

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, August 10, 2018/Shravana 19, 1940 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers;
Coal; Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution;
Electronics and Information Technology; Food Processing Industries;
Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs; Railways)

Total number of questions — 160

Progress of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana

2721. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) during the last four years, State-wise;

(b) the details of area under organic cultivation since 2014 to 2018, State-wise; and

(c) the details and number of farmers selected for financial assistance of ₹ 50,000/- per hectare per-farmer from Kerala during 2014 to 2018?

Burden of additional cost on organic food

2722. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to Government's notice that, according to a recent ASSOCHAM-EY joint study,

switch to organic food is likely to cost an additional ₹ 1,200-1,500 per month for a family;

(b) if so, the reasons for lack of standardized organic agriculture inputs and subsidy on organic inputs; and

(c) the manner in which Government proposes to tackle the challenges, such as, supply chain issues, global competitiveness and absence of proper branding and packaging faced by the organic sector in the country?

Amendment in the Drought Manual

2723. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to amend the Drought Manual 2016 to allow extension of scarcity period due to drought upto the end of July in the next year or the onset of next Monsoon;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Training to farmers for scientific method of farming

†2724. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken steps to promote agriculture in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has given training to farmers for scientific methods of agriculture; and

(c) whether farmers have been given information in this regard, if so, the names of districts in which this programme is being implemented, the State-wise details thereof?

Implementation of NFSM in Kerala

2725. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) during 2014-15 to 2017-18, State-wise; and

(b) the details of employment opportunities generated in Kerala under the NFSM during 2014-15 to 2017-18?

Credit flow in agriculture sector

2726. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agricultural credit flow during 2014-15 to 2017-18;

(b) the details of various crop insurance programmes going on; and

(c) the amount of relief distributed to

farmers in Kerala for various crops during 2014-15 to 2017-18?

Implementation of Soil Health Card Scheme

†2727. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crores of Soil Health Cards have been issued in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it was expected from the farmers that they would use chemical fertilizers as per the norms prescribed in the Soil Health Cards; and

(c) whether Government has conducted any study to ascertain whether the farmers are able to get the benefit of this exercise brought with heavy cost and hardwork?

MSP for all crops

†2728. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has announced Minimum Support Price (MSP) only for 14 crops of Kharif;

(b) if so, whether Government would announce the MSPs for all the crops produced by the farmers and also make arrangement for procurement of their crops;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reasons for not implementing the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission by Government and by when these recommendations would be implemented?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Insurance cover for damage of crops
by animals**

2729. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated average income of farmers across the country, during the current year and past three years, year-wise;

(b) whether Government has conducted any survey to determine the quantity of agriculture crops destroyed by animal activities on a regular basis, if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government plans to provide assistance to various farmers whose crops are destroyed/damaged by animals by providing insurance coverage or any other facility, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cold storages in Maharashtra

2730. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government establishes or promotes establishment of cold storages for the benefit of small and marginal farmers and also to help the food processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the criteria laid down for establishing such cold storages; and

(c) the number of such cold storages established, so far, along with those likely to be established in the near future in the State of Maharashtra?

Developing rural agri markets

†2731. 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 seriously contemplating upon developing 22,000 rural agri-markets of the country;

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

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

Economic impact of organic farming

2732. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area covered under organic farming in the country in 2018;

(b) the details of area under organic farming since 2011;

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

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

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

Cold storage centres in Telangana

2733. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sanctioned any cold storage centres to the State of Telangana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the details of the places where these facilities are coming up in Telangana;

(d) whether Government of Telangana has recommended any proposals in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Central Government on such requests?

Implementation of welfare programmes for fishermen

2734. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any memorandum from National Fisherworkers Forum (NFF) or any other organisation for considering long standing demands of fishermen in various parts of the country;

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

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for implementation of various welfare programmes for the welfare of fishermen?

Production of bio-fertilizer

2735. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bio-fertilizer production units operating in various States of the country along with their installed capacity, as on date, State-wise including Jharkhand and Gujarat;

(b) the details of the actual production in each of the said units during the last three years;

(c) the details of the monitoring system to maintain a check on the quality of bio-fertilizers being sold in the country; and

(d) the details of incentives being provided by Government for the production and encouraging the use of bio-fertilizers in the country?

Uniform policy for agriculture sector

2736. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a uniform set of policies for the agriculture sector across the country so that farmers benefit the most and their income doubles;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the agriculture sector is an area that bothers both the Centre and the State with both Governments making policies for the sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Realignment of cropping pattern

2737. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian agriculture needs to stop being obsessed with land productivity and instead start worrying about water productivity;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the country needs to make realignment of cropping patterns to water availability; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Drought declaration in Bihar

†2738. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar, where paddy is the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

main crop grown in July requires 6 to 12 inch water level in farm, is facing drought situation due to non-occurrence of rain fall in the month; and

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has any plan to solve the crisis by declaring the State as drought affected?

Cage farming in Karnataka

2739. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched cage farming project in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said cage farming units will be set up in Karnataka; and

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

Dependency on agriculture

†2740. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the families of the country are still dependent on agriculture; and

(b) if so, the total number of farmers, in crore, who are engaged in agricultural activities, State-wise?

Irrigated land in the country

†2741. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an increase in irrigated land during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details of the increase thereof, State-wise?

Production of fruits and vegetables

2742. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set any target for the production of fruits and vegetables in different States, including Maharashtra, during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of production of fruits and vegetables in different States, including Maharashtra, during the last four years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) the details of assistance provided/to be provided by Government to different States for promoting horticulture crops during the Twelfth Five Year Plan, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to achieve the targets set under the said Plan period?

Releasing of funds to Maharashtra under the schemes of NDDB

2743. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has released the funds to the Government of Maharashtra for milk production under the schemes of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB);

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the time by which the funds are likely to be released by the Central Government?

