

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Wednesday, August 8, 2018/Shravana 17, 1940 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Civil Aviation; Commerce and Industry; Home Affairs; Labour and Employment; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Petroleum and Natural Gas; Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Steel; Textiles)

Total number of questions — 160

Reduction of permanent staff at airports by Air India

2401. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India operates from various airports in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telengana;

(b) whether it is a fact that its permanent staff has been totally reduced in all such airports, particularly, Chennai, Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam;

(c) the present ratio of permanent staff/contract staff at all major airports in the three States, giving names of contract agencies;

(d) to what extent has this led to poor service from contract workers or outsourced employees; and

(e) the steps proposed for review of management at Air India on ground-

services at these airports to improve passenger service and accountability?

Strategy to neutralise drones near airports

2402. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI RAJ BABBAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has finalised strategy to neutralise drones near airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has come out with a framework to regulate unmanned aircraft systems in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if so, by when it would be finalised;

(f) whether necessary trials to examine effective technology to neutralise drones have been conducted; and

(g) if so, whether technical specifications have been prepared?

Construction of highways-cum-airstrips

2403. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to construct highways-cum-airstrips to provide better connectivity to remote areas in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating by when it will be started?

Absorption of debt of Air India before disinvestment

2404. SHRI G.C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to divest its share in Air India and its subsidiaries in the coming months, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons as to why the disinvestment in Air India failed in 2018 and the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government plans to absorb the debt in Air India before selling its stake, if so, the details thereof?

Safeguarding rights of Air India employees

2405. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has found no bidder for its stake sale in Air India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the present debt burden of Air India;

(c) whether Government has formulated any plan to get Air India out of its debt;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has received requests for not selling its stake in Air India; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken to protect the rights of the employees of Air India?

Providing air services in Meerut under UDAN Scheme

2406. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the data as to the airports which had been included in the Ude Desh Ka Aam Naarik (UDAN) Scheme by Government during its Phase I and Phase II;

(b) whether Government has selected/ included Meerut as one of the cities in Uttar Pradesh from where air service would be provided under UDAN Scheme, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

New airports in Karnataka under UDAN Scheme

2407. SHRI G.C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether new airports have been made functional in Karnataka under the UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik) Scheme, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of passengers served by these airports since their opening; and

(c) whether there are any plans to add

more airports in Karnataka under the Scheme?

Surcharge on flight operations during peak hours

2408. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is mulling over a proposal to impose surcharge on airlines for operating flights during peak hours to enhance airport capacity and to avoid flight delays;

(b) whether it is also a fact that currently the landing fees paid by airlines are determined by the weight of an aircraft and do not vary according to the time of the day;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is a large window of non-peak hours that Government is persuading airlines to consider; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Inquiry into incidents of mid-air collision scare

2409. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two flights of a private airline with over 340 people onboard narrowly averted a mid-air collision in Bengaluru airspace recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a flight of a private airlines winging its way from Hyderabad to Lucknow and a foreign airline from Sharjah to Chittagong also reportedly had a breach of separation near Jabalpur;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the near miss of two flights of private airlines was reported more serious in nature; and

(e) whether Government ordered any inquiry into these incidents?

Solar power plants at airports

2410. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is setting up solar power plants in airports across the country to meet their power needs;

(b) the number of airports which have been selected in the first phase of establishment of solar plants;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a great delay is taking place in the process of establishment of solar plants at these airports; the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to resolve their problems?

Operation of Rourkela airport by SAIL

2411. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Government is asking Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) to operate Rourkela airport in Odisha as RCS Airport with its own security, management, fire-services, etc. in the interest of people of Rourkela city and nearby areas as Rourkela has been selected for RCS-UDAN Scheme and this airport belongs to Rourkela Steel Plants which is under the administrative control of SAIL?

Toilet facilities for passengers in aircrafts

2412. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that most of the aircrafts are having only two toilets out of which one toilet is not allowed to be used by economy class passengers, causing great difficulty to such passengers, many of them suffering from diabetes;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of toilets and allowing entry in all toilets to economy class passengers in all types of aircrafts;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cases of security lapses reported to BCAS

2413. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of security lapses reported to Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the action taken by BCAS in each of the case; and

(c) the details thereof?

