per the schedule and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government in expediting the completion of smart cities in the country?

Lapses in airport line of Delhi

†1806. SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted to probe the lapses in the airport line of Delhi Metro has in its report has pointed out several human errors but no action has been taken against the persons responsible for those lapses and rather they have been appointed to even higher posts;

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

- (b) whether irregularities have been found in the terms and conditions of the tender of the above line; and
- (c) whether, on account of these lapses, the metro train has never been able to maintain its prescribed speed on this line?

Ceramic tiles under PMAY

- 1807. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the ceramic tiles carrying pictures of Prime Minister and Chief Minister are being installed in every house built under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, whether the same is permissible by utilizing public funds as the same would remain a part of the house in perpetuity; and
- (c) whether the same is permissible in view of coming elections and whether the same would not amount to violation of Model Code of Conduct as the same are in the nature of permanent hoarding which can not be removed?

Institutional audit of HUDCO

- 1808. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the total budget of HUDCO for the year 2018-19;
- (b) the details regarding the number of staff and offices;
- (c) whether Government has undertaken any review or institutional audit of HUDCO;
- (d) if so, when and what has been the major observations and recommendations that emerged out of such review, if any; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

Increase in carpet area under PMAY

- 1809. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has increased the carpet area by 33 per cent of houses eligible for interest benefit under the PM Awas Yojana for the middle income group;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has widened the beneficiaries net by including two sub-categories of MIG to get the interest subsidy in December, 2016 based on their annual income; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

New urban policy

- 1810. SHRI G.C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Ministry is in the process of framing a new urban policy and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the timeline for framing of such a policy and whether a Committee has been constituted for the purpose and if so, the details thereof?

Academic atmosphere at Manipur University

- 1811. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether the Ministry is aware of

the complete halt of academic atmosphere at Manipur University;

- (b) what is the course of action the Ministry contemplates in the seriously disturbed institute for a long time;
- (c) whether even 32 HoDs of different departments of the University have tendered resignation in support of the demand for removal of present Vice Chancellor, if so, the reaction of the Ministry in that regard;
- (d) whether students, teachers and staff are accusing the VC of financial and administrative irregularities; and
- (e) how the Ministry plans to deal with the volatile situation of the University?

Shifting of National Council for Teachers Education (NCTE)

- 1812. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether regional offices of National Council for Teachers Education (NCTE) is going to be shifted;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the justification for shifting of Southern Regional Offices from Bengaluru to New Delhi?

Draft policy on revamping of higher education governance

- 1813. SHRI RITABRATA
 BANERJEE: Will the Minister of
 HUMAN RESOURCE
 DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the new draft policy on revamping higher education governance would lead to micro management and more curbs on autonomy; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Holding of NEET exam twice a year

1814. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Joint Entrance Examination for admission to engineering colleges and NEET for medical and dental courses would be held twice a year;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether these tests would be online and students need not go outside their States for giving examinations;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken to see that students appearing in other languages are given correct marks in the evaluation?

Holding of NIOS examination in Kendriya Vidyalayas

- 1815. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether NIOS Maharashtra has arranged its examinations in Kendriya Vidyalaya at Pune, Solapur and Aurangabad during last five years;
- (b) if so, the details of the Kendriya Vidyalaya; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Improving knowledge of engineering professionals

1816. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken

to improve the technical know-how and knowledge of the engineering professionals who are graduating from various colleges of the country to enable them to compete at the world level;

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

Wages to *ad-hoc*/contract teachers of schools

1817. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that there are thousands of *ad-hoc/*contract teachers working in private management schools who are not getting even minimum wages, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is taking serious note that the school managements are exploiting teachers to work more for low wages; and
- (c) if so, the details of the measures taken by Government to streamline the wages to all contract and ad-hoc teachers in private management schools in the country?

Opening of schools in vicinity of tribal areas

1818. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to open more Higher and Senior Secondary School in the vicinity of tribal areas across the country in order to increases the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GRE) of ST students;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cases of plagiarism

1819. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any cases of plagiarism and fake thesis writing for Ph.D has been reported during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases reported and the name of the universities, year-wise; and
- (c) whether Government is taking any strident measures to address such plagiarism?

