

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Monday, July 23, 2018/Sravana 1, 1940 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Defence; Drinking Water and Sanitation; Earth Sciences;  
Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Information and Broadcasting;  
Mines; Panchayati Raj; Road Transport and Highways; Rural Development;  
Science and Technology; Shipping; Water Resources, River  
Development and Ganga Rejuvenation; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions — 160

#### **Absorption of ex-apprentices of National Dockyard**

481. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY:  
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased  
to state:

(a) whether the Eastern Naval  
Command is not considering to absorb  
unemployed ex-apprentices of National  
Dockyard; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to take to  
rectify injustice, if any, done to them?

#### **Infrastructure development on North- Western and North-Eastern borders**

482. SHRI SAMBHAJI  
CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of  
DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether infrastructure development  
on North-Western and North-Eastern  
borders in form of all weather roads, modern  
helipads and aircraft landing stations, are  
far inferior in comparison to our  
neighbouring nations, to keep a striking  
balance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has prioritized  
the infrastructure development of the area  
close to international border; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the  
expenditure incurred during the last three  
years?

#### **Terrorist attacks on defence stations in J&K**

483. KUMARI SELJA: Will the  
Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of terrorist attacks  
reported on defence stations/Army Camps  
in Jammu and Kashmir during the last two  
years;

(b) the number of soldiers, and civilians  
killed and injured in each attack;

(c) whether Government has received a  
report of the inquiry conducted on such  
attacks and if so, the details thereof and the  
action taken thereon; and

(d) the measures taken/being taken by  
Government to enhance the security of  
defence stations/Army Camps, civilians  
and also retaliatory action against terrorists

and other persons involved in such attacks including Pakistan?

**Appointment scam in Armed Forces**

484. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CBI has recently unearthed a scam in key appointments at the "nursery" of the officer cadres of Indian Armed Force;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken against the persons involved therein; and

(c) whether any military officer has been found to be involved in the scam and if so, the details thereof?

**Low allocation of defence budget**

485. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that defence budget 2018-19, as a proportion of GDP, is lowest since budget allocation in 1962;

(b) if so, the reasons for such low allocation; and

(c) the details of actions contemplated by Government for better utilisation of budgetary resources?

**Refit of EKM class submarines**

486. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hindustan Shipyard has been selected for refit of EKM class submarines;

(b) the time it will take to complete

refit of submarines and additional life expectancy with refit;

(c) whether the technical committee which was supposed to visit in June have visited and cleared the project; and

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

**Transfer of defence properties to the successors**

†487. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:  
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH  
YADAV:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Ministry regarding transfer of undisputed properties of Defence estate in country to successors;

(b) whether Ministry would consider transferring the properties to successors and removing unauthorized possession by Annual Forces Medical Services (AFMS) and Middle East Free Trade Area Initiative (MEFTA) Golf Course after the succession order of September, 2009 of Civil Court, Lucknow under the Defence estate with regard to Cantonment properties at Guru Govind Singh Marg, Lucknow;

(c) the action taken thereon and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of request made in public by the representative of people to the Government for transfer of the said properties?

**Bribery in purchase of AN-32 spares**

488. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI AMAR SINGH:  
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as per National Anti-corruption Bureau of Ukraine, defence officials in India have been bribed to the tune of 2.6 million dollars in purchase of spares for military transport aircraft AN-32;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has inquired into the alleged scam and has fixed responsibility in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, reasons for protecting corrupt officials and corruption in defence deals and compromising national security by Government; and

(f) whether the matter was taken up with Government of Ukraine to ascertain the authenticity of the said reports and if so, response thereof?

#### **Recommendations of Shekatkar Committee**

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

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved recommendations made by Shekatkar Committee for redeployment of officers and jawans for combat role by restructuring the service;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations;

(c) whether some of the recommendations pertaining to IAF and Navy are still under examination, if so, by when a final decision would be taken; and

(d) the details of steps taken to improve operational capabilities with stress on modern technology in all the three services?

#### **Aerospace and defence park in Anantapur and Chittoor/Nellore**

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

(a) the latest status of the aerospace and defence park to be built on PPP basis in Anantapur and Chittoor/Nellore Districts of Andhra Pradesh and the details thereof; and

(b) by when it is likely to be completed and the cost involved and details thereof?

#### **Uniforms and refreshments for NCC cadets in Uttar Pradesh**

491. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn towards media reports stating that NCC cadets in Uttar Pradesh are not getting uniforms and refreshments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) action taken by Government or proposed to be taken in the matter?

#### **Reemployment of retired officials of Armed Forces**

492. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on immediate reemployment of retired officials of the Armed Forces by the private sector companies working under the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such complaint has been received by the Armed Forces in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Armed Forces to cancel such employment and ensure that such companies are blacklisted for a specific period for their unethical practice?

#### **Contracts in Defence sector**

493. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN:  
DR. SANJAY SINH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of contracts signed in the Defence sector under the "Make in India" programme;

(b) if so, the details of the project and the name of the company which has been awarded the same;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Defence Manufacturing sector has the potential to fulfil the vision of the Prime Minister under the above programme; and

(d) if so, the sectors under Armed Forces which are working towards making the vision come true, with details of the project under implementation?

#### **Compulsory military education after higher secondary education**

†494. SHRI R.K. SINHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to make it mandatory for the students after passing the 12th standard to go for the compulsory military education for a period of three years before they being appointed in any Government jobs as well as in the Armed Forces and para-military forces; and

(b) if so, the details of the action plan in this regard?