Disinvestment of AIESL along with Air India

2414. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's disinvestment plan conceived for Air India also includes selling of Air India Engineering

Services Ltd. (AIESL) which is offering maintenance services as Third Party service to private airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Progress on regional air-connectivity under UDAN Scheme

2415. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the flagship programmes of providing regional air connectivity under Round-I and II has not taken off as successfully as was expected;

(b) if so, what are the problems in successful operation of UDAN Scheme;

(c) what remedial measures Government has so far taken to sort out the issues; and

(d) which are the routes identified under UDAN not yet operational on regular basis and the reasons therefor?

Appointment of Ombudsman for civil aviation sector

2416. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has planned to appoint an Ombudsman for entire airlines industry for lodging of the complaints by harassed passengers against airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the existing procedure and system with regard to the complaints received and disposal thereof?

Congestion problem at airports

2417. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the congestion problem at airports due to increased air travel;

(b) if so, Government's plan to construct new airports in the coming years to tackle the capacity shortage in Delhi, Mumbai and other capital cities or State across the country;

(c) whether Government is planning to sort-out the time slot issue in the short term; and

(d) the details of AAI airports privatised in the past three fiscal years to improve their operational facet and accommodate more population?

Fire services category of Calicut airport

2418. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) on what ground fire category VIII of Calicut airport has been reduced to category VII, while sufficient number of fire personnel are available for maintaining stations of category VIII;

(b) whether Government is aware that airport management is again battling for curtailing the operational facilities of Calicut airport; and

(c) whether Government would consider the hardships of passengers particularly the migrants due to the decision to reduce the fire category to VII, which will adversely affect the effort to

accommodate CODE 'E' flights at Calicut airport?

Bugs in Newark-Mumbai Air India flight

2419. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the national carrier Air India, struggling to court global bidders for divestment, has been found to have its passengers on Flight No. AI 144 Newark-Mumbai suffer from bug bites in its Business Class on 19 July, 2018;

(b) whether Air India is examining a formal complaint lodged by the parents of an infant covered in bug bites and found bleeding during the 17-hour flight; and

(c) whether the incident left business class passengers enraged with the onward journey of the flight's Mumbai-Delhi leg getting delayed by four hours?

Reforms in airline ticket cancellation policy

2420. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to reform airline ticket cancellation policy;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government would consider free cancellation of airline tickets if done within 24 hours of booking; and

(d) what are the guidelines at present issued to the airlines for cancellation of air tickets?

Progress of UDAN Scheme

2421. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik) Scheme has gained its momentum and is doing profitable business in various domestic sectors of various States of the country; and

(b) if so, which sectors have attracted the maximum number of passengers till date and which State has generated the highest revenue during the last one year?

Plan to introduce more scheme like UDAN Scheme

2422. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to introduce any more people-friendly scheme like the UDAN Scheme to attract more passengers in the domestic sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how much increase of air passengers has been achieved in percentage terms, State-wise and sector-wise till date from the launching date of the scheme?

Compensation for passengers for flight delays

2423. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Air Passengers Association of India (APAI) has sought compensation for passengers for flight delays of over two hours and for no notification at least two to four hours prior to the scheduled departure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the APAI demanded appointment of an Ombudsman for the civil aviation sector; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

Ranking of Indian aviation sector

2424. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has recently downgraded Indian aviation sector after its safety audit;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the steps Government has been taking to improve the ranking of Indian aviation sector in the parameters of ICAO and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)?

Facilities for physically challenged and senior citizen air travellers

2425. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of airport security charges for air travellers in the country;

(b) whether facilities have been extended to physically handicapped persons and senior citizens travelling by air;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has received any complaint for inadequate facility being extended to these category of air travellers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Impact of devaluation of rupee on traders

†2426. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traders have to pay excess amount on account of continuous devaluation of Indian Rupee in comparison to dollar for imported goods resulting in adverse effect on industry and trade;

(b) the excess amount which has to be paid for imported goods on account of devaluation of Indian Rupee during the last three years and whether the Indian consumers have had to pay excess amount for goods resulting in inflation; and

(c) the details thereof?

Decline in FDI inflow

†2427. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inflow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to the country is witnessing a steady decline;

(b) the details of FDI inflow in the country during the last three years; and

(c) the reasons for decline in FDI inflow in the country and the steps taken to address the same?