Policy for students with special needs

- 1820. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Central Board of Secondary Education and 28 States and other education boards have come together to brainstorm and formulate a new comprehensive policy for students with disabilities in education and examination:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has received any recommendation to help frame a policy for students with special needs; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Degrees issued by Universities through distance education

- 1821. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government has issued any

directions regarding illegality of degrees issued by some universities through distance education mode from centres outside their jurisdiction;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the directions would have any adverse effect on the validity of such degrees issued prior to the issue of any such directions;
- (d) if so, whether Government is considering granting any relief to students who hold such degrees; and
- (e) whether any university in Rajasthan is affected by such decision?

Capping on fee structure

- 1822. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether capping of fee structure is asked by the State Governments while giving land to private schools in Mumbai and Delhi;
- (b) if so, the minimum and maximum amount of fees being charged by the top ten private schools in Delhi and Mumbai from nursery to XII standard during the last three years, school-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether Government proposes to take any action against private schools for charging exorbitant fees for admission to nursery and other classes; and
- (d) if so, the details of action taken on the schools during the last three years, name-wise, year-wise and penalty-wise?

Board exam for Class Vth and VIIIth

- 1823. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government is

contemplating to introduce Board exams for students of Class Vth and Class VIIIth to raise their academic standards specially in Government schools, if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor; and

(b) by when a decision in this regard is likely to be taken and whether necessary amendment is required in the Right to Education Act, if so, the details thereof?

National Digital Library

1824. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is proposing to help National Digital Library to collaborate with various top digital libraries of the world to create a national online educational asset for students interested in research and innovation;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for promoting National Digital Library for the students to achieve benefits in research and innovation?

CCS schemes and flagship programmes

- 1825. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) including flagship programmes being implemented by the Ministry at present; and
- (b) the details of targets and allocations made, funds allocated, disbursed and utilised in these schemes during the last three years including the present year, scheme-wise, State-wise and UT-wise?

Expansion of capital base of higher education financing agency

1826. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has approved the proposal to expand the capital base of Higher Education Financing Agency to ₹ 10,000 crore and tasking it to mobilise ₹ 1,00,000 crore for revitalising infrastructure and system in education by 2022;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government would give a commitment for servicing of the principal and interest by ensuring adequate grants for other educational institutions and grant-in-aid institutions; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Draft rules under new IIM Act

1827. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Institutes of Management had expressed concern about a provision in the draft rules, under the new IIM Act;
- (b) whether the draft rules seek to put a condition on the tuition fee charged by the twenty elite business schools; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Single teacher schools in the country

- †1828. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there are more than one lakh Government primary and middle schools in the country where

there is only one teacher and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

- (b) the scheme being made by the Ministry for supplementing the efforts of States with regard to such schools in particular; and
- (c) whether any special scheme would be implemented to ascertain that studentteacher ratio is maintained in such schools?

Kendriya Vidyalaya in Chhota Udaipur, Gujarat

†1829. SHRI RATHWA NARANBHAI JEMLABHAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to open Kendriya Vidyalaya in Chhota Udaipur district of Gujarat;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Identification of Institute of Higher Education under GIAN

1830. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has identified any Institute of Higher Education in Andhra Pradesh under Global Initiative of Academic Network (GIAN) in Higher Education;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any renowned academicians, scientists and entrepreneurs have been invited to the selected Institute of Higher Education in Andhra Pradesh since the inception of the scheme; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

Evaluation of Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme

1831. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government undertook any evaluation of Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Education Loans, which was introduced in the year 2015 replacing Central Sector Interest Subsidy (CSIS) Scheme:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of change, if any, made after the evaluation done by the third party in the Scheme; and
- (d) the details of loans disbursed to needy students in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years?

Less number of schools and colleges in districts

†1832. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several districts of the country are more backward in respect of education due to very few number of schools and colleges;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) whether a scheme namely Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan has been launched by the Central Government with a purpose of early betterment of education in those educationally backward districts?

Measures for increasing retention in schools

1833. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the drop-out rate in school education;
- (b) what percentage of the children who drop out are girls; and
- (c) the details of the measures taken by Government to increase school retention rates, especially for girls?

Research scholars registered in JNU

1834. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of research scholars who are registered in Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) per year;
- (b) whether the reservation policies are implemented as per the regulations;
- (c) whether there is a move to withdraw the provisions for 12.5 per cent seats to employed persons in research registration; and
- (d) the existing provisions regarding this matter in the prospectus and ordinances?