Production, storage and wastage of potato, onion and garlic

†2744. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state the State-wise quantity of production of potato, onion and garlic in the country in the last three years, their procurement price from farmers and the assessment of quantity of loss of each one of them due to unavailability of storage facility or otherwise?

Setting up of Central Agriculture University in Meghalaya

2745. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre had committed setting up a Central Agriculture University at Kyrdemkulai, District Ribhoi, Meghalaya as per the assurances of the Minister of Agriculture during his visit to Meghalaya on 15th/16th February, 2016;

(b) whether the Government of Meghalaya has acquired the land and handed it over to CAU authorities on 4th December, 2014; and

(c) the status of efforts made by the Centre to set up the said University in Meghalaya?

Studies in fisheries by CIFRI

2746. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Inland Fisheries

Research Institute (CIFRI) has studied the fisheries stock in the rivers of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh since 1st January, 2018;

(b) whether fish stocks in inland waters have declined across the country;

(c) if so, the issues being faced by fishermen in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana on declining fish stocks along with the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has received petitions from fishermen to depute scientists from CIFRI, Barrackpore for on the spot studies;

(e) whether there is any proposal to help the affected fishermen; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

MSP for Jute

2747. MS. DOLA SEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state the reasons why the Central Government is not announcing the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Jute, which is long overdue, so that the Jute farmers may survive and accordingly the overall Jute industry could be developed?

Promotion of Zero Budget Natural Farming

2748. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NITI Aayog has advocated for promotion of Zero Budget Natural Farming under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana to double the income of farmers by 2022;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether the suggestion is backed by experiments conducted by Agriculture Research Institutions and practice being done by farmers or is based upon paperwork alone; and

(d) the Agriculture Research Institutions and parts of the country where farming done under the two flagship schemes of Government avoiding use of fertilizers and just 10 per cent of water, has resulted in doubling the farm production?

Financial assistance for loss of crops and cattle

†2749. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial support is provided to small and marginal farmers for loss of their crops and cattle in the event of natural disaster;

(b) if so, the details of financial support payable and paid per hectare to small and marginal farmers;

(c) whether there are separate compensation packages for irrigable and non-irrigable land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Benefits of Contract Farming

2750. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States that have adopted the Model Contract Farming Act;

(b) whether it is a fact that not all States have adopted the Act, and if so, the reasons therefor, State-wise;

(c) the salient features of the above Act; and

(d) how the contract farmers are helped through this Act?

Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Agricultural Schemes in Kerala

2751. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Centrally Sponsored Agricultural Schemes in Kerala;

(b) the details of funds released for each projects;

(c) whether the State Government has submitted proposals for various agricultural schemes; and

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

Legislation on MSP

2752. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) has recommended the Government to bring out a legislation which would give announcement of MSP some legal teeth by giving farmers the right to sell their produces at those prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the hike in the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for paddy and other crops, announced by the Government does not meet the criteria recommended by the Swaminathan Commission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Milk production in the country

2753. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

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

(b) if so, the total procurement of milk during the last five years, including current-year, year-wise; and

(c) the effect of surplus production of milk on prices of cow and buffalo milk and milk products?

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

(a) whether Government has recently conducted any survey to ascertain the increase/decrease in income of farmers of the country since 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof during 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the basis on which Government claims that income of farmers has increased or is increasing?

Interest subvention on loan of farmers

2754. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any scheme for interest subvention for farmers who repay their loans in time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any request from the Government of Rajasthan for grant of interest subvention amount in advance so that benefit may be given to farmers without delay;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has taken any action on such request; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Renovation of old soil testing labs

2756. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Soil Health Cards distributed in the last three years;

(b) whether crop specific recommendations about the use of fertilizers and micro-nutrients is also provided to the farmers and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether renovation and strengthening of old soil testing labs is undertaken and if so, the details thereof?

Decline in farmers' income

2757. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH
VERMA:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that farmers who have no other sources of

Income of farmers

2755. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH
VERMA:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

income than agriculture are earning only 1/3rd of minimum daily wages;

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

(c) the reasons why Government has failed miserably to ameliorate the condition of suicide committing farmers; and

(d) the reasons for sharp decline in farmers' income during the last four years?

Menace of Parthenium Weed

2758. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that Parthenium has aggressively dominated the entire fertile agricultural land in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and particularly Nalanda Distt. of Bihar;

(b) if so, whether Government has conducted any survey or study to assess the magnitude and gravity of its invasion on farmland;

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

(d) the total area of fertile agricultural land invaded by this weed in the country, particularly in Nalanda Distt. of Bihar?

Reduction in budget for agriculture sector

†2759. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether development of agriculture

sector has been affected due to constant reduction in its budget resulting in constant increase in farmers' plight;

(b) if so, the details of amount spent on agriculture during the last five years out of total budget, year-wise;

(c) the reasons for backwardness of agriculture sector and the details of steps taken for resolution of the problems; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the schemes being implemented for preservation and promotion of agriculture are becoming ineffective by the time they reach to the ground level?

Implementation of PMFBY in Madhya Pradesh

†2760. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH:

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

(a) the amount allocated by Central Government to Madhya Pradesh under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), since inception of the yojana, year-wise;

(b) whether State Government of Madhya Pradesh has fully utilised the allocated amount; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Meetings of General Body in MSCS

2761. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether decisions in Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) are taken in General Body and Board meetings by majority and in transparent manner;

(b) whether Member/Delegate/Director

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

of MSCS can influence the decisions taken in General Body and Board meetings by majority;

(c) if so, how and what precautions have been taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check their influence;

(d) whether General Body and Board of MSCS can infringe the rights of its Member; and

(e) under what circumstances a Member of MSCS can be prevented from contesting election?