Task Force on Artificial Intelligence

2428. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has constituted a Task Force on Artificial Intelligence (AI) to kick-start the use of AI for India's economic transformation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether research in AI is going on in the country to capture the industry in future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any study has been made about the impact of AI on jobs and the dynamics of jobs due to penetration of AI, if so, the details thereof?

Quality of food products exported from India

2429. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of food products from India are facing rejection in the export market due to their not being upto the quality standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has devised any strategy to tackle this problem and improve the quality of the products;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Introduction of major administrative reforms

2430. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY 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, if so, the details of these initiatives and what is the overall impact of these initiatives; and

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

Heavy tariffs on imports by US

2431. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent steel imports and aluminium shipments from India were affected due to recent imposition of heavy tariffs by the US Government on imported steel and aluminium, the details thereof;

(b) whether India has also raised tariff on certain imported goods from the US, the details thereof;

(c) whether India has raised before WTO the unilateral action of the US administration in enhancing such import duties, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government considers that the emerging scenario may lead to global trade war; and

(e) if so, what are the preventive measures contemplated by Government?

Task Force to finalise policy on e-commerce

2432. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to set up a Task Force to finalise the contours of the policy on the fast growing e-commerce sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the decision to set up a Task Force was taken during the first meeting of the think tank on framework for National Policy on e-commerce; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Quantitative restriction on import of pulses

2433. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Agriculture Commissioner has predicted domestic pulse production of 24 million tonnes in 2018-19 that is slightly higher than last year;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Directorate General of Foreign Trade has imposed a quantitative restriction on import of pulses except from Mozambique;

(c) whether such import of pulses impact the domestic market and the farmers; and

(d) if so, the relief measures that Government proposes to provide to the domestic farmers?

**Record of e-commerce
platforms**

2434. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per a recent RTI, Government has no record of number of e-commerce platforms;

(b) if so, whether Government is planning to maintain a record;

(c) if not, how are grievances being handled at present; and

(d) whether the Ministry has received any complaint from small e-commerce sellers regarding payments, discrimination and unjust blacklisting by e-commerce market places, if so, what action has been taken?

**Violation of FDI
rules**

2435. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian FDI rules ban FDI in e-commerce companies that manage their own inventories and/or influence prices of products sold on their platforms;

(b) in light of recent acquisition of Flipkart by Walmart and infusion of FDI, whether Flipkart has indulged in managing its inventory and/or influencing prices of products sold on it;

(c) whether Government agencies have given a clean chit to Flipkart for violation of FDI rules; and

(d) if not, how Government can allow such large scale violation of FDI rules?

**Investment by foreign companies
under 'Make in India'
programme**

†2436. SHRI RATHWA NARANBHAI JEMLABHAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign companies who took part in India under the 'Make in India' programme;

(b) the number of foreign companies with whom the Central Government has signed Memorandum of Understanding, so far; and

(c) the State-wise total investment received so far in the country under the above programme?

Low growth rate in core sectors

2437. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the data released by Government reveals low growth rate in core sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) the extent to which the core sectors would impact on the Index of Industrial Production (IIP); and

(d) whether Government has initiated any action to improve the situation?

Measures to check inflation

2438. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Wholesale

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Price Index (WPI) of the country for May, 2018 has showed highest ever inflation during the last eight months;

(b) whether it is also a fact that prices of vegetables have crossed over 12 months average inflation rate of 65 per cent therein;

(c) if so, whether fuel and power prices also rose to about 8 per cent in May and are successively higher in comparison to last two years therefor; and

(d) if so, the proposal of Government to check the inflation and price rise thereof?

Illegal import of pepper

2439. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is aware of the reports about illegal import of pepper and other spices from some of the South East Asian countries to India; and

(b) if so, whether Government is taking any concrete measure to address such illegal imports?

Slow pace of growth of infrastructure sector

2440. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pace of growth of India's infrastructure sector has slowed to a 10-month low in May, 2018;

(b) if so, the reasons for slowdown in production; and

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

Electronic platform for procurement of consumables

2441. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has created any electronic platform for procurement of consumables and other items in Government establishments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the newly created e-platform, if any, is superior to the earlier mechanism of physical procurement;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has made any financial allocation for this purpose in the recent budget; and

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

Geographical association of products in Rajasthan

2442. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any step for identification of geographical association of products;

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

(c) whether Government has taken any step to give Geographical Indications to certain products;

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

(e) whether any such initiative has been

taken in respect of products of Rajasthan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

WTO help on resolving trade imbalance with China

2443. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has sought the help of World Trade Organisation (WTO) in resolving the imbalance in trade between India and China;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it would be resolved?