Faculty position across Central Universities

- 1835. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of faculty positions in all the Central Universities;

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

- (b) the number of faculty positions filled by people belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in the Central Universities; and
- (c) the number of vacancies under the aforementioned categories?

Stoppage of JEE counselling

- 1836. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the matter of stoppage of JEE counselling following the Madras High Court order;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government, keeping in view of the problems of the students would intervene in the matter and settle the dispute for smooth counselling and admission in IITs, NITs and IIITs?

Reimbursement claimed by States under SSA

- 1837. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is a cap of twenty per cent on States SSA budgets for reimbursement under Section 12(1)(c) of RTF:
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Ministry has not approved complete reimbursement claimed by some States for 2016-17;
- (d) if so, the details of reimbursements claimed by each State and approved by Ministry for 2016-17 and 2017-18 along with reasons;

- (e) whether there are Project Approval Board guidelines on approval of reimbursement claimed by States; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the criteria adopted by Ministry to approve or reject reimbursement claims from States?

Drop-out at primary and higher secondary stage

- 1838. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether drop-out rate in Primary, Upper Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary stage has been increasing in different States of the country; and
- (b) if so, the drop-out number and percentage in different States at present in above categories, State-wise?

National Digital Library of India

- 1839. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has launched the new digital initiative "National Digital Library of India" under the aegis of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) to make digital educational resources available to all citizens to empower, inspire and encourage learning; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Ghost teachers in higher educational institutions

1840. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 80,000 ghost teachers in higher education institutions have been detected:
- (b) if so, the details thereof, institutionwise;
- (c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details along with the outcome thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Implementation of policy on school consolidation

- 1841. SHRI G.C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government is considering to implement a policy on school consolidation across the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Ministry is aware that several States have launched school consolidation efforts and if so, what are the key learnings from them?

Increase in Gross Enrolment Ratio

1842. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has been

- successful in increasing the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) as per the target set by the end of the last year plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what steps have been taken by the Ministry to increase GER?

Education in backward districts

- †1843. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government had announced to identify the educationally backward districts and to make special efforts for development of higher education there;
- (b) if so, the progress made in this regard, so far, and the number of districts where educational institutes have been opened, so far;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to establish higher educational institutes in districts/blocks and sub-divisional headquarters of Bihar also under this scheme; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Establishment of IIEST

- 1844. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOP-MENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (IIEST) established in the country and number of seats allocated to each of them, State-wise;
- (b) the total number of SC/ST/OBC category students admitted in IIESTs and what is their report card; and

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

(c) whether Government is considering to upgrade Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT) formerly University College of Engineering (UCE), Burla in Odisha to the level of IIEST as VSSUT is located in the SC/ST/OBC populated western Odisha?

Mining operations by China in Arunachal Pradesh

- 1845. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware of a large scale mining operations being carried out by China inside the border of Arunachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, whether China has been claiming Arunachal Pradesh as part of Southern Tibet and thus such mining was inside China:
- (c) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and
- (d) the details of correspondences, if any, made with China in this regard?

Halving of NCERT syllabus

1846. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

- Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has decided to halve the NCERT syllabus as students are overburdened;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether efforts would be made to include national values, nurturing ethics and integrity, religious tolerance and communal harmony in the NCERT syllabus;
- (d) if so, whether any committee has been set up to include these subjects; and

(e) if not, how the Ministry would ensure that students are inculcated national values, patriotism, communal harmony and non-violence?

Universities and colleges audited by NAAC

- 1847. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the total number of universities and colleges, audited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) till date;
- (b) whether the NAAC is able to achieve the targets set for auditing;
- (c) if so, the details of such targets and achievements during the last three years;
- (d) whether NAAC is currently facing any dearth of capacity or resource crunch towards covering the prospective work related to accreditation; and
- (e) if so, whether Government is considering to take any concrete measures to address the issues, if any, being faced by NAAC?

Increase in candidates for IIT

- 1848. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) have decided to increase the number of eligible candidates for admission to the prestigious institution;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether IITs have been asked to release a supplementary merit list for admission this year; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Computer based test by National Testing Agency

- 1849. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOP-MENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that computer based test would be conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA) and not by the Central Board of Secondary Education or by other agencies;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has assured that the syllabus would remain the same and there would be no increase in cost of application while the exams would be more transparent and leak proof; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Setting up of Kendriya Vidyalaya

- 1850. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any plan to set up more Kendriya Vidyalayas in the backward districts of Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh;
 - (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the number of new Kendriya Vidyalayas sanctioned and started in above States during the last three years, Statewise?

