

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, July 30, 2018/Shravana 8, 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

Setting up of Indian Defence University	Incidents of ceasefire violation along Pakistan border
1281. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE:	1282. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:	Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
(a) whether Government proposes to set up an Indian Defence University (IDU);	(a) the details of incidents of ceasefire violations along the borders with Pakistan during the last three years and in the current year;
(b) if so, the progress and the present status thereof;	(b) the details of security personnel and other civilians killed in ceasefire violations by Pakistani forces; and
(c) whether Government proposes to set up IDUs in hilly States which are situated on the border States such as Himachal Pradesh; and	(c) the details of <i>ex-gratia</i> amount announced and paid, year-wise to dependants of victims of ceasefire violations by Pakistan?
(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?	

Compensation to farmers of Punjab

1283. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state whether any norms have been set to pay compensation to farmers of Punjab where lands have been taken over for defence purposes including the agriculture lands destroyed during firing across the border?

India-Russia inter-Governmental agreement on mega-project

1284. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Russia had signed an inter-Governmental agreement for a mega project in 2007, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the project has been stuck for the last eleven years due to differences between two sides on sharing the cost of developing jets and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any time line has been fixed about the number of jets to be produced, the latest status, the details thereof?

Pension criterion for army jawans

1285. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new proposal has been mooted by the personnel section of the Army which requires jawans to put in more number of years into service and also a change in pension rules;

(b) whether One Rank One Pension (OROP) scheme led to a spike in the number of troops seeking premature retirement; and

(c) whether the minimum qualifying

service for pension has been raised from fifteen years to twenty years of service?

Progress in production of Tejas aircraft

1286. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the indigenous Tejas fighter, first approved way back in 1983, after several target revisions, has missed yet another deadline to become fully combat-ready;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps taken to fast track the production and time frame given for final operational clearance (FOC);

(c) the steps taken by Government to meet the shortage of aircraft carriers; and

(d) the steps taken to enhance the production of indigenous aircraft?

Strategic Partnership Policy

1287. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the "Strategic Partnership" (SP) policy to boost the Indian private sectors role in production of military hardware in collaboration with global armament majors has become operational, and, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is a delay in operationalising the SP model and whether this has affected adversely the status of preparedness of the Armed Forces;

(c) whether the model suffers from lack of clarity and transparency, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the segments which are likely to be

taken up for execution through the "SP" route?

Defence projects under 'Make in India' Programme

1288. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no defence projects have been taken up under the "Make in India" framework during the last four years, and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether these delays render India strategically vulnerable and also disadvantaged in being greatly dependent on large military hardware imports, and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has formulated any "Defence Production Policy" to herald a new era in providing domestically manufactured Military Hardware for the Indian Armed Forces, and if so, the details thereof?

Alternative Naval operation base in Visakhapatnam

1289. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) when was the Naval Alternative Operation Base established in Visakhapatnam in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether four villages have been affected due to the above project;

(c) if so, the details of steps taken by Ministry with regard to the rehabilitation and resettlement of the displaced as promised and implemented by the Ministry;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Ministry assured two jetties, employment to eligible young people, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Health Centre, apart from other things; and

(e) if so, the status of assurances given to the affected villages?

Recruitment of army jawans

†1290. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider to make the recruitment process of army jawans as regular feature instead of recruiting them by organizing camps; and

(b) whether Government would consider opening permanent recruitment offices in various States for conducting regular process of recruitment of army jawans, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

'Make in India' in Defence sector

1291. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the plans of Government for implementation of strategic partnership in defence under Make in India initiative; and

(b) the manner in which the interest of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) would be taken care of?

Cadre review of CASO

1292. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had reviewed security setup in all Defence Establishments and Director General of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Ordnance Services (DGOS) had recommended for an urgent functional requirement of Civilian Administrative Staff Officers (CASOs) in Army ordnance units for effective security measures and fire preventive precautions to avoid untoward incidents;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Cadre Review of CASO is pending for the last ten years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action Government contemplates to restructure CASO Cadre?

Modernisation of defence sector

1293. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the action taken by Government for modernisation of defence sector in view of external threats to the country;

(b) the details of the action taken to strengthen the security system of the country;

(c) whether Government proposes to strengthen the defence industry to meet the requirement of defence sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the details of action taken/being taken in the regard?

Restriction on flight movement at Visakhapatnam Airport

1294. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has imposed restrictions on the movement of flights at the Visakhapatnam Airport;

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

(c) whether the Ministry is aware that the imposed restrictions on movement of flights is posing a serious problem of flight movement and problems to the public; and

(d) whether any remedial measures are being taken by the Ministry to avoid such inconvenience at the Visakhapatnam Airport and if so, the details thereof?

Cross border infiltrations

1295. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cross-border infiltration, terrorist activities and attacks on army personnel have increased and more Indian army personnel and civilians are being killed/martyred than before including in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) the details of army personnel martyred, injured, rank-wise along with the civilians injured and killed during the last three years;

(c) whether employment and other assistance is being provided to the dependants of martyred army personnel and if so, the amount of assistance provided in each case; and

(d) the details of surgical strikes conducted by the Indian army against Pakistan army during the last fifteen years?

Digital data for defence estate

1296. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has prepared digital data of the entire land/properties/estate under its jurisdiction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether illegal encroachment of defence land or property has been reported in the process of preparing digital data;

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

(e) whether Government is taking any effective measures to regain the said land/property and if so, the details thereof?

Violation of ceasefire along the J&K border

1297. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistani troops all along the Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) border have violated the ceasefire line umpteen times, the details thereof for the last two years and the casualties suffered by brave jawans; and

(b) whether there has been any meeting of the two countries to diffuse the situation, if so, the details thereof?