Cultivation of rubber in Konkan region

†2444. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land along the border area of Sindhudurg, Ratnagiri, Goa and Karnataka is highly fertile and the weather and ample availability of water is suitable for the cultivation of rubber;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government has taken or proposed to take any special step for the cultivation of crops, particularly rubber crops, in the fertile land of Konkan region; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Imposition of safeguard duty on import of solar cells

2445. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

has recommended imposition of safeguard duty for two years on import of solar cells to protect domestic players from steep rise in the inbound shipments of the product;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the increased imports of solar cells whether or not assembled in modules or panels in India have caused serious injury and threaten to cause serious injury to the domestic producers of the product; and

(d) if so, whether the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has conducted any investigation in this regard?

Lynching in the name of cow vigilantism and child lifting

2446. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is rampant lynching of people across the country in the name of cow vigilantism and child lifting;

(b) if so, the details of the incidents in the last two years;

(c) what action has been taken by Government to prevent the incidents of mob lynching taking place in various parts of the country;

(d) whether Government intends to enact a law in this regard; and

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

Persons applying for LTV and Indian citizenship

†2447. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who applied for Long Term Visa (LTV) and Indian citizenship throughout the country, including the State of Chhattisgarh, who have arrived from Sindh province of Pakistan owing to their persecution in Pakistan, the year-wise details thereof spanning last three years;

(b) the number of persons who have been granted Indian citizenship among the persons coming to India from Pakistan and residing here during the last three years; and

(c) the details of persons living in the State of Chhattisgarh on Long Term Visa and who have applied for Indian citizenship?

Rise in crimes in Delhi

†2448. SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent data of National Crime Records Bureau indicate that there has been a constant rise in crimes in Delhi with each passing year;

(b) the details thereof for last three years;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to address the facts which are

emerging in terms of categorisation of crimes committed by minors; and

(d) the number of cases which came to light of the inaction of policemen towards prevention of crimes, and number of such cases in which the success to prevent such cases could not be achieved on account of inefficiency of police?

Legislation for making lynching a separate offence

2449. SHRIMATI AMBIKA
SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has asked Government to bring a separate legislation for making lynching a separate offence, in view of increasing incidents;

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

(c) the measures taken to stop mob violence and lynching incidents due to fake news and rumours in the social media; and

(d) how many persons have been booked under various sections of IPC for spreading rumours and leading to lynching and mobocracy, in the last one year, the details thereof?

Steps to improve condition of jails

†2450. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI LAL SINH
VADODIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that most of the prisons across the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

country have been accommodating the inmates beyond their capacity;

(b) the steps taken by Government to improve the conditions in prisons;

(c) the minimum facilities available for inmates lodged in prisons;

(d) whether Government would take steps to convert the prisons into correction homes for inmates; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Naxal violence in the country

†2451. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents involving the naxal violence reported throughout the country during the last three years, till date, the State-wise details thereof; and

(b) the number of such incidents that have taken place in the country and the number of naxalites arrested during the said period, the State-wise details thereof?

RAF battalion for Karnataka

2452. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has furnished a proposal to the Union Government to sanction a battalion of Rapid Action Force (RAF) to be positioned in Mangaluru;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken necessary steps to sanction the same; and

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

Visa On Arrival for Bangladeshi nationals

2453. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India is not giving Visa On Arrival to residents of Bangladesh;

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

(c) whether there are any plans in the near future to give Visa On Arrival to Bangladeshi nationals?

Crimes against women in Andhra Pradesh

2454. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that 40 crimes were committed against women on an average, every day in Andhra Pradesh last year;

(b) whether Government is also aware that this is nearly 6 per cent more than the crimes occurred in 2016; and

(c) how does Government look at this unacceptable level of crimes against women in Andhra Pradesh and how will Government persuade/direct the State Government to take stringent action against the culprits and ensure that rate of conviction goes up which works as deterrent for offenders?