Yoga as compulsory subject in schools

- 1851. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government proposes to make yoga a compulsory subject in all the schools including those under the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government proposes to appoint certified yoga trainers and doctors of naturopathy in all Government schools at all levels to promote yoga and naturopathy and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has sanctioned any funds for promoting yoga courses in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the details of utilization of funds, State/UT-wise?

Quality of education in Government schools

- †1852. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
 - CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
 - SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
- Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the quality of education in Government schools is declining due to which parents are enrolling their children in private schools;
- (b) the details of gap between the number of enrolment in private and Government schools during the last three years; and

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

(c) the details of steps taken to improve the quality of education in Government schools?

Permanent post of Secretary in NIOS

- 1853. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOP-MENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has recruited the full time Secretary in NIOS;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the interview held for the post and the details of total applicants from all the States till June 2018?

Delay in getting degrees due to convocation ceremony

- †1854. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that students don't get their degrees on time as universities don't conduct their convocation ceremony every year;
- (b) if so, whether Government proposes to take any concrete and effective step to provide degree to students on time: and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Setting up of colleges and universities

- 1855. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
 - (a) the details and the number of

- colleges and universities set up during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the funds spent for this purpose; and
- (c) the proposals pending in this regard from States and the action taken, so far, in this regard?

Swachh Bharat Summer Internship

- 1856. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government would offer Swachh Bharat Summer Internship-100 Hours of Swachhata to students of universities and higher educational institutions this academic year;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the internship is meant to improve sanitation and hygiene in villages and would give students a chance to win cash awards upto ₹ 2 lakh and two academic credits; and
 - (d) if so the details thereof?

Compliance to CEI Act

- 1857. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether all Central Educational Institutions (CEI) have complied with Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006 at post-graduate and M.Phil/Ph.D. level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the year of compliance and consequent increased intake/admission in Masters and M.Phil./Ph.D. programmes for each CEI;

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

- (c) whether the implementation of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulation, 2016 has impacted admission in M.Phil/Ph.D. programme of a CEI compliant with the CEI Act of 2006; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Dearth of funds for quality of higher education

- †1858. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is dearth of funds for improving the quality of higher education and promoting it;
- (b) if so, the amount of shortage of funds and the amount of public expenditure thereon; and
- (c) the share of private sector in total expenditure on higher education?

Students appearing in NIOS exams

- 1859. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOP-MENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any data of the students, who gave the exam from State examination boards and then appeared in NIOS examination during last three years;
- (b) the details of those tenth and twelfth class students, Arts, Commerce and Science stream-wise:
- (c) the details of the passed students per cent-wise during last three years in above classes and stream-wise; and
 - (d) the details of NIOS passed students

who came from other examination boards?

Complaints received by Central Vigilance Commission

- †1860. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of complaints received by the Central Vigilance Commission during 2017-18, till date; and
- (b) the details of action taken on these complaints, till now?

Vacancies in different Ministries/ Departments

- 1861. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there are a large number of vacancies in different Ministries/Departments of Government of India;
- (b) if so, the details of vacancies for the posts, Class I and above and Class II and below during the last three years, Ministry-wise;
- (c) by when these vacancies are likely to be filled up;
- (d) whether Government has initiated any action and fixed any time frame in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Promotion and demotion of SCs and STs

- †1862. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the present status of 'Reservation in Promotion' to the reserved categories of

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

Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs):

- (b) the details of directions issued and measures taken for its implementation; and
- (c) the details regarding demotion of such persons promoted earlier under 'Reservation in Promotion' policy and action taken to reinstate them on the promoted posts?

Leakage of examination papers

1863. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of question papers of Government examinations that were leaked since June 2014, till date;
- (b) the details of action taken against persons responsible for the leak of such question papers;
- (c) the details of steps taken by Government to ensure that interest of appearing candidates is safeguarded; and
- (d) the details of action taken to ensure that such paper leaks do not occur in future?