Election in MSCS

2762. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a member of Multi-State Cooperative Society (MSCS) is eligible to contest election if the member has not violated any condition mentioned in MSCS Act, 2002;

(b) whether Board of Directors of MSCS can infringe rights of the member by imposing arbitrary conditions on member(s) to prevent them from contesting elections;

(c) whether a member of MSCS can exercise any control over his/her relatives and can prevent them from earning their livelihood; and

(d) whether the Constitution (97th Amendment) Act, 2011 has come into force and if so, the details thereof?

Training for farmers to take up agro-allied activities

2763. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated

any programme in the last three years to encourage farmers to take up agro-allied activities like poultry, dairy and beekeeping in order to enhance their income;

(b) if so, whether Government has initiated any training programmes for farmers in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps that have been taken or are proposed to be taken to ensure remunerative price of these agro-allied products to the farmers?

Revival of Ramagundam Fertilizer Plant

2764. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ramagundam Fertilizer Plant is being revived without funding of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has fixed any tentative date to operationalise the Plant;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Availability of fertilizers to farmers at subsidised rates

2765. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to make fertilizers available to the farmers at subsidised rates throughout the country; and

(b) if so, the names of such fertilizers?

Displaying generic medicines in dedicated racks in chemist shops

2766. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that chemists across the country have been asked to display generic medicines in a dedicated rack in their shops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that several manufacturers of generic drugs do not meet quality standards; and

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

Shortage of skilled manpower in Chemicals and Fertilizers industry

2767. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chemicals and Fertilizers industry is facing huge shortage of skilled manpower;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that an MoU has been signed with the Skill Development Department to provide skill training; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

NITI Aayog for exemption of orphan and unbranded generic drugs from price control

2768. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NITI Aayog has recommended exemption of

orphan drugs and unbranded generic drugs from price control;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has considered the views of NITI Aayog and if so, the details of outcome in this regard; and

(d) whether Government would ensure that such a decision would not have an adverse impact in the society, particularly with regard to orphan drugs?

Employment in Chemicals and Fertilizers industry

2769. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: 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 assessed and if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Establishing generic medicine shops in Himachal Pradesh

2770. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has established generic medicine shops under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to establish generic medicine shops in all the blocks of Himachal Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by Government to make generic medicine available in each block of Himachal Pradesh?

Exorbitant profiteering by private hospitals in surgical consumables

‡2771. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of recovering a profit margin of upto 2000 per cent on the items used in surgery from the patients by the private hospitals have been brought to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has implemented a new policy which provides for restriction on private hospitals, not to charge profit of more than ten times on these items; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Jan Aushadhi Kendras in Delhi and other cities

2772. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of generic medicines have become very cheap under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of Jan Aushadhi Kendras which have been opened in Delhi and other cities and the medicines made available therein for the common people; and

(c) whether doctors in Government hospitals and private practitioners are prescribing such generic medicines to patients and if not, the reasons therefor?

Non-passing of subsidy benefits to farmers by IFFCO

2773. SHRI MAJEED MEMON:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR
GUPTA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) procured cheap ammonia from the Oman India Fertiliser Company SAOC (OMIFCO) for supply of ammonia with the intervention of the Government of India, but sold the fertiliser at the prevailing market prices without passing on the subsidy benefits to the farmers;

(b) if so, the reasons why the benefit was not passed on to the farmers, and pocketing of ₹ 765.19 crore on account of undue benefits; and

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

Pollution-free chemical industry

2774. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to introduce pollution-free chemical industry in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Import of coking coal

2775. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of coking coal imported into the country during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(b) the impact of the cost of coking coal on the steel and other related industries; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to improve the supply of coking coal in the country?

Steel grade coking coal

2776. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of exploration to unearth steel grade coking coal in the country;

(b) how much budget has been allocated towards the above and the present status of ongoing projects;

(c) the reasons for steel plants purchasing coal blocks from international suppliers, resulting in fluctuation in importing prices, which affects steel prices in the country; and

(d) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) is importing coking coal (steel grade) from abroad, the details thereof?

Deaths reported in Andhra Pradesh coal mines and fields

2777. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1330 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29 December, 2017 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 16 people were killed in Andhra Pradesh in coal mines and coal fields in 2016;

(b) if so, whether any deaths/accidents have been reported in 2017 and 2018;

(c) the details of coal mines and coal fields in which above-cited 16 people died, mine/field-wise;

(d) whether there are any deaths reported from Chintalapudi where coal reserves have been discovered recently; and

(e) the details of compensation paid and employment given to next of kin of those killed?

Leakage of coal in collieries

2778. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge amount of coal leakage is going on in the different collieries under Coal India Limited, incurring huge national losses;

(b) if so, the amount of coal leakages detected;

(c) the financial loss to the Government; and

(d) the steps Government is going to take to curb these?

Increase in import of coal

2779. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is going to be an expected increase in the import of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the price of imported coal is about 40 per cent higher than the domestic coal;

(d) whether Government is involved in discussions with coal producers outside the country regarding the price of future imports; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Allocation of coal blocks through allotment and auction route

2780. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal blocks that have been allotted through the auctions route (with details of annual peak mining capacity and total estimated reserves), after the cancellation of coal blocks pursuant to Supreme Court order of September, 2014 and what has been the one time and annual revenues accrued to State Governments from such auctioned coal blocks; and

(b) the number of coal blocks that have been allocated to public sector companies through the allotment route in the same period and what has been the one-time and annual revenues accrued to State Governments from such allotted coal blocks?

New coal mines

†2781. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new coal mines in the public and private sectors which have been given sanction since 2014 till date; and

(b) the expected increase in the production of coal in the country after the commencement of mining in these mines and the revenue that is likely to be accrued to the Government from it?

Supply of coal

2782. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal-run power plants have

complained about inadequate supply of coal from Mahanadi Coalfields Limited and several eastern coalfields;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of coal stocked at power plants; and

(c) the urgent steps Ministry is taking to meet the demand of coal supply?