#### **Introduction of Ayurvedic and Unani system of medicine in Army hospitals**

495. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether medical facility for personnel of Armed Forces including ex-servicemen and their dependants under Ayurvedic and Unani system of medicines have been introduced in Army hospitals (R&R) Delhi Cantonment and Air Force hospitals at Hindon and Ghaziabad;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to introduce the medical facility under Ayurvedic and Unani system of medicine in Army Hospitals located in Himachal Pradesh where a large number of families of armed forces personnel and ex-servicemen are residing; and

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

#### **Opening of Sainik Schools for girl students**

496. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM:  
SHRI RIPUN BORA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sainik Schools established as preparatory schools for entry into National Defence Academy and Indian Naval Academy, in a welcome break from being guarded as a male bastion, has now opened its doors to girl students from the on-going academic session 2018-19;

(b) whether the Sainik School at Chingchip in Mizoram admitted the first

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

batch of six girls among sixty cadets handpicked after a rigorous selection process;

(c) whether the Defence establishment would consider similar admissions for girl students in rest of the Sainik Schools across the country; and

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

**Welfare and rehabilitation schemes for ex-servicemen**

†497. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of welfare and rehabilitation schemes formulated for ex-servicemen by Government through various agencies and the financial assistance provided in this regard;

(b) the year-wise details of the total amount distributed to ex-servicemen and the number of beneficiaries under Raksha Mantri's Discretionary Fund(RMDF) during the last three years;

(c) the main activities of Kendriya Sainik Board and how it is beneficial for ex-servicemen and their families, and the details thereof; and

(d) the details of efforts made towards making grievance redressal system active and fast for redressal of grievances of ex-servicemen?

**Enterprises for manufacturing defence requirements**

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

(a) the number of new enterprises that have been established for manufacturing of the defence requirements in the country

itself and whether any contract has been signed with any private players for the same; and

(b) the number of enterprises related to defence sector that were functional before 2014 along with the number of enterprises that are functional at present?

**Contamination of uranium in drinking water**

499. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH  
VERMA:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the recent study of Duke University, severe contamination of uranium in drinking water in 16 States in the country have been reported;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise including the State of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the details of population which do not have access to safe drinking water, as on 30th June, 2018, State-wise and district-wise including the States of Bihar and West Bengal?

**Provision of Funds to Rajasthan under SBM (Gramin)**

†500. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds sanctioned as Central Assistance towards Annual Action Plan for the State of Rajasthan under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) (Gramin);

(b) whether Government proposes to release the first installment of the aid for this programme; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the amount proposed to be released as the first installment and the time-limit set for the same, if any and if not, the reasons therefor?

**CWMI report on access to drinking water**

501. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the "Composite Water Management Index" (CWMI) report by NITI Aayog, nearly half of India's population could end up with no access to drinking water by 2030;

(b) whether some of India's biggest metros like Delhi, Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Chennai will run out of ground water as early as 2020;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government on CWMI's report of NITI Aayog; and

(d) the main reasons for the water crisis in the country and steps taken to overcome those reasons?

**Potable water crisis in the country**

502. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a study conducted by NITI Aayog has found that India is facing its worst water crisis in history and that the demand for potable water will outstrip supply by 2030 if steps are not taken; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps proposed to be taken to face such a situation?

**Provision of pure drinking water**

503. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by Government to provide pure drinking water to all people in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether Government has implemented an action plan at national level to overcome the crisis of drinking water in various parts of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Low GDWQI rank for India**

†504. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is ranked lowest in the Global Drinking Water Quality Index (GDWQI);

(b) whether the Central Government has vigorously pursued the task of providing clean and quality water to all in the country during the last three years and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the States of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan *vis-a-vis* other States have fared better during the last three years in terms of providing clean and quality drinking water and if so, the details thereof?

**Association of college students in Swachhata Abhiyan**

†505. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to associate the college

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

students towards making the "Swachhata Abhiyan" even more effective;

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

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

#### **Utilisation of funds under SBM in Kerala**

506. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) including the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised under the Mission across the country, State-wise including Kerala;

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

(c) the number of Key Resource Centres (KRCs) identified under this Mission, State-wise?

#### **Conversion of sea water into potable water**

507. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country will soon have potable water from sea at just 5 paise per litre;

(b) whether it is also a fact that trials for conversion of sea water into potable water have commenced in Tuticorin; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **UN Clean Seas Campaign**

508. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is proposing to join United Nations Clean Seas Campaign;

(b) if so, the details of the observatory centres planned, accordingly; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to control marine litter like plastics and micro plastics?

#### **Warning system for air pollution**

509. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning an early warning system for air pollution in the wake of recent dust storm that engulfed Delhi-NCR region;

(b) if so, whether SAFAR (System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research) programme can provide warning, a couple of days in advance; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to tackle ground-level PM 2.5 concentrations pollutants?

#### **Study on Bio-geochemical and Biological changes of coastal seas**

510. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to conduct a thorough study on various aspects of bio-geochemical and biological changes of coastal seas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the objectives of the study along with the institutes involved in the study; and

(c) the remedial steps being taken by Government to check erosion, salt-ingress on marine-life, etc. on the country's sea-coasts?

#### **Earthquake prediction system**

‡511. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether earthquake prediction system of the country is capable of predicting earthquake of any magnitude;

(b) if so, the extent to which it can be accurately predicted and an alert sent across to save human lives; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

#### **Forecast of monsoon**

512. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM : Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Meteorological Department has predicted that the south-west monsoon normally expected to cover the country by July 15 will now cover the entire country fourteen days before the anticipated date;

(b) whether the southwest monsoon that gives 70 per cent of rain to the country, is expected to be normal this year with bumper yields for the granaries and water levels in reservoirs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Earthquake warning system**

‡513. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the earthquakes which occurred in the country during the last three years and current year;

(b) the details of the loss of life and property due to these earthquakes;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has developed an earthquake warning system; and

(d) whether this warning system has been established in various cities of the country, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Buffer zone around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries**

514. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the buffer zone prohibiting industrial activity around protected areas like National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries has been reduced from 10 km. to 100 m.;

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

(c) the details including number of projects sanctioned within 10 km. of National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries since 2014, year-wise?

#### **Source apportionment studies under NCAP**

515. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the list of the cities where source apportionment studies would be conducted under NCAP to combat air pollution across 100 cities in next three to five years along with allocations made therefor;

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‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the time schedule fixed for individual cities under which all such studies will be completed and the names of the organisations/institutions which are/will be involved in conducting the above studies; and

(c) the list of the cities and the number of manual/continuous air quality monitoring stations currently installed and to be installed along with the budgetary allocations made and the time schedule fixed for individual cities for the purpose, city-wise?

**EIA clearance for redevelopment of Netaji Nagar and nearby colonies**

516. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has given Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) clearance for project of redevelopment of Netaji Nagar and nearby colonies being developed by NBCC;

(b) whether the project proposal submitted for the said clearance indicated cutting of more than 16,000 trees in the area;

(c) if so, whether all concerned aspects of cutting trees impacting the environment were considered before giving such clearance;

(d) the area-wise, exact number of trees for which permission of cutting was granted; and

(e) whether the Ministry conducted audit of the saplings planted in compensation of such cutting of trees and if so, the findings of such audit?