Illegal transfer of defence land

1298. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal transfers of defence land have taken place in this country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any policy to transfer defence land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Ceasefire violation by Pakistan

†1299. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has been violating ceasefire agreement very often;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to take concrete and effective steps against Pakistan; and

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

Status of Cantonment Boards

1300. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to do away with Cantonment Boards;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the proposed alternative to replace them?

Contraband goods seized by Indian Coast Guard

1301. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether contraband items are seized by Indian Coast Guard every year;

(b) if so, their worth during last three years;

(c) the major items seized; and

(d) how these items are disposed?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Corruption cases involving officers of MES and BRO

1302. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of corruption have come to the notice of Government involving officers of Military Engineering Services (MES) and Border Roads Organisation (BRO);

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(c) the action taken against those found guilty of corruption; and

(d) the steps taken to root out corruption from MES and BRO?

Production of defence equipments

†1303. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has to import most of its defence equipments, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is preparing any plan of action for making India self-reliant in the field of production of defence equipments, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any plan to involve private sector for large scale production of defence equipments?

Lease for defence land

1304. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lease for a large number of defence land has expired;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the concerned parties of the said lease are availing benefits of defence land after the expiry of the lease;

(c) if so, steps taken by Government to renew the expired lease in a time bound manner; and

(d) the steps Government is taking to solve the problem of illegal land encroachment of the defence land in the country?

Availability of potable drinking water

1305. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data on potable water available in the country, including the State of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Safe drinking water to every household in Himachal Pradesh

1306. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of households in rural areas of the country do not have access to adequate supply of drinking water;

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

(c) whether Government considers to provide each and every household adequate supply of safe, drinking water in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with steps taken/being taken by Government to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

provide each and every household adequate supply of safe drinking water in the State?

People affected by Arsenic contaminated drinking water

1307. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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

(a) whether ten million people in 10 districts of West Bengal are affected by Arsenic contaminated drinking water;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with details of number of people affected by Arsenic in drinking water as on date, State-wise;

(c) the details of number of people who are affected by Arsenic contamination in drinking water in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar as on 30th June, 2018, district-wise;

(d) the details of funds allocated, released and utilized for Arsenic free drinking water during 2017-18 and 2018-19 till date, State-wise; and

(e) the reasons for failure of Government in this regard?

Construction of toilets in rural areas

1308. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding number of toilets constructed in rural areas during the last three years;

(b) whether the details of toilets constructed are available, State-wise;

(c) if so, the details regarding number of toilets constructed in Rajasthan during the above period;

(d) the details regarding increase in number and percentage of households with toilets; and

(e) the details regarding persuasive steps taken by Government to make people use toilets?

Funds received for SBK under CSR

1309. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of funds/donations received by Swachh Bharat Kosh (SBK) under Swachh Bharat Mission as part of corporate social responsibility activities for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) areas/fields where these funds have been utilised and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the contribution of this fund for drinking water programmes/schemes in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Toilet facilities in the country

1310. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number and percentage of households which have toilet facilities in the country, State-wise/UT-wise;

(b) the number of households and their percentage in the country including Goa, where open defecation exists, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide them toilet facilities and safe disposal of solid and liquid waste?

Supply of safe drinking water

†1311. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 40 per cent of villages in the country are affected with chemical contamination;

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

(c) the action taken by Government to supply safe drinking water to households and the details of the proposal thereof?

Sanitation coverage in rural areas under SBM

1312. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an increase in sanitation coverage in rural India under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) compared to the coverage at the launch of the Mission;

(b) if so, the details of the percentage increase in sanitation coverage;

(c) whether any survey was conducted by any agency in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Construction of toilets under SBM

1313. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total number of toilets

constructed since 2014 under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), year-wise;

(b) the percentage of newly constructed toilets which are not connected to sewerage and drainage and are therefore lack sanitation; and

(c) whether there are guidelines for ensuring that the newly built toilets, get connected to sewerage and drainage and if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

Aid to Rajasthan for drinking water

†1314. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Rural Drinking Water programme is being run to address the problem of drinking water in Rajasthan;

(b) whether Government proposes to release additional special annual financial aid for this programme and

(c) if so, any time limit has been fixed for release of aid and if not, the reasons therefor?

Open defecation in slum clusters

1315. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the declaration of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (SBA) has resulted in any change in the urban and poor areas as regards the number of people defecating in the open especially in slum-clusters;

(b) if so, the details of the decrease in open defecation in terms of percentage, State-wise; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if not, whether Government proposes to launch and implement another major scheme like SBA to bring about a major change in terms of implementation?

Installation of Doppler radars in Uttarakhand

1316. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after five years of flash floods of 2013 in Uttarakhand, the Doppler radars are yet to be installed;

(b) if so, reasons for delay;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the State Government wrote to India Meteorological Department (IMD) and the Ministry of Earth Sciences in 2015, seeking permission to procure Doppler radars under World Bank funded Uttarakhand Disaster Recovery Project (UDRP); and

(d) the details of the Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) and telemetric rain gauges to be installed in all 95 blocks in the State?

Instructions to IMD to issue extreme weather forecast with advisory

1317. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether specific directions have recently been given by Government to India Meteorological Department (IMD) to release weather forecast along with advisory to the people to make it meaningful;

(b) whether the direction are being followed in letter and spirit; and

(c) whether there are any further plans of Government to make the weather forecast more useful?