Delay in operationalising Whistle Blowers Protection Act

1864. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that number of RTI users or activists have been killed since May, 2014;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to address the issue of attacks on RTI users;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Whistle Blowers Protection Act, 2011 has not come into force till date; and

(d) if so, the reasons for this inordinate delay in operationalising the Act?

Appointment of Assistant Secretaries

- †1865. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the trainee officers from Indian Administration Services are being appointed as Assistant Secretaries in Government Department without having sufficient experiences;
- (b) whether consultations have been made with expert Committee in this regard; and
- (c) whether this would affect the administrative quality?

Filling up of vacancies in CAT and SATs

1866. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of sanctioned strength of Chairman and Members of CAT and SATs, tribunal-wise;
- (b) the details of vacancies in each tribunal and since how long such vacancies exist, tribunal-wise;
- (c) how many recommendations/ requests for filing up of the vacancies have been made by CAT and SATs to the Ministry; and
- (d) what steps have been taken to fill up the vacancies'?

Re-employment of retired Government officials

1867. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi

rules regarding re-employment of retired Government officials, there is a cooling off period of one year;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any check is in place regarding its implementation by all the Ministries especially in the Indian Armed Forces; and
- (d) the action being taken by the Department to cancel such illegal appointments by private sector companies employing retired Government officials immediately after retirement?

Cut-off date for Civil Services Examination

1868. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that, as per the current guidelines, UPSC permits only those candidates to sit for the Civil Services Examination who have not completed 32 years of age on 01.08.2018;
- (b) if so, what is the reason for fixing that date as the cut-off date; and
- (c) whether the same would not be unfair for candidates born in the first eight months of the year *vis-a-vis* those born in the last four months since the notification itself stipulates 6 attempts or 32 years of age, whichever is earlier?

Redressal of public grievances

1869. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the current provisions for redressal of public grievances;
 - (b) the number of grievances received

and the number of grievances addressed during the last three months;

- (c) whether Government proposes to expand the redressal of public grievances to e-redressal; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Tackling malnutrition under New India 2022 plan

†1870. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether NITI Aayog is working on an action plan of New India 2022 the main aim of which is to make India malnutrition free by 2022;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken so far by NITI Aayog towards making the country malnutrition free by 2022 under action plan New India 2022?

Evaluation of agriculture sector

1871. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) what is Delta Ranking released by NIT1 Aayog to evaluate agriculture sector in all districts of the country;
- (b) the details of performance indicators taken into account while ranking districts;
- (c) whether not even a single district from Andhra Pradesh found place in the top rankings;
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the details of top ten best performing districts in the country, indicator-wise; and

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

(f) the Ministry's suggestions/ recommendations to Andhra Pradesh for pushing up its indicators?

New and renamed schemes since 2014

- 1872. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of all the new/renamed schemes introduced post May, 2014 till date:
- (b) the details of the expenditure incurred on promotion of these schemes since 2014 till date; and
- (c) the details of the schemes which have been included under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) along with the actual expenditure incurred by PSUs on these schemes?

Development of naxal affected areas

1873. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:

SHRI T. G. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes development of naxal affected areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action plan therefor;
- (c) the quantum of funds being released under this plan;
- (d) whether any such funds have been released to the naxal affected areas in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the areas identified in both the States?

Strategy for New India 2022

- †1874. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Strategy for New India 2022 has not yet been framed;
- (b) if so, whether Government is considering to take any steps to expedite this work; and
- (c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Review of functioning of NITI Aayog

- 1875. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:
- (a) the total budget for NITI Aayog for the year 2018-19;
- (b) the details pertaining to total number of staff, offices and other relevant aspects;
- (c) whether Government has at any point of time undertaken any review of the functioning of NITI Aayog after it came into existence;
- (d) if so, when and the major observations and recommendations that emerged out of such review, if any; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Rehabilitation centres for welfare of differently-abled persons

- 1876. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is providing financial assistance to rehabilitation

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

centres for the welfare of differently-abled persons in the country;

- (b) if so, the quantum of financial assistance provided to various State Governments including Himachal Pradesh during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether various State Governments have submitted proposals seeking Central grants for the said purpose; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the details of action taken thereon?

Difference in income limit for availing OBC scholarships

- 1877. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has fixed the income limit for parents of OBC and other students for availing scholarships;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is difference in the income limit of parents of OBC and other students:
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government is aware that the said difference is causing social injustice among parents;
- (f) whether Government has received any requests for the revision of the limit; and
- (g) Government's stand in this regard?