**Financial assistance for pollution free environment**

517. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided financial assistance/loans to State Governments to help in keeping the environment pollution free;

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

(c) the details of funds released during the last two years, State-wise?

**Campaign against single use plastics**

518. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has written to all States and Union Territories to undertake a massive campaign against use of single use plastics and enforce rules to ensure elimination of plastic carry bags of less than 50 microns in thickness;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is no significant alternative and it poses a practical problem on the ground; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to stop the use of plastic carry bags from the manufacturing level itself?

**Air pollution in cities**

519. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the recent WHO report that 14 out of 15 most polluted cities in the world are in India and it is a public health threatening emergency;

(b) if so, the factors causing air pollution besides vehicular traffic, dust and construction activities in the cities; and

(c) the steps Government proposes to take to tackle air pollution in cities on long-term planning basis and through policy interventions to protect public health?

**Improvement of water quality and prevention of pollution in rivers of Andhra Pradesh**

520. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified any stretch of rivers that are flowing in Andhra Pradesh with a view to improve water quality and to prevent further pollution under National River Conservation programme (NRCP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to improve the water quality of the polluted stretches of rivers; and

(d) the funds earmarked for this purpose?

**Gas chamber like situation of metro cities**

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

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

(a) whether it is a fact that climate of metro cities of the country, particularly Delhi often becomes like a gas chamber, just as it happened recently due to the Western disturbance, when hazardous particles of dust increased manifold over the standard levels;

(b) the steps that are being taken to make the climate of Delhi suitable as per standards and the extent of their impact in making the air clean; and

(c) the details thereof?

**WHO report on polluted cities**

†522. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:  
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:  
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:  
SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:  
SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that, as per a report of World Health Organisation (WHO), 14 out of 20 polluted cities of the world are from India and whether these cities have reported pollution in all parameters;

(b) the details of the report and the cities that are reported to be polluted by WHO and the steps being taken to solve this problem; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent air pollution in other cities and the results thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Turning of Chambal area into ravines**

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

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a recent research in the Chambal area of Uttar Pradesh reveals that the area is fast turning into ravine due to lack of rainfall resulting from human-induced factors, thereby leading to continuous increase in temperature;

(b) the details regarding uneven rainfall and increase in the temperature during the last three years in this area and the steps being taken by Government to rehabilitate this area; and

(c) the details thereof?

**Poaching of wild animals**

524. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether poaching of wild animals like leopards, rhinos have increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to reduce the number of killings of wild animals by poachers, casualties on road and rail accidents etc.; and

(d) the number of persons arrested and cases registered during the last three years and the number of conviction in those cases?

**Effect of tree felling on green coverage in Assam**

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

(a) whether Government is aware that unabated wanton tree felling in Assam has reduced green coverage to an alarming level particularly in Dima Hasao;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether efforts of the State Government to curb such illegal activities have failed to deliver the desired result;

(c) whether Government would like to intervene in the matter; and

(d) if not, how Government proposes to address the growing concern expressed by environmentalists and other in the State?

**Menace of plastic carry bags and other items**

526. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ban imposed on plastic carry bags and other items in the national capital and some States remain on paper and the menace of plastic garbage has increased manifold choking the drainage systems and even the land and sea;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons behind the helplessness of authorities responsible for implementing the ban; and

(c) comprehensive measures, Government proposes to take to make India a plastic free nation within a time frame?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Assistance to local bodies for developing Zoos**

527. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for providing assistance to the local bodies of the States for developing Zoos in their States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps for modernization of Zoos in Jharkhand; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Targets under Convention on Biological Diversity**

528. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set any targets under Convention on Biological Diversity for conservation of bio-diversity;

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

(c) the details regarding achievement of the targets set in this regard;

(d) whether there have been any shortcomings in the achievement of these targets; and

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

**Objectives of NRCP**

529. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of

ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding objectives of National River Conservation Programme (NRCP);

(b) the details regarding major focus areas of the programme where targets are being emphasized for early achievement;

(c) whether any State-wise component of the programme have been formulated; and

(d) if so, the details regarding State component relating to Rajasthan?

**Ban of plastic in cities around Ganga**

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

(a) whether usage of various articles and material of plastic have been completely banned by the National Green Tribunal in all cities like Haridwar and Rishikesh situated on the banks of river Ganga;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the quantity of plastic refuse found in river Ganga has declined after the prohibition of usage of various articles and material of plastic in the cities situated on the banks of river Ganga; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Environment clearances for minor minerals**

531. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether district level authorities

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

have been involved in the process of granting environmental clearances in minor mineral based cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that some State Governments have raised questions on the ambiguity of the role of district level authorities and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Central Government is contemplating to make necessary changes in the National Mineral Policy to clear the doubts of the State Governments and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Blue Flag Standards for beaches**

532. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has started a pilot project to develop the Indian beaches according to the Blue Flag Standards;

(b) whether beaches from the coastal States had been chosen for the Blue Flag certification under the project; and

(c) if so, the details of beaches that have been selected?

#### **Impact of rising temperatures and erratic rainfall patterns**

533. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a World Bank report released last week has indicated that rising temperatures and erratic rainfall patterns associated with climate change could slow down India's GDP by 2.8 per cent and depress the living standards of nearly half of its population by 2030;

(b) whether *vide* this report the worst hit would be the ten districts in Central India including Vidharbha region; and

(c) whether the report has identified these districts as "hot spot" which will experience extreme temperatures and also affect the local population's socio-economic capacity to cope up with the climatic changes?

#### **Problem of climate change**

†534. SHRI R.K. SINHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the problem of rapidly changing climate; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to prevent the same?

#### **Disposal of batteries of electric vehicles**

535. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for disposal of batteries used for electric vehicles; and

(b) the steps undertaken to ensure that disposal of batteries used for electric vehicles are not polluting the environment?