Biosphere reserve in catchment areas of Chambal

†1318. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to issue a notification regarding biosphere Reserve for development of corridor to connect wildlife sanctuaries situated in catchment areas of Chambal river; and

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

Allocation under National River Conservation Programme

1319. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated to various States under the National River Conservation Programmes (NRCP) during 2014 to 2017 years;

(b) if so, the details of such funds released and utilised during the period, State-wise, river-wise;

(c) the criteria for release of funds under this programme;

(d) whether there is any mechanism to monitor the funds allocated to the States under the National River Conservation Programme;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of the unused funds lying with various States?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Environmental clearance or expansion of Kamarajar Port

1320. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has granted environmental clearance for Phase-3 expansion of Kamarajar Port in Ennore creek on basis of an unapproved draft map which falls under 'No Development Zone';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Consequences of Naptha smoke on environment

1321. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether smoke of Naptha mixed petrol has harmful consequences on the environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

Re-cycling of e-waste

†1322. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantity of e-waste generated in Delhi-NCR is 85,000 tonne per annum at present and it is expected to increase up to 1.50 lakh tonne by 2020;

(b) whether only 1.5 per cent of e-waste being generated is re-used and this increasing

e-waste is harming the health of the people;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government for the maximising re-cycling of e-wastes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Release of funds under CAMPA

†1323. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has to release funds to different States including Chhattisgarh under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which States are utilising the funds released under CAMPA and the details of the expenditure of the released funds State-wise/UT-wise including Chhattisgarh?

Plastic Free Zones

1324. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently declared all the protected areas as "Plastic Free Zones" (PFZs) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the zones declared as PFZs, State-wise; and

(c) the other steps taken/being taken by the Central Government to make the PFZs a reality?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Ecologically sensitive zone around
Kali Tiger Reserve**

1325. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is aware that Karnataka Government is reducing the Ecological Sensitive Zone (ESZ) around Kali Tiger Reserve (Anshi-Dandeli) from 1,201.94 sq.km. to 312.52 sq.km.; and

(b) if so, the steps Central Government is taking to ensure that the Karnataka Government does not reduce the area of ESZ as prescribed in the Central Government Notification in 2016?

**Report on temperature and rainfall
patterns**

1326. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has any report on the gradual changes in average temperature and rainfall patterns in the country;

(b) if so, whether there is any information towards slow moving of disaster therein;

(c) whether it is also a fact that within the next 20 years, several areas of the country will become worst hit 'hotspot' areas; and

(d) if so, time bound proposal details of Government to control and curb climate-sensitive scenario thereof?

Commitments on Paris Agreement

1327. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT,

FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government for implementing the commitments on Paris Agreement;

(b) whether there is a permanent mechanism in the Ministry to follow up such measures;

(c) whether that mechanism functions satisfactorily; and

(d) whether Government would submit a progress report before the council and through it, before the nation?

Green cover in India

1328. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any details about the reduced green cover in India; and

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

**Worsening air quality causing
premature deaths**

1329. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the worsening air quality in the last two decades has emerged as one of the major reasons for high numbers of premature deaths;

(b) whether annual mortality linked to air pollution is in the range of 150-300 persons per one lakh population;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Kanpur recorded the highest number of premature deaths per year due to chronic exposure to air pollution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Policy for disposal of garbage

†1330. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme for disposal of garbage and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government has any policy to mitigate increasing pollution and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the present status of all types of pollution in the cities across the country and by when this would be brought under control?

Problem of increasing air pollution

†1331. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to check the problem of increasing air pollution all over the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that due to negligence of Government, air pollution level has reached a dangerous level in country's capital Delhi and other major cities and the reasons therefor?

Plan for plastic waste disposal

1332. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the issue of plastic waste, will become a 'toxic-time bomb' in the country in future;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the country consumes over 15 million tonnes of toxic plastic per annum;

(c) if so, whether Government proposes for alternatives thereof; and

(d) the details of plans and projects with Government to tackle the situation?

District level data on environmental health

1333. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government would begin a five years exercise to compute district level data on the country's environmental health;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a pilot project is set to begin this September in 54 districts;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this is the first time when such a national environment survey is being undertaken;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the number would eventually be used to calculate every States' green gross domestic products; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Emission level of old power plants

1334. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

has a plan in place wherein from 2019 onward and by 2022, emission levels of all old power plants would be brought to national standards;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some old plants may be closed and rest will be retrofitted;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had in 2015 notified the new standards and set the deadline of December, 2017 in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Changes in forest cover

†1335. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any change in the forest cover of the country has been recorded during last three years as compared to earlier position;

(b) if so, whether forest cover has increased or decreased, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made by Government to establish environmental balance in case the forest cover has decreased?

Implementation of ban on plastics

1336. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the States in the country have banned the use of plastics but the implementation is very poor and the ban exists only on papers;

(b) if so, the States that have banned the use of plastics and the extent to which

the ban has been successful in these States; and

(c) the reasons for failure in implementing the ban order in the States strictly and further action proposed to be taken to reduce the generation of this toxic waste in the country?

Tree classification under IUCN Red List

1337. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Agarwood Tree (*Aquilaria Malaccensis*) whose resin is widely used in incense and perfume industry and is widely grown in the northeast, has been classified under category "Vulnerable" by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN);

(b) whether the IUCN has downgraded the category of Agarwood from "Vulnerable" to "critically endangered" species in its 'Red List' because of indiscriminate poaching of trees in forest areas; and

(c) steps being taken to protect rare species of trees that sustain rural economy?

Maintenance of trees planted on forest day

1338. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the fact that the trees planted every year along with the celebration of Forest Day are not maintained properly;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has engaged any study on the afforestation programme including the extent of growth of forest through afforestation;

(d) whether Government has taken note of large scale denudation of forest in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to improve the forest cover?

Human-Elephant conflict

1339. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that encroachment/construction of buildings in elephant corridors has led to frequent human-elephant conflicts which results in loss of human lives in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the death that have occurred due to such conflicts during the last three years;

(c) the details of compensation awarded by Government in these cases; and

(d) whether Government has taken steps to remove encroachments/ buildings constructed in elephant corridors?

Air pollution in metro cities

1340. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's metro cities, especially Delhi is one of the most polluted cities of the world;

(b) whether any measure like banning

Diesel vehicles in the capital was suggested by the apex court of India;

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

(d) other major steps Government proposes to take to reduce air pollution in the metro cities?