Time-limit for payment of posthumous benefits

†2455. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time-limit has been fixed

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

for payment of posthumous benefits to be given by Central Government/State Government to the family members of personnel of Central Para-Military Forces martyred in terrorist or extremist incidents in Jammu and Kashmir or other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that some kith and kin had to go from pillar to post to get these posthumous payments; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken by Government so that they may not have to face such helpless situation?

Action against Kashmiri separatists

†2456. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to tighten the noose on Kashmiri separatists;

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

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

Suicides in the country

2457. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of suicides committed in the country in the last three years;

(b) the State-wise and demographic distribution of suicides in the same period, including the number of farmers suicides; and

(c) the methodology used by Government to record the number of suicides in the country?

Legislation for prevention of sacrilege

2458. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering any proposal to bring out suitable legislation for preventing sacrilege of religious Guru Granth Sahib, idols of God and other religious scriptures;

(b) whether Government has received any requests from State Governments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Sealing of Indo-Pak border in Punjab

2459. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-Pak border in Punjab has been properly sealed to check infiltration; and

(b) the incidents of cross-border infiltration occurred during each of the last three years?

Attacks on RTI workers, whistle blowers and social workers

2460. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of attacks that took place on RTI workers, whistle blowers and social workers in the last three years, the details thereof;

(b) whether National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) classifies these attacks in a different head, if so, the details of these attacks in the last three years; and

(c) how many cases, FIRs have been registered, chargesheets filed, trials or

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

convictions/acquittals from year 2015 onwards?

Protection to Amarnath yatris

2461. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any additional measures to protect the Amarnath yatris in view of the increased terrorist activities in the Valley;

(b) whether any arrangements have been made for the yatris, to take care of their medical requirements and water and food during the yatra; and

(c) whether any air-ambulance has been deployed to take care of contingencies like medical or otherwise?

Enhancement of Bandwidth in LWE affected areas

2462. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state what steps have been taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs for enhancement of the bandwidth of the V-SAT towers from 512 kbps to 2 mbps in the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts of Odisha so as to achieve the objective of providing effective communication facility to the security forces and the public in such areas?

Increasing number of undertrial prisoners in jails

†2463. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of undertrial prisoners in Indian jails has

immensely increased due to delay in hearing of cases;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the ratio of number of prisoners in Indian jails and the capacity of jails?

Report on disaster preparedness

2464. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any report on disasters which can occur in the country at any time in future;

(b) if so, whether National Disaster Management Authority has prepared any report of alarming risk prone index and have specified areas therein;

(c) if so, whether preventions have been taken or proposed by Government to protect the high disaster risk prone districts of the country thereof; and

(d) the details of areas warned as disaster risk prone along with exposures therefor?

Illegal transportation of cows on India-Bangladesh border

2465. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that illegal transportation of cows on Indo-Bangladesh border is rampant;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Central Government to arrest such illegal transportation of cows from India to Bangladesh;

(c) the total number of cases of illegal transportation of cows registered during the last three years, year-wise; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the total number of persons prosecuted/punished during the last three years for illegal transportation of cows on Indo-Bangladesh Border?

Crimes against women at religious places

2466. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a lot of crimes against women have happened at religious places in the country;

(b) whether Government takes check mechanism to curb crimes against women at religious places including churches, mosques and other religious places; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Terror and naxal funding by companies/VOs/NGOs

2467. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any action on companies/Voluntary Organisations (VOs)/Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in connection with terror and naxal funding in last two years;

(b) if so, the detailed list of such organisations, thereof; and

(c) the current status of investigations so far in each case?

Indigenous supply of lethal weapons

2468. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has adequate indigenous supply of lethal weapons

required by the Ministry to cater to various forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof and total number of lethal weapons procured in the last three years, category-wise, year-wise;

(c) whether Government has imported lethal weapons in the country in the last three years;

(d) if so, the details of imports in terms of volume and value in last three years; and

(e) the MoUs signed by Government with foreign companies in the last three years and its impact on supply and demand of lethal weapons in India?

Scholars joining militancy in J & K

2469. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any report that in Jammu and Kashmir itself from year, 2014 till April, 2018, over 500 scholars have joined militancy;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Government has failed to check this trend during last four years and youths are joining militancy from all districts of the State and their numbers are rising therefor; and

(c) the reasons behind this trend and action taken by Government so that they return to mainstream?