#### **NOC for golden quadrilateral in Jhansi and Lalitpur**

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

(a) the details of the area of conserved

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

and reserved forest land in Jhansi and Lalitpur districts of Uttar Pradesh on which No Objection Certificate was sought by NHAI for construction of road under golden quadrilateral road construction scheme;

(b) the number of trees to be cut on this land, the name of the institution and date of granting permission;

(c) the details of land and the amount paid as compensation to the forest department *in lieu* of this land and by when this compensation was provided; and

(d) whether complaints regarding violation of rules were received and the action taken on these complaints?

#### **Targets to address climate change under Paris Agreement**

537. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is set to achieve the national targets fixed to address climate change under the Paris Agreement before 2030;

(b) whether 30 per cent of the country's installed power generation capacity is now non-fossil based;

(c) whether another pledge India took at Paris conclave was to reduce intensity of carbon emissions to significant level by 2030 compared to 2005; and

(d) whether India is also committed to add another 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of carbon capture by increasing tree and forest cover by 2025?

#### **Creation of Eco-Sensitive Zones around National Parks**

538. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of Eco-Sensitive Zones around National Parks which have been created, as per the directives of the Supreme Court;

(b) the details of certain conditions specified by the Supreme Court in this regard;

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure/maintain the sanctity of Eco-Sensitive Zones around National Park; and

(d) whether permission is required to be taken to alter or terminate water bodies or watersheds around Eco-Sensitive Zones and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Generation of revenue through DDK Studios**

539. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that many of the production centres of Doordarshan Kendras (DDK) have not produced any programmes for the telecast by Doordarshan and the equipment in its studio are lying idle and not generating any revenue for Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has contemplated on any plan including letting out the DDKs studios to private production homes for generating adequate revenue and also keeping the costly equipment in a working condition;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Representation against transfer order**

540. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has issued a mass transfer order of officers within the Departments of the Ministry;

(b) if so, whether transfer of officers was due and reasons therefor;

(c) if so, whether Government has received any representation against the transfers; and

(d) if so, proposal of Government on the transfer policy?

**Photographers employed in Photo Division of the Ministry**

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

(a) the number of photographer employed in Photo Division in the Ministry;

(b) whether some Government departments are not engaging Photo Division for photography during Government functions;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the initiatives taken to increase the strength of photographers in the country?

**Misleading advertisements in TV Programme**

542. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken

cognizance of rise in misleading advertisements in the television programmes in the country;

(b) if so, the details of brands and channels against whom action has been taken for violating the norms/guidelines; and

(c) whether steps have been taken by Government to monitor the contents of the advertisements being telecast?

**Surrogate advertisements**

543. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that surrogate advertisements of alcohol and tobacco brands are being shown on TV, print and visual media on the pretext of soda, music CD, mineral water and fashion tour despite the ban on advertisement on tobacco and alcohol etc.;

(b) if so, the details of tobacco, alcohol companies indulging in such advertisements, company-wise; and

(c) whether the same amounts to violation of Section 7(2)(viii)(a) and Clause 6 of Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Code of Conduct of Advertising Standards Council of India and if so, whether any action is proposed to be taken?

**Community radio in rural and urban areas**

†544. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working towards simplifying the process and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

promoting the setting up of the community radio in rural and urban areas; and

(b) the details of the number of community radio centres established during the last three years and the details of grants disbursed to them State-wise?

**Government support to advertisements through DAVP**

545. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is supporting advertisements to all media, both print and electronics in the country through Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP);

(b) if so, advertisement supports to electronic and print media since 2014-15 to June 2018 therefor, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the advertisement payment cleared by Government against the bills of media therein year-wise and State-wise;

(d) the total dues of media separately for print, hoarding and electronic for carrying of DAVP advertisements year-wise and State-wise; and

(e) by when Government proposes to clear all dues of media and make payments up-to-date?

**Online system of integrated media campaign**

546. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has created an online system of integrated

media campaign that relies heavily on inputs by client Ministries regarding their target audiences;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the online system will later graduate into an automated system of payment to news/TV agencies carrying advertisements, thereby reducing backlogs and ensuring timely payments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Largest selling newspapers**

†547. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) names of the 20 largest selling newspapers of Government as per the data maintained by Ministry;

(b) the details of circulation of these newspaper; and

(c) the details of the advertisements published by them during the last one year?

**Titles of Newspapers/Magazines reserved for publication**

†548. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the numbers of newspapers-magazines whose titles have already been allotted and reserved for publication by people in the country;

(b) the numbers of the titles out of these, actually under publication; and

(c) the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Use of transponders by DTH operators**

549. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all DTH operators in India are currently using foreign satellites for uplinking and downlinking signals *via* Ku-band transponders, despite our space policy allowing DTH operators to use only satellites commissioned by the ISRO;

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

(c) whether Government is making compulsory for all DTH operators in India to share the ISRO's transponders on one satellite, to avoid foreign exchange?

**Expenditure on advertisement**

550. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of expenditure incurred on advertisements by various Government Departments/ Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the newspaper-wise and State-wise details of newspaper and electronic media of various States in which the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) issued advertisement during each of the last three years and the current year, including Jharkhand?

**Web portal on filming facility**

551. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

is considering to set up a dedicated web portal to disseminate information on filming facilities available in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the portal will provide an overview of such locations; and

(d) whether applications for shooting permission will be accepted through the said site?

**Implementation of CSS**

552. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

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

(b) the scheme-wise details along with the details of targets and allocations made, fund allocated, disbursed and utilized in these schemes during the last three years including the present year, State-wise and UT-wise?

**Feedback from radio listeners and Doordarshan viewers**

553. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has any established a mechanism of seeking and analysing feedback from radio listeners and Doordarshan viewers, as well as other stakeholders, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry has made any special efforts to improve upon the quality of service through enhancing the level of

work culture in All India Radio and Doordarshan during the last three years, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there has been any impact assessment of such efforts and if so, the conclusions of the same?

#### **Vigilance on Social Media**

554. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to control the social media, as it is posing a serious threat to the society, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether to keep an eye on the social media Government has come up with a controlling tool which allows thorough investigation on the use of facebook, twitter, e-mail accounts of the members and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Action plan for auction of non-captive mines**

555. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite Government reminders, the States have not submitted their action plans to Centre for auctioning leases of three hundred and forty eight non-captive mines;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the list of States which are required to submit the action plans;

(c) whether Government proposes to set a new schedule for the States for submission of the action plans; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Illegal mining in the country**

556. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that illegal mining of sands is being done from river belts in various States by the Sand Mafia, if so, the details of the estimated loss thereof;

(b) if so, the punitive action taken by Government to prevent such loss taking into account the environmental loss and revenue loss due to illegal mining of sands; and

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued to States to control the mine mafia?