Audit of implementation of CRZ notifications

1341. 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) the details of recommendations or suggestions of the Ministry to Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India to make a comprehensive audit of implementations of CRZ notifications in all coastal States and results thereof;

(b) the definition, law and rules under which the Ministry is exempted from complying with observations of CAG; and

(c) the explanatory note on incorporation of each observations of CAG Audit Report (Economic Sector) for the year ending 31st March, 2016, Compliance Audit in amendments of CRZ, 2011 and in draft CRZ, 2018?

National Green Corps

1342. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of initiatives taken up under National Green Corp (NGC);

(b) the accomplishments of the programme since its inception in 2001-02 with particular reference to Manipur;

(c) the details of coverage and eco-clubs in the State;

(d) the amount of funds sanctioned for the purpose in the State and details of its utilisation therein; and

(e) whether the targeted objectives could be achieved with qualitative improvement in the environment due to NGC?

Impact of Climate Change on agrarian economy

†1343. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rapidly changing climate is having an adverse impact on the economy of the country, particularly the agrarian economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has made any assessment about the effects of change in the climate on economy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Dumping of waste in water bodies

1344. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put in place a strong and effective mechanism to ensure that no municipal solid waste, construction waste, debris and any other kind of waste material is dumped on any of

the river banks or any other water bodies across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has engaged any voluntary organisation/charity institute to ensure this; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Chemical waste water problem in Bawana region

†1345. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that chemical waste water of almost twelve thousand factories of Bawana region of Delhi is being discharged into the Nallah without any treatment;

(b) whether it is also a fact that after the directions of Supreme Court, 13 effluent treatment plants have been set up in various industrial areas of National Capital Region which are not treating to their capacity;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to put a complete check on the chemical waste water of factories which is being discharged into the Nallah without treatment; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Expenditure on advertisement by Central Government

†1346. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Central Government on advertisements through

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

electronic, print and other media on the publicity of Government Schemes since the year 2014-15 till date, the year-wise, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of number of advertisements and the amount spent thereon for Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Swachh Bharat Mission, Smart City Mission, Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY), year-wise for the last three years?

Affect of fake news on communal harmony

1347. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that fake news severely affecting the communal harmony of the country, is being spread through electronic and other social media and networks disturbing the social fabric of the country;

(b) action Government proposes to take against such culprits who intentionally spread such fake news to disturb the communal peace and harmony; and

(c) whether Government would like to bring in a legislation to control such malicious activities?

Channels promoting anti-national agenda

1348. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued any notices/warning letters to some news channels for promoting anti-national agenda, in recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether their licenses should be cancelled, until they stop promoting such propaganda?

Grants to Prasar Bharati

1349. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of grants-in-aid provided to Prasar Bharati by Government since 2014, till current fiscal, year-wise; and

(b) the quantum of grants-in-aid released to Prasar Bharati since April, 2017 till February 28, 2018, month-wise?

Formulation of policy for social media

1350. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the various steps Government has taken to curb the increasing number of trolling in various social media platforms;

(b) whether Government is going to formulate any new policy for the social media and its users;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Setting up of BOC

1351. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the setting up of the Bureau of Outreach and

Communication (BOC) replaces the Delhi-centric approach and turns Government's attention to hitherto uncovered areas;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the BOC will also focus on building communication in regional languages and creating content to connect better with local populations;

(c) whether Government has also created an online system on integrated media campaign that relies heavily on inputs by client Ministries regarding their target audiences; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Bureau of Outreach and Communication

1352. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has integrated three media units into one in the name and style the Bureau of Outreach and Communication (BOC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the integration has resulted in a consolidation of regional and field units with a Director General (DG) level officer of Indian Information Service leading BOC in Delhi and assisted by eight zonal DGs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Regularisation of illegal mining

1353. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to regularise illegal mining, provided the companies pay penalty as fixed by the Ministry;

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

(c) whether the regularisation is subject to any additional conditions, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether this action would give precedence to companies to start mining illegally, and later on get regularisation for mining, and if so, the steps taken by Government to obviate such illegal practice?

Delay in leasing out of mines

1354. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to expedite the process of leasing out mines, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether in this process the States have been directed to form committees to solve the issues of leases to be done as per the Minerals and Mines (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDRA);

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of cases pending for approval and if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Allocation of funds for RGPSA

1355. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of innovative projects which have been approved by the Ministry so far under the National Plan for Technical Assistance (NPTA) of Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA), project-wise;

(b) the amount of funds allocated by the Ministry for RGPSA for the last three years and current year; and

(c) the details of projects which are in the process of being established and along with projects related to capacity building of panchayats?

Empowerment of Panchayats

1356. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the basic amenities provided to panchayats with a view to improving the standard of living in villages in the country;

(b) the funds allocated and utilised for the purpose in Gujarat and Jharkhand during the last three years;

(c) the steps taken by the respective State Governments for utilisation of the funds during the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken by Central Government for the empowerment of panchayats in the country along with the details of future action plan in this regard?

Revival of Panchayati Raj Institution

1357. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made regarding the requirement of funds for revival of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Maharashtra; and

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

Implementation of CSS

1358. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

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

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

Land acquisition under Bharatmala Pariyojana

1359. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted the Public hearing of individuals whose agricultural lands and livelihoods are at stake for the proposed "Chennai-Salem Greenfield Corridor" under the Bharatmala Pariyojana;

(b) if so, the details of the Public consultations held so far; and

(c) the details of agricultural lands, forest areas going to be acquired for this proposed project?

Funds for road development in Punjab

1360. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the details of funds sanctioned for the road development in Punjab during 2014-2018?

Delayed projects in Patna

†1361. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the projects which have been going on in the State of Bihar, since the last three years;

(b) the deadline for completion of said projects and the amount estimated to be spent towards said projects and the cost overrun due to delay in this regard;

(c) the reasons for delay in all the projects in the State of Bihar; and

(d) the present status of the new bridge, under construction parallel to Gandhi Setu over the river Ganges in Patna?