Identification of beneficiaries without Aadhaar

1878. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 75 given in the Rajya Sabha on 21st December, 2017 and state:

- (a) whether the Ministry would assure that beneficiaries are not being asked to produce their Aadhaar to avail subsidies, benefits or services under the schemes notified under Section 7 of Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016:
- (b) the details of alternate means of identification allowed where beneficiaries do not have Aadhaar and the resources available to beneficiaries where Aadhaar authentication fails; and
- (c) the details of beneficiaries who could not avail the benefits of welfare schemes due to Aadhaar authentication failures or non-enrolment in Aadhaar, Statewise, scheme-wise and year-wise, since 2016?

Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections

- 1879. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of welfare schemes introduced for vulnerable sections of the population during the last three years including the current year;
- (b) whether all the schemes are implemented successfully to reach the targeted beneficiaries and if so, the details thereof:
- (c) whether the Central Government has conducted any study/survey to find out the performance of these schemes at the grassroot level;
- (d) if so, the detailed outcome thereof; and
- (e) the details of funds allocated and spent under the schemes during the last three years, year-wise and scheme-wise?

Pre and Post-matric scholarships for SC/ST/OBC students

1880. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any amount has been pending for disbursement to the State Government of Rajasthan on account of Pre and Post-matric scholarships for SC, ST and OBC students during the last three academic years; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Reduction in disability percentage for pension

†1881. SHRIMATI SAMPATIYA UIKEY: SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the disability percentage is being reduced from 80 per cent to 40 per cent under the Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme and if so, by when; and
 - (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

Backward Class Post-matric Scholarship Scheme

†1882. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State receives very less than required/partial amount only, from the Ministry under Backward Class Postmatric Scholarship Scheme; and (b) whether the funds being provided by Government is needed to be increased under this scheme, keeping in view the limited financial resources of State Governments?

Status of Jhava community in SC list

1883. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state the status of Jhava community of Odisha regarding their inclusion in the list of Schedule Castes?

Recommendations of National Council of Senior Citizens

1884. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any National Council has been constituted by Government for senior citizens;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said Council has submitted its recommendations;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) by when the recommendations of the Council are likely to be implemented in the country?

Exclusion of elderly and disabled due to Aadhaar

1885. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of schemes for the elderly and differently-abled which have been notified under Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act;

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

- (b) the number of beneficiaries who could not avail their entitlements due to non-enrolment in Aadhaar and Aadhaar authentication failures, State-wise and scheme-wise, since 2013 onward; and
- (c) the measures being taken to ensure that differently-abled people who are unable to register their biometrics, are not excluded from welfare schemes for want of Aadhaar linking or authentication?

Removal of creamy layer for OBCs

1886. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has approved setting up of a panel to study quota within OBC quota;
- (b) if so, the reasons for delay in constituting the panel;
- (c) whether the Ministry is aware that Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have already introduced the system of quota within OBC quota for effective implementation of OBC reservation;
- (d) if so, whether it has studied the quota within quota system in these States;and
- (e) the efforts being made to remove creamy layer for OBCs?

Implementation of UDID card scheme

1887. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state the reasons for implementing the UDID card scheme by the Ministry when the Aadhaar number is already mandatory

for availing the benefits under the scheme?

Incentives for inter-caste marriages

1888. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Dr. Ambedkar Foundation has called for applications for various grants and incentives for inter-caste marriages from people across the country since 2016 onwards;
- (b) if so, the number of such applications received from Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh:
- (c) the number of applications examined and cleared from these States and the action initiated in this regard; and
- (d) the steps taken to address every application received by the Foundation?

Inclusion of various communities in OBC list

- 1889. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has received representations from States and interested groups for inclusion of sub-castes of various communities in the OBC list during the last three years; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response to those representations?

Post-matric scholarship for SC students

1890. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of arrears which have

been accumulated from Central Government, under the Post-matric scholarship for SC students in various States including Punjab;

- (b) the quantum of funds released under Post-matric scholarship for SC students, since 2014, year- wise and State-wise;
- (c) the total number of students covered under this scheme during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (d) whether Government has received complaints for misutilisation of these funds or scam in the State; and
- (e) the details of deserving students who have to leave their studies in the absence of such scholarship in Punjab?