#### **Illegal mining of minerals**

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

(a) the number of cases of illegal mining pertaining to major and minor minerals registered in the country in the last four years in the States of Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh, and the details thereof, State-wise; and

(b) the names of the mining companies against whom the fines have been imposed for illegal mining and the details of their promoters/principal shareholders?

#### **Notification for OMCL under MMDR Act**

558. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any reason for delay in notifying Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. (OMCL) under the second provision to Section 4 (1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation)(MMDR) Amendment Act, 2015 to empower the above Corporation to undertake

prospecting operations without obtaining the prospecting licence; and

(b) if not, by when the notification would be issued?

**Mining of copper and other metals in H.P. and Uttarakhand**

559. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any serious initiative for exploration of copper and other metals in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, considering the fact that ancient and medieval literature refer to extraction of copper and other metals?

**Plan for restructured scheme for local bodies**

560. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans for a restructured scheme for local bodies such as Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan;

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

(c) whether the scheme will be extended to all the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Utilisation of funds in BRGF**

561. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF) was to be implemented in 272 backward districts in 27 States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details regarding the Capacity Building (CB) Grant and Development Grant (DG) that was allocated to these districts since 2014 till date, along with the addition to this scheme since its inception in 2007, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) utilisation of the funds in BRGF since 2014 till date, State/UT/District-wise?

**Steps for reduction of road accidents**

562. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is working to reduce road accidents in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has asked the automakers to work towards having safe designs and explore the possibility of use of silicon in tyres as part of its efforts to reduce road accidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Speed of construction work on National Highways**

†563. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of highway construction in terms of km. per day during the tenure of NDA Government since 2014; and

(b) the corresponding rate during the last three years prior to the said period and the details thereof year-wise?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Setting up modern bus terminals**

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

(a) whether Government is considering to share the cost of expenditure being incurred by the State Governments for setting up modern bus terminals; and

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

### **Theft of railing and lamps on expressways**

565. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the protective railings and the street lamps installed on both sides of some of the expressways are being stolen enhancing the risk for the road users;

(b) the precaution Government proposes to ensure that such theft does not occur again and the road users are safe; and

(c) whether Government would consider installing surveillance cameras to catch such culprits, who for personal selfishness, cause hindrance to the development and progress of the State?

### **Construction of Delhi - Jaipur expressway**

†566. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made by Government

in the construction of Delhi-Jaipur expressway;

(b) by when its construction work will be initiated by Government; and

(c) the timeline for the completion of construction work of this expressway?

### **Speed limit on expressways/highways**

567. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee had recommended higher speed limits on expressway and for buses on highways;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to allow 120 k.m.p.h. speed limit for cars on expressways;

(c) whether it is also a fact that no action would be taken against drivers, if the vehicle speed is within 5 per cent of the maximum speed limit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Development of Greenfield highways**

568. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to build more Greenfield highways with straight alignment rather than expanding the existing corridors to avoid delays in land acquisition, high cost for procurement of land and removing encroachments;

(b) whether it is a fact that the new roads will free up the congested highways and thereby improve the traffic flow; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the land situated along/abutting an existing road,

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

costs at least twice as much as land elsewhere?

#### **High Security Registration Plates**

569. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sought the views/objections to draft Motor Vehicles (New High Security Registration Plates) Order, 2018 from public and stakeholders;

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

(c) whether Government have taken into consideration the interest of small manufacturers of High Security Registration Plates, especially large scale unemployment, in case of migration of the system to car manufacturers; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and whether Government would keep in abeyance the draft order till the case of unemployment is resolved?

#### **Development of roads in Rajasthan**

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

(a) whether Government proposes to develop the existing roads in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the effective measures being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Funds for development of roads and highways in Rajasthan**

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

(a) the amount of Central assistance allocated by Government to the Rajasthan Government during each year of the Twelfth Five Year Plan for maintenance of roads and development of highways;

(b) the targets fixed by Government during the period for this purpose;

(c) whether these targets have been achieved; and

(d) if not, the status of every State at present and the reasons for non-achievement of targets?

#### **Toll collection in road sector**

572. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that User Fee (toll) collection is a permanent feature in the road sector in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government will come forward to make suitable amendments/ changes to the relevant Acts/Rules to discontinue toll collection from roads, which investment has already recovered;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Construction of Patna-Buxar NH**

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

(a) the progress made towards construction of Patna-Buxar National Highway in the State of Bihar as on date;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been inordinate delay in construction of this extremely busy highway;

(c) the current status of the bridge under construction over Ganga river in Buxar as part of construction of this highway; and

(d) whether it is a fact that due to certain changes in the layout of the bridge, the agency has not started construction work on the same so far?

**Status of national highways in the country**

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

(a) the total length of the national highways in different States in kilometers along with the number of lanes in them;

(b) whether Government proposes to widen all the national highways to four lanes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when this work is likely to be completed?

**MoU for improving public transport system with UK**

575. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

with United Kingdom for seeking help in improving overall public transport system in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the MoU includes policy for improving passenger services and use of high capacity buses in India, if so, the details thereof;

(d) to what extent, it would help in having PPP models for operations, infrastructure and maintenance strategies; and

(e) the timeline by which the policy would be finalised in phases?

**Construction of roads with bitumen**

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

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

(a) whether the Ministry is planning to build roads with bitumen in place of cement-sand-concrete taking into account the environmental factor;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the category of roads which are more strong and durable, out of cement-concrete roads and bitumen roads; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Funds for the development of road infrastructure and RoBs**

577. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government has allocated funds for the development of road infrastructure and Road over Bridges (RoBs) in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total estimated cost of the said projects and the details of the funds to be allocated for each of the road infrastructure projects;

(d) whether Government has any time-limit for the completion of the said projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Construction of Ranchi - Jamshedpur highway**

†578. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the construction work of Ranchi-Jamshedpur highway commenced and initial estimated cost thereof;

(b) the current status of construction of the said stretch and the dates on which estimate with regard to the above said road was revised including the amount, the details thereof; and

(c) whether concerned officers/contractors have been brought to book for unnecessary delay in construction of highway, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Disaster at under construction flyover in Varanasi**

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

(a) the name of authority found guilty of the disaster at under construction flyover in Varanasi;

(b) whether Government has paid compensation to the dependents of the deceased of this disaster;

(c) whether Government has taken any action against the contractor engaged in construction of the flyover; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Ring Roads in the country**

580. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to build Ring Roads in major cities of the country and Guwahati in particular;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with financial allocations made for the purpose; and

(c) whether Government have identified the cities for building Ring Roads and if so, name of the cities particularly in Assam and other North Eastern States?