Funds for development of NHs in Karnataka

1362. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National and State Highways in Karnataka;

(b) the number of State roads that have been declared as new National Highways in the State of Karnataka during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether Ministry has provided funds for development of the above new National Highways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Status of ongoing highway projects in the country

1363. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has reviewed over 700 ongoing National Highway projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has preponed deadline of 300 highway projects by March, 2019; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Construction of Ranchi-Jamshedpur highway

†1364. SHRI R. K. SINHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the problems prevailing on Patna-Ranchi Highway and the Ranchi-Jamshedpur National Highway; and

(b) if so, by when these Highways are planned to be repaired for smooth traffic operation?

Construction of highways from NHIDCL

1365. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Highway and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) has entrusted the work of execution of four laning of National Highway 37;

(b) if so, the details of the commencement of the project and a date of completion of the project;

(c) whether Government is aware of extremely slow progress of the project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

taken by Government to accelerate the work in the project?

Delay in infrastructure projects

1366. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of a report by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in 2017 that has reported delays in completion and implementation of 359 infrastructure project;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay and the expenditure incurred on these projects till now; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to expedite the completion of projects and the latest deadlines issued?

Construction of Ranchi-Tata four lane road

†1367. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ranchi-Tata four lane road is under construction for many years;

(b) if so, by when would it be completed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Progress on Amritsar-Delhi expressway

1368. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any progress on Amritsar-Delhi expressway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the current status of the project; and

(e) by when the project is likely to commence?

CRIF for road projects

1369. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of each road project along with respective funds being implemented with the support of Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF), State-wise;

(b) whether any projects other than road construction is being financed by CRIF; and

(c) if so, the details of each such project along with respective funds allocated, State-wise?

Emission of nano carbon by CNG vehicles

1370. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CNG vehicles emit nano carbon particles which can cause cancer, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the steps taken by Government to reduce the emission of nano carbon particles from CNG vehicles; and

(c) if so, whether any research has been conducted to understand which kind of cancer is caused by these particles, if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Funds for maintenance of National Highways

†1371. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated for maintenance of National Highways during current financial year;

(b) the quantum of amount proposed to be spent on maintenance of National Highways of Chhattisgarh;

(c) whether there is any mechanism to give priority to those National Highways of Chhattisgarh which require repairs urgently; and

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

Construction of highways

1372. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length in kilometres, of highways constructed and added to the National Highways network during the last three years;

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

(c) whether Government has taken steps to settle all the dues of the affected people pertaining to land acquisition, resettlement and rehabilitation;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the total amount of expenditure made for the construction of highways including the compensation for land acquisition etc.; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Installation of speed governors in commercial taxis

1373. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any policy to fix speed control governors in commercial taxis and vehicles in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will take action to fix any mechanism for individuals owning cars in the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Shortage of construction material

1374. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the increasing price of sand and acute shortage of the key construction material in various parts of the country have pushed up the cost of highway construction;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to import sand from neighboring countries to overcome the problem of shortage of sand in the country; and

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Expansion of Salem-Chennai highway

1375. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is stiff opposition to Government's proposal to construct eight lane road from Salem to Chennai in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is also aware of the fact that some of the farmers, whose land is proposed to be acquired for the project, committed suicide in protest against acquisition of the land for the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government is reconsidering to drop the project in view of stiff opposition; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Video surveillance system on toll plazas

1376. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Authority of India (NHAI) will install a video surveillance system for real time mapping of congestion at all major toll plazas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in the next six months, the system will be operational at 10 plazas and will be extended to another 200 where daily traffic flow is more than 10,000 vehicles; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Corruption in construction of National Highways

1377. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made it clear to the contractors of National Highways that Government would not tolerate corruption in the construction of National Highways;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has warned that the construction work should be carried out extensively without compromising quality; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has sufficient funds for the development of highway projects?

Toll on NHs

1378. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than one lakh people have lost their lives in road accidents in the country in the year 2017;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to ensure safe travel on the highways;

(c) whether Government has any plan for stopping highway toll collections in view of the deteriorating condition of various National Highways throughout the country; and

(d) if not, the measures being taken to ensure that toll roads are at least, fit to travel?

Status of NHs in the country

1379. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many National Highway projects have been identified for completion by 2019;

(b) if so, the number of such pending projects in the country State-wise;

(c) the names of States where problem of land acquisition is coming in the way of non-completion of these National Highway projects;

(d) whether the Ministry have regular monitoring meetings with concerned State officials for better implementation and expedition of the projects in various parts of the country; and

(e) if so, the number of such meeting held during the last year, State-wise?

Theft on EPE

1380. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hon'ble Prime Minister has recently inaugurated the ₹ 11,000 crore Eastern Peripheral Expressway (EPE), which is India's first smart and green highway;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the people have stolen newly installed solar panels, batteries, iron and underpass lights between Dasna and Kundli in Bagpat, UP worth millions of rupees; and

(c) if so, details thereof and the action taken by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and local police to recover the stolen items?

TOT concept for funding NHs

1381. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conceived a new concept of Toll-Operate-Transfer (TOT) for monetizing the public funded National Highway Projects across the country, including the State of Andhra Pradesh

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is of the opinion that permitting Private Equity Firms to enter into road sector is appropriate; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

NHAI signboards in West Bengal

1382. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bengali language is missing from NHAI signboards in the State of West Bengal;

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

(c) whether Bengali language will be incorporated in the signboards of NHAI in West Bengal; and

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

NHAI signboards on the NH-8

1383. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NHAI is

using only Hindi and English in the signboards on the National Highways;

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

(c) whether this is in compliance with NHAI's own guidelines about use of language; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Upgradation of highways in the country

1384. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to undertake development/upgradation work of National Highways to an extent of 34,800 k.m.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has identified any stretch of highways in the State of Tamil Nadu for development/upgradation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of nature of development/upgradation work that have been proposed to be undertaken?