Extension of term of Commission for sub-categorization of OBC

- 1891. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has approved a final extension of the term of the Commission constituted to examine sub-categorization within Other Backward Classes in the Central list;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Commission which has a term till June 30, 2018 will now work till July 31, 2018?

Reusable launch vehicle

- 1892. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has achieved any demonstrable lead in its endeavour to have reusable launch vehicle;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has made any assessment regarding the cost cutting effect of reusable launch vehicle; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Making of green propellant

1893. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the ISRO is making green propellant;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this is an effort to replace the conventional hydrazine rocket fuel, a highly toxic and carcinogenic chemical with a greener propellant for future missions; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Flight testing of unmanned Crew Escape System

1894. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully flight-tested unmanned Crew Escape System (CES);
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it would enhance the capability for undertaking human spaceflight mission; and
- (d) if so, whether the next mission is planned for Moon or Mars and any timeframe has been worked out and if so, the details thereof?

Visit of NCST to Polavaram in Andhra Pradesh

1895. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of visit of National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) to Polavaram:
- (b) the details of members of NCST team that visited Polavaram;
- (c) the specific villages visited by NCST;
- (d) whether the tribals of nearly 95 per cent of new re-settlement villages were not allowed to meet the visiting NCST team; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken to remedy the situation of not meeting the tribals in East Godavari district and several affected villages of West Godavari at Polavaram Dam?

Permanent teachers under Eklavya scheme

†1896. SHRI RATHWA NARANBHAI JEMLABHAI: Will the Minister of TRIBALAFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are no permanent teachers in schools run under Eklavya scheme for promotion of education in tribal areas;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether due to non-effective implementation of the scheme by the Central Government, the State Governments have not taken any action in this regard due to which the scheme is not successful; and
- (d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

Inclusion of castes in SC list

1897. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken any steps to declare/include Kudmi and Routia tribes from Odisha in the list of Scheduled Tribes; and
 - (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

Assistance to villages of Gujarat

- †1898. SHRI RATHWA NARANBHAI JEMLABHAI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is providing assistance to any village of Gujarat under special Central assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof, villagewise and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of works being done in this regard; and
- (d) whether above works are being done in a time-bound manner and if not, the reasons therefor?

Sub plan for development of tribals

- †1899. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has directed to formulate a sub plan for development of tribals; and
- (b) if so, by when it would be formulated and what would be its format?

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

Development of forest villages in Rajasthan

1900. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of TRIBALAFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had prepared any scheme for development of forest villages during the Twelfth Five Year Plan in Rajasthan; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Socio-economic development of tribals

1901. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) total population of tribals in the country and by what rate their population is growing;
- (b) the details of their demographical and geographical distribution, State-wise, community-wise and caste-wise;
- (c) whether any committees were formed during the last three years for the socio-economic development of tribals and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the major recommendations of those committees and whether those recommendations of the committees were followed and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Unspent funds under Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana

1902. SHRIB. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the States which have not spent the funds allocated under the Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana (VKY) scheme; and

(b) the details of the reasons therefor and what action Government has taken against these States?

Demand of tribal status

1903. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the tribal communities in different parts of the country and the number of these accorded Scheduled Tribe status, State-wise; and
- (b) the details of tribal communities demanding to get tribal status and the steps taken by Government to meet their demand?

Utilisation of grants-in-aid by NGOs in North East

1904. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of total number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in Assam and other North Eastern States which have received grants-in-aid from Government for implementation of various schemes under the Ministry in their respective States during the last three years;
- (b) the mechanism available for proper monitoring of utilisation of grants-in-aid by the NGOs and whether such mechanism has been found to be effective;
- (c) whether it is a fact that many NGOs have been found to be non performing and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) what action has been taken by Government against such NGOs?

Regulation of playschools

1905. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any initiative has been taken by Government to regulate the operation of playschools in various parts of the country, especially in view of the increasing incidents of atrocities against young children;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Mahila Shakti Kendra in Tamil Nadu

1906. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched the Mahila Shakti Kendra Scheme in specific parts of the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any Mahila Shakti Kendra has been set up in Tamil Nadu, particularly in the Tuticorin district;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Sakhi centres

1907. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has established Sakhi centres in the country for women affected by violence;
- (b) whether any such centre has been opened in Kerala; and
 - (c) if so, the number of complaints

registered and disposed of by such centres during the last three years?