Number of coal mines

2783. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal mines in the country;

(b) whether there is coal mining in private sector; and

(c) whether there is any proposal for allowing FDI in coal sector?

Inability of public sector telecommunication companies to provide quality services

†2784. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the public sector telecommunication companies have failed to provide quality services to their customers, as the number of complaints being filed by the customers with regard to call drops, bad communication service and less than expected broadband speed are on the rise; and

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

Mobile network in Madhya Pradesh

†2785. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

bring about a communication revolution in remote villages; and

(b) if so, the number of mobile towers installed, so far, in Madhya Pradesh and the number of villages or cities not having mobile network, so far, in Madhya Pradesh?

National Digital Communications Policy, 2018

2786. DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to introduce the National Digital Communications Policy (NDCP-2018), if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the objectives of the said NDCP-2018;

(c) whether Government has set any target to achieve under the said Policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has set any time-frame to implement the said Policy; and

(f) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented along with the details thereof?

Telecommunication facilities in tribal villages of Gujarat

†2787. SHRI RATHWA NARANBHAI JEMLABHAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether at present, because of fewer BTS towers in tribal-dominant areas/villages of Gujarat, the facility of telecom connectivity is not available and due to dysfunctional network, tribal people are not able to make applications for social welfare schemes and jobs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide telecommunication facilities in the afore-mentioned villages?

Mobile towers in Chhota Udaipur in Gujarat

†2788. SHRI RATHWA NARANBHAI JEMLABHAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of mobile towers approved to be installed by Government for Chhota Udaipur area of Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) the number of mobile towers established out of this, so far, the location-wise details thereof;

(c) the number of towers not installed as yet and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether anyone has been held responsible for this and if not, Government's reaction thereon?

Vacation of spectrum by Internet Service Providers

2789. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the Internet Service Providers to vacate spectrum in the 3300-3400 MHz band by the end of September;

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

(c) the names of the service providers who have vacated the said spectrum thereafter;

(d) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has given its recommendations on reserve price of spectrum and the timing of auction; and

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Call drops

‡2790. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has ultimately accepted that the problem of call drops can not be completely addressed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the problem of call drops is prevalent world-wide; and

(c) whether Government and TRAI are taking concerted efforts in solving the problem of call drops with the help of telecom operators and bringing it within the permissible limit, if so, the details thereof?

Issuance of smart cards in lieu of printed ration cards

2791. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all State Governments have issued smart cards in lieu of printed ration cards after linking the Aadhaar and mobile phone numbers of the beneficiaries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise, and if not, whether any specific time-frame has been set for the same?

Impact of increase in FRP for sugarcane

2792. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a 2.5 per cent increase in Fair and Remunerative Prices (FRP) for sugarcane, Government has calculated the

rise in cost of production of sugar in rupees/metric tonnes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the increase in the FRP would result in a margin cut for the sugar mills and a cut in cane arrears due to surplus in domestic market in SY-2019; and

(d) if so, whether the Ministry has a mechanism to prevent an increase in cane arrears and a decline in the margins of the sugar mills, the details thereof?

Malpractices in restaurants, pubs and hotels

2793. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made service charges optional for the restaurants, pubs and hotels but restaurants are still charging it to the consumers;

(b) if so, the details of the complaints received in this regard during the last one year, State-wise, along with the steps taken, if any, by Government to stop such malpractices in restaurants, pubs and hotels; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Allocation of foodgrains to Kerala

2794. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of subsidy claimed by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and released by the Central Government during the last five years, year-wise; and

(b) the details of foodgrains allocation

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

to Kerala *w.e.f.* 2011-12 to 2016-17, year-wise?

Testing of products registered with BIS

2795. DR. SUBHASH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a majority of products registered with the BIS, have not been tested under the market scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and total number of products that have been tested under the market scheme;

(c) whether Government has any mechanism to track the number of products imported and sold in the country; and

(d) if so, whether Government would consider these statistics to draft new scheme to ensure that those products could be targeted for domestic manufacturing and promoted through Make in India?

Overseas companies registered with BIS

2796. DR. SUBHASH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of manufacturing companies registered with the Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) are internationally based thereby benefiting overseas companies instead of Indian companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of overseas manufacturing companies registered with BIS along with their country name?

Procurement of Kharif crops in tribal areas

2797. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of wheat, rice, sugarcane and other Kharif crops procured in various States of the country, including Jharkhand and Gujarat, particularly in backward and tribal areas, during the last three years;

(b) the number of farmers who benefitted from such a procurement, particularly in backward and tribal areas, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to provide remunerative prices of crops to the farmers, particularly in backward and tribal areas of the country?

Distribution of essential commodities in Manipur

2798. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the mode of distribution of essential commodities of FCI to the public;

(b) whether Fair Price Shops (FPSs) are an integral part of distributing essential commodities, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether no working FPSs exist in Manipur, if so, the details in this regard;

(d) whether it is a fact that, instead of FPSs, agents are appointed arbitrarily and mostly on advice of local MLAs for rationing essential commodities there, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Ministry approves the above system, if so, the details thereof and if not, the action contemplated thereon?

Tax expenditure on procurement of foodgrains before and post-GST

2799. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after introduction of GST, Government has reduced its tax expenses on food procurement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the tax expenditure of Government on food procurement before the GST and after the GST?

Weeding out of bogus ration cards

2800. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that linking of Aadhaar with ration cards has helped in weeding out of several bogus ration cards issued under the National Food Security Act (NFSA);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of number of ration cards issued, linked with Aadhaar and bogus cards found till date, State-wise?

Allocation of wheat to Odisha

2801. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is aware about net shortfall in allocation of wheat by 29,639.003 MT under NFSA scheme during the period from November, 2015 to February, 2017 consequent upon

recent revision of Central allocation for the State of Odisha; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Government would take necessary steps to recoup the allocation of wheat to the State of Odisha?