Expansion of NH-16

1385. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when fifty one-kms. six laning of NH-16 Anandapuram-Anakapalle road *via* Pendurthi was conceived by NHAI;

(b) the reasons for delay in taking up this stretch;

(c) whether land has been acquired totally for this purpose; and

(d) by when the work will start and by when it is likely to be completed?

Irregularities in construction of NH-29

1386. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of companies which have been awarded contract for four laning of NH-29 from Varanasi to Gorakhpur, Package-II;

(b) whether Government is aware that substandard stone chips, Granular Sub Base (GSB) materials, Dry Lean Concrete (DLC) and Pavement Quality Concrete (PQC) materials are being used between kilometres 12 to 88 in connivance with regional officials of NHAI in said section of NH-29;

(c) if so, the details of action taken against erring companies and officials of NHAI;

(d) if not, whether Government would conduct inquiry into the alleged irregularities and conduct surprise checks; and

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

Payment of MGNREGA wages

1387. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of households registered under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Act (MGNREGA) who were able to get work for 100 days;

(b) whether it is a fact that the average MGNREGA wages have decreased and if so, the details of wages given during the last three years; and

(c) the number of incidents of MGNREGA workers who were denied their wages for not having an Aadhaar card or mismatch of bio-metrics and if so, the details thereof?

Delay in MGNREGA wage payment due to rejection

1388. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons due to which Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) wage payment transactions are rejected;

(b) statistics on rejection of wage payment transactions along with reasons for rejection;

(c) whether MGNREGA workers are compensated for delay in payment of wages due to rejection of transaction;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details of measures taken to avoid rejection of wage payment transaction;

(f) whether workers are compensated for delay that take place at the first stage of wage transaction, *i.e.* signing of Fund Transfer Order; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor and reasons for not compensating for delays beyond this stage?

Construction of road under PMGSY

1389. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any

action for connectivity of rural areas under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of PMGSY roads constructed during last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the amount of funds allotted under this scheme, State-wise?

Employment opportunities in rural areas

1390. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action which have been initiated by Government to generate employment opportunities in rural areas of the country in order to stop large scale migration from rural villages to urban and semi-urban areas due to non-sustainability of agricultural sector and for other various reasons; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Status of NRLM

1391. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of BPL families freed from poverty, so far, under the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), State/ Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether Government had proposed a special package for certain States under NRLM, and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to strengthen the network of women Self Help

Groups across the country in order to reach out to more and more BPL families to bring them above poverty line?

Pending payment under MGNREGS

1392. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wages and compensation to workers under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) are not being paid in time in various States;

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

(c) the outstanding amount which is to be paid to the workers under MGNREGS by Central as well as State Governments?

Job creation under MGNREGA

†1393. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the details of special measures taken for creation of employment alongwith description of works carried out in the rural areas of the country and the details of jobs being provided under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and annual employment working days alongwith rate of daily remuneration during the year 2017-18, State-wise?

Funds for Rural Development projects and schemes in Tamil Nadu

1394. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allocated any funds for the various Rural Development projects and schemes in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total funds allocated for the implementation of Rural Development projects and schemes in last three years;

(d) whether Government has fixed any specific norms and rules for getting both Government and external funding for the implementation of various Rural Development projects in Tamil Nadu; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the external loans provided to Tamil Nadu in the last three years?

Women scientists in the country

1395. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women scientists working in various research institutions, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether there is shortage of women scientists in the country and women are lagging behind in this field;

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

(d) the steps taken by Government to increase the number of women scientists in the country?

Recruitment in SCIST

1396. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of category of posts where reservation criteria is not applicable for the recruitment in Sri Chithirathirunal Institute of Science and Technology (SCIST), Trivandrum, Kerala, post-wise and category-wise;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the details of total number of sanctioned posts, present strength, SC/ST employees and total vacancies in each category;

(c) the details of such posts and numbers where reservation is not applicable; and

(d) the basis of the decision through which reservation is not applicable to certain posts, along with the specific act or Government rule?

Implementation of NECTAR

1397. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken adequate initiative for the implementation of the North East Centre for Technology Application and Research (NECTAR) since its inception;

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

(c) the details of ongoing projects under the above centre; and

(d) the targets set and the achievements made so far?

Energy generation from waste plastic

1398. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to bring an affordable technological process developed by our scientist in the field of energy generation from waste plastics in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether this technology would be transferred to all municipal corporations, which are facing problems of plastic wastes in their areas; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Knowledge networks under NMSHE and NMSKCC

1399. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has developed a network of knowledge institutions for studies on the Himalayan ecosystem under the National Mission for Sustaining Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has developed a framework for cooperation with neighbouring countries to obtain knowledge and develop strategy under the NMSHE and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has developed knowledge networks in various areas under the National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change (NMSKCC) and if so, the details thereof?

Development of waterways

†1400. SHRI R. K. SINHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry plans to develop waterways in the rivers Ganga, Yamuna, Narmada, Kaveri, Sone, Gandak, Kosi etc. in order to reduce traffic load on the road and put in place an affordable and environment-friendly system of transport; and

(b) if so, the waterways which are proposed to be made operational during the next two years?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Unemployment data of Indian Seafarers

1401. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the placement record of all Directorate General (DG) Shipping approved Maritime Training Institutes;

(b) the unemployment data of highly skilled Indian Seafarers; and

(c) the number of job-oriented workshops for unemployed and highly trained skilled youth organized by the DG Shipping?

Problems of Indian ships in foreign waters

1402. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Indian ships that met with accidents abroad during the last three years;

(b) the loss of men and material and if any, as a result thereof;

(c) whether any sabotage or looting by pirates is being suspected for these incidents; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to avoid these kinds of difficulties to Indian carriers in foreign waters?