Procurement of mobiles and tablets for nutrition data

†1908. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to lack of clear guidelines about the procurement of mobiles and tablets, States are facing problems in their procurement under the nutrition drive launched by the Prime Minister;
- (b) the number of mobiles and tablets required, State-wise;
- (c) the details of States and their proposals regarding procurement of mobiles and tablets which have been received by the Ministry; and
- (d) the number and details of mobiles and tablets procured by each State till now?

Implementation of Seventh Pay Commission in Central Social Welfare Board

1909. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Seventh Pay Commission recommendations have been implemented in the Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) an office under the Ministry's control;
- (b) if so, whether all the benefits of its recommendations have been given to all retirees and retiring employees;
- (c) the details of retired employees who have been left out and the reasons therefor; and

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi

(d) how long it would take to extend all the benefits to retiring and retired employees of CSWB?

Committees under Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act

1910. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the functioning of Internal Complaint Committees (ICCs) and Local Complaint Committees (LCCs) under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act is required to be monitored by any designated body;
- (b) if so, the details of monitoring and implementation of ICCs and LCCs, State-wise:
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether the Ministry proposes to create such a requirement; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Reduction in allocation of funds for Anganwadi Centres

- 1911. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has planned to reduce the allocation of funds for Anganwadi Centres running in different States;
- (b) if so, the present funding schedule by the Central and State Governments for Anganwadi projects in different States; and
- (c) the number of Centres, teachers and helpers under the project, State-wise?

Poshan Abhiyan for holistic nourishment

1912. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has launched the *Poshan* Abhiyan which is aimed at holistic nourishment;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the scheme would focus on improving the coverage and quality of ICDS nutrition services to pregnant and lactating women and children under 3 years of age; and
- (d) whether the project would include investments in improving the skills and capacities of ICDS staff and community nutrition workers?

Khoya Paya web portal

- 1913. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of children who have gone missing during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the details of children tracked and recovered during that period using the Khoya Paya web portal, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Ministry to popularise the web portal among the public?

Student volunteers under Mahila Shakti Kendras

- 1914. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
 - (a) the details of fully functional Mahila

Shakti Kendras operating in the country at present, State-wise;

- (b) the total amount spent on each such Kendras on an average; and
- (c) the total number of student volunteers appointed under the scheme?

Increase in heinous crime against girls

- 1915. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of rape cases of minor girls have been reported during the current year which have shaken country's conscience and if so, the details thereof since January, 2018, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government has examined the reasons for abnormal increase of such heinous crimes and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

Addressing stunting in children

- †1916. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is identifying/ has identified the districts affected by malnourishment and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) by when the impacts of Government's steps to address malnourishment would be visible on the ground; and
 - (c) whether Government is taking any

steps to address the reasons and problems of stunting in children and if so, the details thereof?

Upliftment of women and orphans

- 1917. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of orphanages and shelter homes for widows, destitutes, old women and orphans functioning in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the cases of child abuse in such orphanages have been reported during the said period;
- (c) whether Government proposes a new scheme or an exclusive financial institution to provide financial assistance to such widows and encourage them for re-marriage and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other steps taken by Government for upliftment of widows, destitutes, old women and orphans in the country?

Control and regulation of children homes

- 1918. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware that selling of children has been reported from children homes;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken to control and regulate children homes in the country?

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

Irregularities in shelter homes for children in Ranchi

- 1919. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware of the reported sale of children at Missionaries of Charity, Ranchi;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to conduct an enquiry in the matter and to ensure that no such irregularities take place in this shelter home and other centres operated by Missionaries of Charity in the country; and
- (c) whether such centres are duty bound to report and initiate the process for documentation of each and every child given for adoption and if so, the details thereof?

Rehabilitation of victims of rape and acid attack

1920. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of cases of rape and acid attack has increased and if so, the details thereof?
- (b) whether Government has created a special fund to provide legal assistance to such victims and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up rehabilitation centres for such victims in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the time by which such centres are likely to be set up, State/ UT-wise?

New Delhi; *The 27th July*, 2018 *Shravana* 5, 1940 (*Saka*) DESH DEEPAK VERMA, Secretary-General.

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