Warehouse capacity in the country

2802. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money spent on procurement of various foodgrains in different States under MSP in the last four financial years;

(b) the average price of the various items procured under MSP of various foodgrains; and

(c) the total capacity of warehousing which has been added in various States during the last four financial years and the total warehousing capacity needed to meet total requirement?

Credit of food subsidy under DBT scheme in Puducherry

2803. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether food subsidy is directly being credited to all the eligible accounts under the Direct Benefit Transfer scheme in Puducherry;

(b) if so, the details of the number of beneficiaries of the scheme; and

(c) whether the beneficiaries have a grievance redressal mechanism available and if so, the details thereof?

Allocation of rice to Odisha

2804. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA:
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR
SWAIN:

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

(a) whether the Central Government is aware about the non-release of Central allocation of rice to Odisha under Annapurna Scheme for the financial years 2016-17 and 2017-18 which has already been distributed to the beneficiaries by the State Government out of State pool; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Government would take necessary steps to release the Central allocation of rice to the State of Odisha under Annapurna Scheme for the financial years 2016-17 and 2017-18?

Delay in payment of cash under DBT

2805. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received complaints from various States regarding delay in payment of cash under the DBT reforms introduced under the PDS;

(b) if so, the reasons identified for the delay in the payment; and

(c) whether Government provides any compensation to the affected for such delayed payment?

Payment of dues to sugarcane growing farmers

†2806. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD
NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

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

(a) the number of sugarcane growing farmers who have been paid their arrears with interest under the rules of Central Sugarcane Order in last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to the non-payment of due amount to the sugarcane growing farmers by sugar mill owners in time year by year, arrears amount is increasing;

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry in view of the tendency of non-payment of arrears of sugarcane growing farmers by sugar mill owners and the results thereof; and

(d) the details of arrears thereof, State-wise and year-wise?

Procurement of wheat and rice

2807. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of operational storage facilities currently operating for crops in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the State agencies procured only 71 million tonnes of wheat and rice in 2017-18 out of 210 million tonnes of production;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether low procurement had to do with lower storage capacity; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to increase storage capacity in the country during the last three years, year-wise?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Pendency of consumer cases in Maharashtra

2808. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases pending in various consumer redressal fora in the State of Maharashtra as on date along with the reasons for their pendency;

(b) the action Government proposes to take to clear the backlog of cases in these fora within a time-frame; and

(c) how far the Jaago Grahak Jaago campaign of the Government has succeeded in Maharashtra?

Setting up of Price Monitoring Cells in Odisha

2809. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government would consider creating three more centres at Brahmapur, Balasore and Jeypore in Odisha as proposed for transmitting price information to Price Monitoring Cell; and

(b) whether the funds amounting ₹ 20,54,900/- proposed by Odisha would be released soon to activate the above stated three new centres?

Incidents of cyber crime against women and children

†2810. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of

cyber crime against women and children in the country have increased;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to stop such incidents; and

(c) the details thereof, State-wise?

IBPS in Tamil Nadu

2811. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of activities undertaken/ facilities being provided under India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS) in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) the details of BPOs/ITES that have been set up in the State of Tamil Nadu and commenced their operations, district-wise; and

(c) the details of women with rural background who have been given employment opportunity in the BPOs/ ITES?

UMANG App

2812. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has introduced the UMANG (Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance) App for smartphones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objectives of the UMANG App along with the details thereof;

(d) the services identified to be provided to common people under the said initiative along with the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) whether Government has any proposal to introduce it all over the country;

(f) if so, the response of the Government in this regard; and

(g) the details thereof?

Websites and mobile applications banned by UIDAI

2813. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether UIDAI has banned some websites like *aadhaarupdate.com*, *geteaadhaar.com*, etc; and

(b) if so, the full list of websites and mobile applications that have been banned by UIDAI, along with the details like the Aadhaar services that these websites were providing, who were operating these websites, since when these websites were operating, how many Aadhaar holders' data they had obtained and whether FIR had been filed against such websites?

Special provisions for Aadhaar enrolment for persons with disabilities

2814. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has recommended any special provisions to make Aadhaar enrolment easier for persons with disabilities; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to address the issue of enrolment of persons with special needs, especially those who have a problem with both eyes and fingers along with the details thereof?

Response of social media companies on fake news on their platforms

2815. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fake news and clips are being loaded on social media platforms like WhatsApp and Facebook;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has approached these social media platforms in this regard;

(d) if so, the response of social media companies; and

(e) the corrective measures taken by these companies?

Incidents of data breach

2816. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of data breach in the country are higher than the global average;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government is taking in this regard?

Curbing fake news over internet and mobile platforms

2817. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tens of citizens have been lynched due to hatred spread by fake news over internet and mobile platforms, like WhatsApp;

(b) if so, how does the Ministry plan to tackle the issue and spread digital literacy;

(c) whether an amendment of IT Act or bringing a new policy is under consideration of the Government to overcome this problem; and

(d) how would Government control fake news if servers of companies are based outside the country?

e-KYC User Agency licence

2818. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies which have been approached for availing e-KYC User Agency licence from private companies for providing services till date, both global and local respectively;

(b) the deposit amount that has been received from these agencies; and

(c) in which account/fund the same is being kept and how the said amount has been utilised by Government and under what authority?

Consultation with the Ministries/ Departments for creation of a social media hub

2819. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has consulted the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and other relevant Departments/Ministries on the privacy implications of creating a social media hub, as announced by the Government;

(b) the details of such consultations, if any; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to address these privacy implications?

Cyber crimes using bank cards/e-wallets

2820. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are growing incidents of cyber crimes, including fraud of money, by using bank cards and e-wallets;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to strengthen the security and legal framework to deal with cyber crimes; and

(c) whether the police and other security agencies are properly trained to deal with cyber crimes and if so, the details thereof?