#### **Greenfield road networks**

581. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has identified at least five greenfield road networks connecting major industrial and manufacturing hubs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that these stretches will reduce the existing distance travelled by upto 200 km.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

#### **Financial crunch for NHDP**

582. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NHAI is facing financial crunch to fund its National Highway Development Projects (NHDPs) in various stages;

(b) if so, extent of shortage and overall requirement;

(c) the sources of funds for undertaking NHDPs;

(d) the problems being faced in this regard; and

(e) the measure taken to overcome these?

#### **Speed limit on urban roads**

583. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has approved a maximum speed limit on urban roads at 70 kmph for cars, 60 kmph for cargo carriers and 50 kmph for two wheelers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the State Governments or local authorities can specify reduced speed limits for each category considering the safety of other road users; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Driver training institute and vehicle inspection and certification centre**

†584. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of ROAD

TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has implemented any scheme to open Model Driving Training Institute and Vehicle Inspection and Certification centre in various States;

(b) if so, the amount provided to various States including Maharashtra during the last three years for this purpose; and

(c) the purposes for which above amount has been used, and the details thereof?

#### **Steps for reduction of road accident**

†585. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set a target to reduce the number of fatalities in road accidents to half by the year 2020;

(b) if so, the details of the steps being taken by Government thereof;

(c) the details of financial assistance provided by Government to the States for procuring ambulances and breath analyzer machines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount of financial assistance given during the last three years; Statewise, including Maharashtra?

#### **Waiving off toll tax**

586. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to waive off toll tax at national highways;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has set up a special cell to attract domestic and global investments to finance the mega road building programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Vehicle scrapping policy**

587. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to various researches and studies, pre-BS-I commercial vehicles emit pollutants 25 times more than BS-IV vehicles;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government is considering some tax relief to those who scrap their vehicle and buy a new one against it;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the vehicle manufacturers would be asked to provide some discounts to buyers who scrap their old vehicles and buy new one; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Funds for highway work in West Bengal**

588. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of West Bengal has written a letter to Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways and Shipping raising the issue of inadequate allotment of fund for National Highway works in Bengal;

(b) if so, whether Government will

accept the demand and allot additional funds for Bengal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Policy initiatives for achievement of the Ministry's objectives**

589. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any new and specific policy initiative after June, 2014 to achieve the objectives of the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of these initiatives and the overall impact of these initiatives; and

(c) whether Government has introduced any major administrative reforms specifically to achieve the objectives of the Ministry in its functioning after May, 2014 and if so, the details thereof and their impact?

#### **Road accidents in the country**

590. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details on number of road accidents, lives lost and people injured due to presence of potholes during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the details of budgetary allocation for repair and maintenance of National Highways during last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether Ministry has facilitated a central platform for citizens to report potholes;

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

(e) whether measures have been taken by the Ministry to hold civic authorities accountable for faulty road design and engineering and poor maintenance of roads; and

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

#### **Hike in wages of labourers of MGNREGA**

591. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to hike wages of labourers of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) as per the present consumer price index;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal with consultation report from the Finance Ministry therein; and

(c) if not, the reasons behind not hiking the wages accordingly?

#### **Rural road connectivity in the country**

592. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set any targets for rural road connectivity in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, along with the targets set and achieved during the last three years and the current year under various schemes for rural road connectivity; and

(c) the steps taken/ being taken by the Central Government to speed up rural road

connectivity in the remaining areas of the country?

#### **Progress of PMGSY in Odisha**

593. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry would consider to relax the norms to sanction, for providing connectivity to more than 100 habitations of 18 Integrated Action Plan (IAP) districts and more than 250 habitations in 12 non-IAP District of the State of Odisha, as the tribal dominated Districts cover more than 40 per cent of total population of the State; and

(b) whether the Ministry will consider sharing funds towards the cost of post five years maintenance of PMGSY roads in Odisha?

#### **Progress of SAGY**

594. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has formulated Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) in the country;

(b) if so, the objectives of the scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of villages developed under the said scheme till date;

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

(f) whether Government has provided any special funds to the villages selected under the said scheme;

(g) if so, the details of the funds spent for them; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Wages of workers under MGNREGS**

595. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to link the wages of workers under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) to the consumer price index (Rural) instead of CPI (Agricultural Labour);

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

(c) the present wages in different States for the workers under MGNREGS and for how many average days they are provided jobs?

**Age limit of beneficiaries under IGNDPS**

596. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to lower the age limit of beneficiaries under Indira Gandhi National Disabled Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) from 18 to 6 years and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government proposes to reduce the percentage of disability in IGNDPS from 80 to 40 per cent and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time, by which decisions on the above proposals are likely to be taken?

**Funds for development of villages**

597. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain State Governments/ Members of Parliament have requested the Central Government to provide separate funds for the development of villages in their respective States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Central Government in this regard, State- wise; and

(c) State-wise data on funds utilised for the development of gram panchayats during the last three financial years, from the existing 21 schemes?

**Employment through RSETIs**

598. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the guidelines governing the Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) along with the functions being performed by them;

(b) the number of persons trained and employed after training by these institutes during the said period, State-wise and UT-wise; and

(c) whether RSETIs are working together/ in co-ordination with the Ministry of Skill Development, if so, the details thereof?

**Funds for rural development projects and schemes in the country**

599. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the rural development programmes/schemes being implemented in various States of the country;

(b) whether Government has increased allocation of funds to the States for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the amount of funds allocated to States during the last three years, project-wise?