Promotion of inland water transport

†1403. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme has been formulated to promote inland water transport to decongest road traffic; and

(b) if so, the rivers of the country through which such transportation is operational as on date and the rivers to be included under this scheme in future?

Prevention of job frauds in shipping sector

1404. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government/ Directorate General (DG) Shipping to increase jobs for Deck Cadets, Trainee OS, Trainee Wipers, Trainee Engineers, Trainee Electrical Officers, Indian Women Officers and Women Trainees; and

(b) the measures taken by Government/ DG Shipping to prevent frauds done by unauthorized agents?

Study on groundwater contamination

1405. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey/study on contamination of groundwater, especially in Rajasthan, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the possible causes of contamination of groundwater and steps taken to prevent such contamination;

(c) areas in Rajasthan afflicted with contaminated groundwater; and

(d) whether Government is considering any special measures to prevent contamination of groundwater in water-

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

scarce States, including Rajasthan in view of shortage of drinking water?

Allocation of funds for CGM

1406. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Mission for Clean Ganga has approved eight projects worth or ₹ 700 crores, if so, State-wise and project-wise details thereof;

(b) if so, whether the funds for these projects is part of ₹ 20,000 crores budget that was announced for Clean Ganga in 2014, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the State/UT/date-wise details of the funds allocated and its status since 2014 till date for Clean Ganga Mission (CGM)?

Receding of groundwater

1407. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is predicted that 21 Indian cities including Delhi, Bengaluru, Chennai and Hyderabad are going to run out of groundwater by 2020;

(b) whether Government has any policies in place to avoid a Cape Town 'Day Zero' like situation in these cities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Completion of delayed Polavaram Project

1408. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that construction of Polavaram Project work is being delayed for want of funds and if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, details of requirement of funds for projects, component-wise;

(c) amount of expenditure incurred so far and quantity of work completed component-wise;

(d) amount of funds released by Government so far and expenditure incurred by the State from its own funds; and

(e) by when the project will be completed?

Budget allocation for protection of river Ganga

†1409. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the budget allocated per year since the year 2014 till date and the amount spent by the year 2018 for protection of the river Ganga, the details thereof, year-wise; and

(b) the total number of schemes formulated, number of projects sanctioned and costs thereof, number of ongoing projects and number of projects completed

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

till date for the protection of river Ganga, scheme/project-wise details thereof?

if so, the amount expected to be provided for the execution of the project?

Projects under PMKSY-AIBP in Karnataka

1410. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that five projects have been identified in Karnataka under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana-Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (PMKSY-AIBP) to be completed in the coming two years;

(b) if so, the details of each of the five projects so identified; and

(c) the details of irrigation potential, flow of funds, share of State and the Central Government and the present status of each of the above five projects?

Lift Irrigation Project in Kaleshwaram Telangana

1411. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether final clearance to Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project in Telangana has been given;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total area proposed to be irrigated and the number of districts covered, schedule of completion; and

(d) whether any Central Assistance has been sought by the State Government and

Funds released under PMKSY in Maharashtra

†1412. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) details of quantum of amount released by Central Government to States till date under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), State-wise including Maharashtra;

(b) the details of the schemes works for which the funds of PMKSY has been spent by State Governments, State-wise including Maharashtra; and

(c) the details of extent of barren/infertile/non-irrigated land in the country which have been converted into irrigation command area after the implementation of PMKSY, State-wise including Pune, Aurangabad and Solapur districts of Maharashtra State?

Regulation on exploitation of water resources

1413. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to work out a plan to regulate excessive exploitation of water resources including groundwater to check water crisis in near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government proposes to adopt new technologies for better utilisation of water resources and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has any specific plan for the States of Jharkhand and Gujarat to resolve acute crisis of potable water there; and

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

Existence of rivers

†1414. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the water level of almost all rivers of the country is continuously reducing and rivers are becoming waterless;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to take any step to save the existence of such rivers; and

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

Exploitation of underground water

1415. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the problem of continued depletion of ground-water in the country due to over exploitation and over use of ground water threatening the subsistence of land and our food security; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures proposed to be taken

for the conservation of groundwater in the country?

Storage sites for surplus water of Mahanadi and Godavari rivers

1416. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has identified multiple storage sites for surplus waters for the nine link system of Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Cauvery-Vaigai-Gundar under the proposal to transfer combined surplus waters of Mahanadi and Godavari rivers to Krishna-Pennar-Cauvery-Vaigai-Gundar rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has made any headway in preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR);

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Dam disasters in Gujarat

1417. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 213 large dams in the country which are over 100 years old;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that India had in the past reported 36 dam disasters including the worst one in Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Repair and rehabilitation of dams

1418. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the States have identified the dams which will be taken up for rehabilitation, based on safety screening template developed by the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has prioritised dams which would be taken up for repair and rehabilitation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Committee on networking of rivers

1419. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Special Committee which was appointed on the direction of Supreme Court on a writ petition on networking of rivers has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) action taken by Government thereon?

Conservation of underground water

†1420. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that underground water level is receding in Delhi due to exploitation of groundwater; and

(b) if so, the concrete steps being taken for conservation of underground water by Government?

Rain water harvesting schemes in States

1421. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have requested for providing assistance to implement rain water harvesting schemes in their States; and

(b) the details thereof and the funds provided by Government to those States?

Construction of dam on Twigem river

1422. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tuidimjang dam being built by Myanmar on Twigem river flowing into Myanmar from Manipur, barely 100 metres from the zero line of Indo-Myanmar border have raised concerns of villagers in Kengjoi Sub-division of Manipur's Chandel District regarding sub-mergence and water scarcity, the details thereof;

(b) whether International rules warrant bordering countries to check activities in no man's land *i.e.* a 150 metre strip on either side of boundary line, the details thereof;

(c) whether entire Khangtung village is feared to be inundated by dam and villagers would face untold miseries, relocation, etc.; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the steps taken thereon?