Levying of charges on bankers for Aadhaar authentication services

2821. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UIDAI (Unique Identification Authority of India) is levying heavy charges on bankers for Aadhaar authentication services;

(b) whether Government has prescribed any fee to be charged by UIDAI from the banks for Aadhaar authentication; and

(c) whether there is any move by the bankers to transfer those charges to the public, if so, whether they would transfer the complete charges or will share partial charges?

Aadhaar enrolment in the country

2822. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people enrolled under the Aadhaar in the country, as on date; and

(b) whether Government is having any plan to implement single identity card to the citizens of the country, if so, the details thereof?

Preference to locally-produced cyber security products

2823. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has mandated giving preference in all public procurements to locally-produced cyber security products where intellectual property rights are owned by companies or start-ups incorporated in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that though IP registration is not mandatory in India, a firm claiming benefit should have the right to use and commercialise the product without third party consents, distribute and modify it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

IT awareness in rural areas

2824. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action taken by Government to increase IT awareness in rural areas of the country;

(b) whether Government proposes to increase the internet connectivity in the State of Kerala and if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) whether Government proposes to use the IT for helping villagers in the areas of education, training, health-care, agriculture, etc., and if so, the details thereof?

Digitalisation of public-utility documents

2825. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a major thrust is being given to digitalisation of public utility documents like educational certificates, Aadhaar Cards, Voter Cards and other public-utility documents;

(b) whether Government has taken enough security measures to preserve such documents;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether, with the advent of new imaging and other softwares, it would be easy to tamper with such documents; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to prevent such manipulations?

Setting up of cold storage chains/food processing units in rural areas

†2826. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 80-85 per cent of the vegetables and fruits produced in the country are laid waste because of lack of storage facilities; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government would encourage establishment of cold storage chains/food processing units in the rural areas of the country, so that, large scale vegetables/fruits being wasted could be put to good use and consequently farmers are benefited from the same?

Preservation of agricultural produces, fruits, vegetables etc.

†2827. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of resources available for the safe storage and preservation of agriculture produces fruits, vegetables and foodgrains *vis-a-vis* to their production to protect them from getting rotten, State-wise;

(b) the details of researches carried out along with the results thereof and mechanism available to prevent the garlies and onions from getting rotten, decayed and wasted and the manner in which farmers are being benefited by it; and

(c) the details of the yields of garlies and onions in the last and the current year along with the estimated losses incurred thereof?

Extending the activities of Ministry to Kerala

2828. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would extend the activities of the Food Processing Ministry to distant States like Kerala;

(b) the possible areas where the Ministry could help Kerala;

(c) whether there are any proposals for FDI in food processing industry; and

(d) the extent to which 'Make in India' projects have materialised in the food processing sector?

Growth of FPI in Himachal Pradesh

2829. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to promote the Food Processing Industry (FPI) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the specific action taken thereon; and

(c) the details of the growth of FPI in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years?

Women's Reservation Bill

2830. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for Government to keep Women's Reservation Bill in Parliament in cold storage;

(b) the views of Government on the Bill;

(c) whether Government propose to pass the Bill in the current session of Parliament; and

(d) the problem in passing this Bill in Lok Sabha, since it is already passed by Rajya Sabha, and when the principal opposition agrees to give support?

Legal aid for poor women prisoners

2831. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

poor women prisoners hardly get the legal aid;

(b) if so, whether Government would appoint lawyers to help such women;

(c) whether Government would set up any system to monitor the attendance of such lawyers and the number of cases handled by them on monthly basis;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the Judiciary

2832. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the Judiciary;

(b) the amount of money spent under the scheme, so far, the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) the targets set by Government under the scheme and whether they have been achieved?

Fast Track Courts for releasing prisoners, imprisoned for petty crimes etc.

†2833. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is formulating any policy for the acquittal of lakhs of prisoners, imprisoned for petty crimes, non-payment of the amount of bail and those imprisoned even after the completion of period of punishment, by

constituting the Fast Track Courts for their release;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Vetting of Notifications before issue

2834. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the rules and regulations issued under the Acts are being vetted by the Ministry;

(b) if so, their category-wise numbers for the last three years;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures adopted to ensure that every such Notification is vetted before issue?

Vetting of rules and regulations

2835. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is able to vet all the rules and regulations quite minutely and comprehensively;

(b) if so, the reasons for their scrutiny by Committees of Parliament which point out so many defects in them subsequently;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of remedial measures in this regard?

Validity of Litigation Notice through WhatsApp

2836. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bombay

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

High Court has held the serving of Notice of litigation through WhatsApp valid, which was sent to a credit card defaulter by the concerned bank; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Telecast of live proceedings of
Supreme Court**

2837. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to telecast live proceedings of the Supreme Court, as observed by the Supreme Court, to help litigants to watch the proceedings and to assess the lawyers' performance;

(b) if so, whether Government would start a separate dedicated channel for this purpose;

(c) whether any guidelines for live-streaming of proceedings have been framed, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the live-streaming of court proceedings would start?

**Return to ballot papers in place of
EVMs**

2838. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a strong demand from political parties to return to ballot papers instead of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) in view of technical snags occurring in most of the EVMs;

(b) whether allegations of EVM tampering and malfunctioning were looked into by the Election Commission in the

last two years;

(c) if so, the response of the Government thereto; and

(d) whether sample EVM votings and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) have been matched in each pooling booth of the Constituencies where they were used and whether all of them matched, if so, the details thereof?

**Updation of data in National Judicial
Data Grid**

2839. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that non-updation of data in National Judicial Data Grid by Subordinate Courts has become a serious problem in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to make any special provision in "e-Court Project" so that hassle-free internet connectivity can be provided to all District and Taluka Courts in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Electrification of Tori-Lohardaga
railway line**

2840. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details and the present status of ongoing/pending electrification of Tori-Lohardaga railway line in Jharkhand; and

(b) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways to expedite the completion of the said projects?