#### **Construction of roads under PMGSY**

600. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Himachal Pradesh is lagging behind in construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)/ NABARD Assist Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of roads and the amount sanctioned for each road during 2018-19 in Chirgaon Tehsil under Shimla District of Himachal Pradesh, which are proposed to be constructed under PMGSY/ NABARD Assist Scheme;

(d) the status of Link Road Bakhuli-Nandla, Jangla-Nandla, Jalwari-Kallu and metalling at Bacdiyara-Jalwari road in Chirgaon Tehsil in District Shimla of Himachal Pradesh; and

(e) whether Government will direct the State Government of Himachal Pradesh to take action against official for laxity?

#### **Allotment under PMAY-G**

†601. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the details of the housing units allotted and constructed from year 2014, till date under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Awas Yojana (PMAY-G) in the State of Madhya Pradesh, year-wise and district-wise?

#### **Roads under PMGSY in Madhya Pradesh**

†602. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the details of the rural roads built in Madhya Pradesh under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise?

#### **Minimum wages under MGNREGA**

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

(a) whether Ministry pays starvation level wages of ₹ 150 to 250 to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) workers;

(b) if so, basis on which the Ministry decided this level when Central Government has accepted 7th Pay Commission Recommendations, wherein the minimum expenditure needs of a family to live in a dignified manner is ₹ 18,000 per month *i.e.* ₹ 692 per day; and

(c) whether Government has implemented the recommendations of the Nagesh Singh Committee to revise the MGNREGA wage rate using the Consumer Price Index-Rural Labourers instead of Consumer Price Index-Agricultural Labourers?

#### **Linking of MGNREGS wages with agricultural wages**

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

(a) whether Government is planning to

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

club the wages being paid under MGNREGS with the agricultural wages; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Irregularities in CIMFR**

†605. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3486 dated 26th March, 2018 given in the Rajya Sabha and state:

(a) whether CBI's Anti-Corruption Bureau, Dhanbad has completed its investigation against the Director, Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR), Dhanbad and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any action has been taken against the individuals found guilty in the said investigation, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Scheme for Indian scientists residing abroad**

606. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated schemes to provide attractive avenues and opportunities to Indian researchers, who are residing in foreign countries to work in Indian Institutes and Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government keeps track or estimates the number of Indian scientists, who leave India to work in other countries; and

(d) if so, the details of such tracking or estimation process?

#### **Development of green field commercial port in Kakinada**

607. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether GMR Infrastructure which is developing a greenfield commercial port near Kakinada has already started work on that port; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the total expenditure and by when it would be operational?

#### **Implementation of Sagarmala projects**

608. SHRIMATI ROOPA GANGULY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has started the construction of "Sagarmala transport projects" for ensuring better and faster connectivity with coastal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the nearby centres of Rajasthan/Maharashtra and Delhi/NCR being covered in the aforesaid project?

#### **Implementation of Sagarmala project in Andhra Pradesh**

609. SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of projects which have been identified for implementation under the Sagarmala

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

projects in Andhra Pradesh and the total cost of such projects;

(b) among these how many have been approved under the categories of port modernisation, port connectivity and port industrialisation etc.;

(c) the total investments proposed in Andhra Pradesh under Sagarmala project in different categories mentioned above;

(d) the number of Sagarmala projects in Andhra Pradesh which have been completed or are on going etc.; and

(e) the value of projects in different stages?

#### **Development of waterways transport**

610. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed the major ports to form Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) to develop waterways across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of waterways which are proposed to be allocated to ports, especially Cochin, Chennai, Vishakhapatnam and Paradip ports; and

(d) the amount that would be earmarked from Central fund for development of water transport and by when these waterways will be operationalised?

#### **Development of ports in Andhra Pradesh**

611. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to develop two ports in the

State of Andhra Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ramayapatnam port in Nellore District is also included in the proposals, the details thereof;

(c) the status of the proposal as of now, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government for early implementation of the proposals?

#### **Cargo carrying capacity of Indian fleet**

612. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Shipping Industry has made investments on the back of a decade-old Right of First Refusal (RoFR) benefit granted to local fleet owners to carry export-import oil and bulk cargo for State-run firms;

(b) whether the cargo carrying capacity of Indian fleet grew 22 per cent between January, 2015 and June, 2018 from 7.87 dwt to 9.8 dwt with the addition of 15 crude, product and gas carriers; and

(c) whether Government is set to scrap the RoFR benefit to the detriment of local shipping industry and if so, the rationale behind the move?

#### **Cultivation of non-approved BT cotton**

613. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that non-approved 3rd kind BT cotton is being cultivated in some parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any investigation on availability of such non-permitted BT cotton seeds in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to avoid such illegal cultivation?

#### **The policy for interlinking of rivers**

†614. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government regarding interlinking of rivers;

(b) the priority of Government therein;

(c) by when the work of interlinking of rivers would commence; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred on it?

#### **Depletion of ground water by soft drink companies**

615. SHRIMATI ROOPA GANGULY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ground water depletion is mainly found in those areas where soft drink companies are operating;

(b) if so, whether overdrawing of water by these companies is causing depletion;

(c) whether norms have been fixed for the usage of ground water by the companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the mechanism in place to monitor the situation?

#### **Rehabilitation and Resettlement works of Polavaram project**

616. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing regulations mandate that Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (LA, R&R) has to be completed before the completion of any irrigation project and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the LA, R&R works of Polavaram Irrigation Project have literally no progress due to shortage of funds and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the Polavaram project will be completed to its full shape and how the funds required for LA, R&R will be mobilised and whether it is the State's or Centre's responsibility to arrange funds for this?

#### **Revised estimates of Polavaram project**

617. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revised estimates for Polavaram project has been approved by Government and if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons for non-approval despite the estimates being submitted in the month of August, 2017 by AP State Government; and

(c) the observations of Central Water Commission on the revised estimates submitted by the State?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Proposal against destruction of water bodies**

618. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes any stringent law against those who destroy water bodies and banks of rivers flowing in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) has any survey been conducted to assess the destruction of water bodies in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Declaration of Polavaram project as a national project**

619. SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount Central Government has released towards Polavaram project so far;

(b) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has spent any money towards the irrigation component of Polavaram project after its declaration as a national project by Government in 2014;

(c) whether the Central Government proposes to order an enquiry into the serious irregularities in Rehabilitation and Resettlement of the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) in the Polavaram area; and

(d) if so, nature of enquiry being conducted or proposed?