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Implementation of scheme on
Cauvery**

1423. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a scheme on the Cauvery issue within six weeks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government will consult the State Governments in this regard;

(d) whether the proposed scheme would be implemented within the deadline; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Safety and operational performance
of dams**

1424. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the safety and operational performance of 700 large dams across 18 States will be improved through repair and rehabilitation work over six years from 2020 to 2026 at an estimated cost of nearly ₹ 7,000 crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some of the dams will also be developed as tourist destinations, so that it can generate revenue for maintenance and create jobs for the local people; and

Plastic waste dumped into river Ganga

†1425. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge amount of plastic waste is being dumped in the Ganga river every year increasing the level of pollution every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken a number of stern steps to prevent disposal of plastic waste in Ganga river; and

(d) if so, whether these steps are yielding desired result?

**Fund utilisation for cleaning of river
Ganga**

1426. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the river Ganga has become more dirty and polluted since 2014 even in Varanasi, the constituency of Hon'ble Prime Minister;

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

(c) the details of fund allocated, released and utilised during 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 till date; and

(d) the details of projects undertaken, completed and pending since 2014 till date along with money spent for cleaning of river Ganga, project-wise?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**CETF battalion of Territorial Army
for environment protection**

1427. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to raise a new Composite Ecological Task Force (CETF) battalion of Territorial Army to patrol sensitive river areas for protection of biodiversity, keep a tab on pollution levels and assist Government in implementing pollution control measures, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) details of action plans of the Ministry in implementing all of these activities, the lacunae in implementation that led to raise this new battalion; and

(c) responsibilities and powers of this battalion while patrolling "sensitive river areas" and whether they will have the power to arrest those found polluting the river, the details thereof?

**Arsenic/Fluoride contamination in
groundwater**

1428. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that presence of Arsenic, Fluoride and other residue in groundwater of National Capital, Maharashtra and other parts of the country has made groundwater poisonous and unfit for human consumption and irrigation but people are forced to consume such water and suffer the consequences;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) remedial measures proposed by

Government to improve the situation to protect the health of the people and crops?

Under utilisation of budget for NGP

1429. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of ₹ 20,000 crores sanctioned for the Namami Gange Project (NGP) for cleaning Ganga, only ₹ 7,000 crores has been spent till 2018;

(b) if so, the reasons for the under-utilisation of the budget sanctioned for the project considering the fact that the project is supposed to end in 2020; and

(c) the details of the rise in ambient quality level of water of the river Ganga during the last three years, year-wise?

NGT directions to clean river Ganga

1430. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NGT has passed, a slew of directions to rejuvenate Ganga, like declaring 100 metres from the edge of the river as a 'No Development Zone' between Haridwar and Unnao and prohibiting dumping of waste within 500 metres of the river;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to impose fines and imprisonment on disposal of municipal solid waste, e-waste or biomedical waste on the floodplains or into the river; and

(c) the timeline to clean the stretch of Ganga river passing through Allahabad and Varanasi as proposed by NGT?

Protection of small water bodies

†1431. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to protect small water bodies like wells and different types of ponds, etc.; and

(b) whether Government will formulate a concrete plan to conserve and rejuvenate conventional water bodies in order to arrest fast depletion of groundwater in rural areas?

Scarcity of groundwater

1432. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Water thirst' demand of the country will grow by 1180 bcm from present output of 1137 bcm by 2030;

(b) whether it is also a fact that rapid unregulated urbanization in the country will lead to 35 per cent of water scarcity during the next 20 years therefor;

(c) whether due to over exploitation and neglected use of groundwater, during the last 10 years, drought prone areas have increased by 50 per cent thereof; and

(d) if so, plans of Government to overcome the situation and conservation and sustainability of groundwater?

Betting/fixing in major sports

1433. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some instances of betting/fixing in major sports events have come to the notice of Government in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed by Government to check such activities?

Promotion of sports in the country

1434. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to promote sports activities in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Violation of anti-doping protocols at CGF games

1435. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that syringes were discovered at the Commonwealth Games village, and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Boxing Federation of India had admitted that a syringe was used to administer a vitamin substance to an ailing Indian boxer and if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether the officials of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) had investigated the alleged violation of "no-needle policy" of CGF;

(d) if so, the details thereof and its outcome; and

(e) the action taken by Government against the officials for not educating Indian athletes and support staff about anti-doping protocols at the Games?

Grant to Table Tennis Federation

1436. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grant being given by Government to the Table Tennis Federation of India annually; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to improve the sport of Table Tennis considering the recent winning of a bronze medal by an Indian player, namely Achantha Sharath, in the Men's Singles Table Tennis competition at the Commonwealth Games Championship?

Promotion of sports in rural areas

†1437. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to allocate special funds to promote sports in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the States have demanded funds for promoting sports in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the funds allocated to the States for this purpose during last three years, year-wise?

Sports infrastructure in North Eastern Region

1438. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sports infrastructure built, in each of the State of the North Eastern Region during the last three years; and

(b) event-wise details of sports personalities who have brought laurels to the country in International and National Sports events from each of the State in North Eastern Region, during last three years?

Encouraging sports including Kabaddi and Badminton

1439. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is undergoing a revolution in the sports landscape;

(b) if so, whether Government is aware that there is an urgent need to give importance to other sports and games along with cricket;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government is taking any step to encourage all other games and sports including Kabaddi and Badminton on the lines of Cricket in the country;

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(f) if so, the details thereof?

(b) if so, the details thereof;

Funds for development of sports

1440. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides funds
to the States for development of sports;

(c) the details of funds allocated and
released to the State of Maharashtra during
the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the details of infrastructure for
sports created in the State during the said
period and results achieved in promotion
of sports in the State?

NEW DELHI;
The 24th July, 2018

Shravana 2, 1940 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

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