Unmanned railway crossings

2841. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of unmanned railway crossings in the country, zone-wise;
- (b) the number of road-railway crossings or level crossings without gates, zone-wise;
- (c) the reasons behind the deaths at the level crossings; and
- (d) the measures taken by Government to prevent these deaths?

Encroachment on railway land

†2842. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 1900 hectares land of Railways across the country has been encroached upon by people;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to obtain correct information regarding the encroached land; and
- (c) the steps taken by Railways, so far, for railway land encroachment free and the time by when the same would be achieved?

Survey for Srinagar-Leh railway line

2843. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the final location survey of Srinagar-Leh railway line has been completed;
- (b) if so, the details of expenditure incurred on it;
- (c) whether the said survey has been analysed; and
- (d) if not, how much time would be taken to analyse the survey?

Railway bridge between Aara and Chhapra on Ganga

†2844. SHRI R.K. SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the road passengers have benefited after the construction of the Aara-Chhapra Ganga bridge, while the rail passengers still have to travel *via* Patna to reach Chhapra-Siwan, Muzaffarpur, etc.; and
- (b) whether the Ministry proposes to construct railway bridge alongside the Ganga bridge between Aara-Chhapra?

Doubling and electrification of Machilipatnam-Vijayawada railway line

2845. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is executing doubling and electrification of Machilipatnam-Vijayawada railway line on the basis of cost sharing with the State Government of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has entered into contract with the State Government in this regard, including the sharing of Rate of Return (RoR);
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Old railway tracks and coaches used by Railways in Maharashtra

2846. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways are

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

still using very old railway tracks and rail coaches which have expired their life span in Maharashtra and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind using very old tracks and coaches; and

(c) the details of action Government has taken or proposes to take to replace the very old tracks and coaches in Maharashtra and rest of the country within a time-frame?

Pantry cars in long distance trains

†2847. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pantry car facilities are not available in long distance trains connecting two distant cities;

(b) if so, whether Government intends to provide the pantry car facilities in long distance trains;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Rail line from Wanpoh to Shopian via Kulgam

2848. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LWAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan for a new railway line from Wanpoh to Shopian *via* Kulgam in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Progress of Wanpoh-Pahalgam project

2849. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LWAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of progress of extension of a project from Wanpoh to Pahalgam, the holy cave Amarnath in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) whether any time-frame has been set for this project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Development of high density corridors under PPP mode

2850. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects, if any, undertaken under the PPP mode for development of high density corridors along with the details thereof;

(b) whether the number of goods trains between major commercial and industrial centres and between collieries and power stations has increased; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Laying of new railway lines and revenue generated therefrom

†2851. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the length of railway line in kilometres which has been laid in the country from 2014 till date, State-wise and the amount of revenue generated by Railway Ministry by running the trains on these new railway lines along with the number of railway lines planned to be laid down by the Government in coming times?

Jan Ahaar outlets

2852. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Jan Ahaar food outlets

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

run by railway catering department, directly by IRCTC and through private contractors, zone-wise; and

(b) the details of such outlets which are making profit and which are accruing loss?

Agitations against land acquisition for Bullet train/high-speed rail projects

2853. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are agitations by farmers against land acquisition for Bullet train/Mumbai-Ahmedabad high-speed rail corridor project and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any compensation/rehabilitation package or formula has been devised for the farmers and others, whose land is being acquired for the Bullet train/Mumbai-Ahmedabad high-speed rail corridor project and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any difference in compensation and rehabilitation being offered to farmers and others whose land is being acquired for the same in the States of Maharashtra and Gujarat; and

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

Relieving of transferred railway staffs in Maharashtra

2854. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many railway staffs have been given transfer orders after their willingness to other railway divisions

but they could not be relieved since more than two years in Maharashtra, particularly Solapur division;

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

(c) by when the railway staff members would be relieved to their desired postings?

Vacancies of doctors in Railways

2855. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are around 2,000 doctors in Railways with a vacancy of around 550;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that it has been reported that during emergency on account of rail accidents, doctors from Railways reached to the spot of accidents very late; and

(d) the details of action taken by Government to fill up the vacancies of doctors in Railways?

Lower occupancy due to flexi-fare scheme

2856. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the flexi-fare scheme introduced by the Railways has resulted in lower occupancy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that though the scheme has benefited Railways by more than ₹ 550 crore, the scheme has forced

passengers to look at the option of air travel; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Additional revenue generated due to implementation of flexi-fare

2857. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether implementation of flexi-fare has resulted in additional pressure on passengers' pocket;

(b) whether there has been an increase in revenue generated for Railways and if so, the details of increase in percentage; and

(c) whether flexi-fare implementation and additional revenue generated, if any, has led to better safety standards and passengers comforts and if so, the details thereof?

Funds for Bullet train project

2858. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has asked the Railways to borrow funds required for the Bullet train project from the market and not expect it as additional gross budgetary support from the budget;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the National High Speed Rail Corporation requires around ₹ 10,000 crore this year, mainly for land acquisition;

(d) whether it is also a fact that this was part of Government of India's commitment towards the ₹ 1.08 lakh crore mega projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Measures to increase non-fare revenue

2859. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken any measure to increase the non-fare revenue in Railways, which stood at 5 per cent in 2016;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Revision of medical fee by Railways

2860. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways have revised the fee for medical service to ₹ 100/- from ₹ 20/-;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the railway doctors across India attend around 8,000 calls per month from passengers;

(c) whether it is also a fact that most of the calls are turning out to be for non-serious reasons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Proposals for setting up of rail coach factories

2861. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received proposals from various State Governments, including Karnataka, for setting up of railway coach factories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

**Use of vernacular languages of
respective States in display of
Jan Ahaar stalls**

2862. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jan Ahaar stalls are not having vernacular language of the respective States in the display or the menu;

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

(c) whether the language being used by the majority section of population of the concerned State would be included?