**Meetings of Cauvery Management Board**

620. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has convened the meeting of Cauvery Management Board (CMB) in the recent past and directed the Karnataka Government to release water from Cauvery for farming activities in Government of Tamil Nadu particularly in Cauvery Delta region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Ground water contaminated by Sterlite factory**

621. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated any steps to check the nature of ground water in Thoothukundi (Tamil Nadu) in the back drop of agitation against Sterlite factory alleging that ground water has been contaminated due to the pollution from Sterlite factory;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, what steps have been taken so far and whether Government will come forward to check the ground water;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Supply of water to districts in Rajasthan**

†622. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from Rajasthan Government for supply of water to some districts of the State from Yamuna canal for drinking and irrigation purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

**Renovation, expansion and desilting of water bodies in Tamil Nadu**

623. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allocated any funds to desilt, renovate and raise the bunds of water bodies in Tamil Nadu during the last three years;

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

(c) the total funds allocated for the renovation, expansion and desilting of water bodies in Tamil Nadu, year-wise;

(d) whether Government has provided any other special component funds from both, the Central Government and Foreign Financial Institutions for the enhancement of water catchment capacity in Tamil Nadu; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Cleaning of river Ganga**

†624. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on cleaning of Ganga river from 2014 till date and the extent of success achieved in keeping with the plan;

(b) whether Ganga water of any city on the banks of the river has been cleaned; and

(c) if not, by when the water of Ganga river would be cleaned?

**Central Assistance for CADWM project under ISBIG**

625. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to release the Central Assistance for ongoing Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) projects under the new scheme of Incentivisation Scheme for Bridging Irrigation Gap (ISBIG) for financial year 2018-19;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Approval and financial assistance for Mokedatu project**

626. DR. L. HANUMANTHAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

any proposal from Karnataka for approval and financial assistance for Mekedatu multi-purpose (drinking and power) project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken steps to grant approval for the said project;

(d) if so, by when Government is going to approve the project and the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has received any proposal for financial assistance for the project; and

(f) if so, the response of Government in this regard and the details thereof?

#### **Flood control and re-excavation project in West Bengal**

627. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has stopped funding for Keteghai-Kapaleshwari-Baghai river flood control and re-excavation project in West Bengal for the last two years, if so, the cost of the project sanctioned during Twelfth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the amount of fund released by the Central Government; and

(c) the contribution of State Government and ratio thereof?

#### **Administrative and financial approval for Ghatal Master Plan**

628. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided the administrative approval and financial sanction for the Ghatal Master Plan for West Bengal and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) by when the administrative approval and financial sanction would be given for Ghatal Master Plan?

#### **Legislation on Dam Safety Bill, 2018**

629. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has consulted all State Governments and a consensus has been obtained for bringing the legislation on the Dam Safety Bill, 2018 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether powers of State Governments and rights conferred on the State by inter-State agreements on the dams owned, operated and maintained by Tamil Nadu but located in another State will be guaranteed under the proposed Dam Safety Bill, 2018 and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has conducted any safety audit of the dams in the country, if so, the details and the findings thereof?

#### **Allocation of funds for Namami Gange project**

630. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) for the projects which are part of Namami Gange projects, what are the details of funds involved, commencing date, budget allocated and timeline for completion;

(b) whether it is a fact that ₹ 20,000 crores was allocated for Clean Ganga projects, if so, utilisation of the funds since the commencement of this project till date; and

(c) whether the Ministry is pursuing private sector to use its CSR funds for Clean Ganga projects, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Fund sanctioned for cleaning of river Ganga**

631. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government will spend ₹ 8,000 to ₹ 10,000 crore this year to ensure that at least 70 per cent of the Ganga will be cleaned by May, 2019;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has only spent ₹ 4500 crore, since 2015, when the ₹ 20,000 crore tranche for cleaning the 2,500 km long river was operationalised;

(c) whether a total of 195 projects worth ₹ 20,959 crore have been sanctioned for various activities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Access to drinking water in Delhi and Bengaluru**

632. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly half of India's population could end up with no access to drinking water by 2030;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Delhi and Bengaluru could run out of ground water by 2020; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Prevention of Erosion by mountain streams**

633. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether erosion caused by mountain streams, results in extensive damage to agriculture and roads in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to take any remedial steps in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Submerged area of Rajghat Dam Project**

†634. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers of district Lalitpur, Uttar Pradesh whose land and other properties like wells, sheds, houses have been submerged under Rajghat Dam Project constructed by Betwa River Board and if so, the details of compensation to be paid to the farmers;

(b) whether the properties submerged in dam water will be given compensation, if so, since when and the details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the reasons for not giving this balance compensation to affected farmers and the plans of Betwa River Board for them?

#### **Funds collected under CGF**

635. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of funds received under the Clean Ganga Fund (CGF) till January, 2018;

(b) the quantum of funds received under the CGF from corporates as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) expenditure;

(c) the quantum of funds released under the fund till January, 2018, as a proportion of the total collection; and

(d) the purpose for which the released funds are being utilised?

#### **Physical education and sports university in the country**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no exclusive physical education and sports university at the Central level in the country;

(b) if so, whether there are any plans to set up such university under an Act of Parliament and the similar universities can be set up in States by giving assistance by the Ministry;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Status of sports university in Gujarat**

†637. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering to establish a sports university in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government would consider to open a sports university in the State of Gujarat; and

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

#### **Indian Football team for Asian Games in Indonesia**

638. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has refused to send the Indian Football team to the Asian Games in Indonesia;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Number of sports institutes and stadia in the country**

†639. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state the number of stadia and sports institutes constructed/revamped since the year 2014 till date during the tenure of NDA Government?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Safety of female sportspersons**

640. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA:  
Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS  
AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is drafting rules and code of conduct guidelines to be followed by men accompanying womens' team, to ensure the safety and protection of sportswomen from any form of abuse and harassment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the measures being taken by the Ministry to ensure safety and protection of female sportspersons during training camps and national and international tournaments; and

(e) the expenditure incurred on female sportspersons and their training by the Ministry since 2014, year-wise?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 17th July, 2018*  

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Ashadha 26, 1940 (*Saka*)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,  
*Secretary-General.*

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