**Allocation of extra funds for
Darjeeling Himalayan
Railway**

2863. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has decided to allocate extra funds to the world heritage site Darjeeling Himalayan Railway for its effective and smooth functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Budgetary allocation for Bangalore
suburban rail**

2864. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the budgetary allocation by the Central Government for Bangalore suburban rail;

(b) the details of amount spent out of this allocation, till date;

(c) the details of the timeline for completion of the project; and

(d) whether the project is running on schedule and if not, reasons therefor?

**CAG report on dynamic flexi-fare
system**

2865. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of Comptroller and Auditor General for the year ended March 2017, has revealed that the Railways had introduced the dynamic flexi-fare system in 2016 without undertaking any study or conclusive proof resulting therefrom;

(b) whether the report says that despite recording an increase in passenger earnings in this category amounting to ₹ 552 crore, Railways carried 6.75 lakh less passengers during September, 2016 to July, 2017 against corresponding period in 2015-16; and

(c) whether the CAG report says that a comparison with airfare for 13 sectors showed that it was cheaper than train's flexi-fare in these sectors?

Upgradation of Rajdhani express trains

2866. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to upgrade existing Rajdhani express train between Delhi and Mumbai for reduction of journey time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether trial run conducted by Government have been found to be safe and successful and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether upgradation of Rajdhani express train running between Delhi and Guwahati and other North Eastern States is also under consideration of Government?

Creation of infrastructure for freight at railway yards

2867. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to create sidings and freight terminals involving private players to increase freight transportation with ease in near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how much of additional volume of freight could be handled by Indian Railways and what would be the additional revenue generation, if freight infrastructure is improved?

Discontinuation of Itarasi-Satna shuttle train

†2868. SHRI KAILASH SONI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why Itarasi-Satna Shuttle train running under Itarasi-Jabalpur section in Madhya Pradesh has been discontinued;

(b) whether it is a fact that it was the only train which was running at the passenger train rate from all the stations to Jabalpur where the High Court and medical college are situated; and

(c) by when this train would be restarted by the department and if not, the reasons therefor?

Letters of MPs/Ex-MPs for EQ quota

†2869. SHRI KAILASH SONI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to

state:

(a) whether Reservation Cell is not giving importance to the letters addressed to Railway Minister and Ministers of State by Members of Parliament and Ex-Members of Parliament for confirmation of reservation through EQ reservation letters;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of letters regarding reservation from MPs have been received by the Ministry during last six months;

(d) the number of railway reservation letters on which action has been taken to confirm their tickets; and

(e) whether concerned officers dealing with reservation letters do not give equal priority to all such requests?

Connecting Chityala to Jaggayyapeta by rail

2870. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to connect Chityala to Jaggayyapeta by rail which is just 120 kilometres for the benefit of people and businessmen;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this line would benefit people of four Assembly Constituencies besides having direct connectivity from Hyderabad to Vijayawada; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Complete mechanisation of electrification programme

2871. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

are considering to make complete mechanisation of the electrification programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the electrical works like stringing the cables and other related works would be machine controlled for the first time in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether the Railways are producing bricks for their own use or selling the same to other users;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the number of bricks it is producing/proposed to produce annually or monthly; and

(e) the total expenditure incurred, so far, on producing bricks and the total amount saved or earned as a result thereof?

Decline in number of railway passengers

2872. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a decline of 2.7 per cent in number of passengers during September, 2016 to July, 2017, despite availability of higher number of berths/seats;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that air fares were cheaper than the respective train fares for a large number of routes; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that there was a suggestion for review and fine tuning in the scope of the flexi fare scheme, so that, not only more revenue is earned but the number of passengers also increases?

Brick manufacturing by Railways

2873. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways, whose primary mandate is to run trains, has taken up the work of manufacturing bricks;

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

Increasing general coaches in trains running through Rajasthan

2874. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any decision to increase the number of general coaches in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering running all general coach trains on certain rail routes;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any such facilities are being initiated in trains running through the State of Rajasthan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Dedicated bogies for delayed Chennai-Kanyakumari express train

2875. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Chennai to Kanyakumari express regularly runs late, both, departure and arrival;

(b) if so, the reasons for delaying of Chennai-Kanyakumari express;

(c) whether the train runs late due to the reason that bogies are made available from Bangalore express train; and

(d) whether Government would provide for dedicated bogies for Chennai-Kanyakumari express?

Renovation of railway stations in Andhra Pradesh

2876. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to renovate the railway stations in the State of Andhra Pradesh under its railway stations redevelopment programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of stations being considered for renovation and redevelopment, particularly in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

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

Kannur seaport-airport-Wayanad-Coorg-Mysuru rail line

2877. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kannur seaport-airport-Wayanad-Coorg-Mysuru rail line proposal is under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the present status of the project?

Complaints for overcharging by railway caterers

2878. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints for overcharging by railway caterers received over the last four years; and

(b) the details of action taken against railway caterers over the last four years, zone-wise?

Shutting down of printing press of Railways in Gorakhpur

†2879. SHRIMATI CHHAYA

VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH

YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR

PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken to permanently shut down the printing press situated in Gorakhpur, North East Railway;

(b) the total number of printing presses that are being operated by the Railways and the number of those being shut down; and

(c) the total amount paid by North East Railway during the years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 to outsourcing agencies for printing of tickets, circulars and records under the relevant head?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Conversion of train no. 57305 (Kachiguda-Guntur) into Express train

2880. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is committed

to convert the Kachiguda-Guntur ordinary train to Express train;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any request has already been received in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 4th August, 2018

Shravana 13, 1940 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

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