Racial discrimination faced by people from North-East

2470. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of incidents of racial discrimination faced by people from North-Eastern Region, residing in different parts of the country have been noticed;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents which have taken place in the last one year in Delhi;

(c) what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to stop such incidents;

(d) whether any Committee has been constituted for monitoring and redressal of grievances relating to discrimination against people from North-East; and

(e) how many Committees have been formed so far to deal with this issue?

Seizure of gold and narcotic drugs in Manipur

2471. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been a series of seizures of gold and narcotic drugs in Manipur during the last three years by various agencies including police, customs, BSF, Assam Rifles, etc., if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether proper probes have been conducted to nab the kingpins and those who are behind such illegal activities and the details of outcome of such exercise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Central Government, by involving the concerned State Government?

National Register of Citizens for West Bengal

2472. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Register of Citizens is an authorised document for factual demographic situation in any place/State;

(b) what is the present status of update of NRC in Assam; and

(c) whether Government has received any proposal/demand for similar initiative in West Bengal also where a large number of illegal migration/political shelter took place from Bangladesh and Myanmar, if so, the details thereof?

Stone pelters creating hurdles in anti-terrorist operations

2473. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that stone pelters gather on sites and create hurdles in anti-terrorist operations of security forces resulting in escape of terrorists;

(b) whether messages on social sites/mobiles help these elements to assemble and that creates hurdles in anti-terrorist operations;

(c) what action Government is contemplating to stop circulation of such messages; and

(d) the action taken against creating and forwarding such anti-national messages?

Overseas Citizen of India card

2474. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card to the Indians living abroad;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme;

(c) whether Government has finished the task of issuing OCI card, to all Indians living abroad and eligible for OCI cards;

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

Uttar Pradesh from 1 March, 2017 to 30 June, 2018 and details thereof?

Rehabilitation of undertrial prisoners

2475. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that majority of undertrials are from minority communities;
(b) if so, percentage of dalits, adivasis and minority communities' undertrial prisoners according to the latest NCRB records, State and UT-wise;
(c) whether it has come to notice of Government that these prisoners continue to be in a state of misery because they are economically and socially underprivileged, unable to fight costly cases or often even unable to pay for bail and also that these communities are targeted with false cases; and
(d) the steps taken by Government for speedy justice, legal assistance and rehabilitation of undertrial prisoners?

Police encounters in Uttar Pradesh

2476. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of police encounters which have taken place in Uttar Pradesh, between 1 March, 2017 to 30 June, 2018;
(b) the number of people killed and arrested in cases of police encounters in Uttar Pradesh from 1 March, 2017 to 30 June, 2018 and details thereof; and
(c) the number of people injured in police firing during police encounters in

Demands from States for modernisation of police

2477. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds sanctioned and released for modernisation of police during the last three years, State-wise, specially in Uttar Pradesh;
(b) whether Government is aware that States are facing shortage of weapons or are using outdated equipment for police forces; and
(c) if so, the details of demands/proposals submitted by different States for modernisation of police in the country?

Kidnapping of children in the country

†2478. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the incidents of kidnapping of children across the country have taken place and the figures for the year 2014 was 37,854, for the year 2015 it was 41,893 and for the year 2016, it was about 55,000;
(b) if so, the number of children kidnapped during the year 2017 and the incidents of kidnapping of children till May, 2018 thereof;
(c) the reasons for continuous increase in the incidents of kidnapping of children;
(d) the steps taken by Government to prevent it; and
(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Medical services provided to jail inmates

2479. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details as on 30 June, 2018, State-wise, gender-wise and period of detention-wise of the number of inmates who are mentally ill, the number of inmates who are HIV positive, the number of inmates who have been diagnosed with TB and the number of inmates who have been diagnosed with cancer; and

(b) what are the kind of medical services provided to the above categories of inmates?

Phone facility for prisoners

2480. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many prisons in the country have phone facilities set up for prisoners to communicate with their family members and lawyer; and

(b) whether foreign nationals are allowed to avail phone facility to make ISD calls, if not, whether they are allowed to use video conferencing facilities to communicate with their family and lawyer?

Removal of death penalty

2481. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sought the views of all State Governments/Union Territories on removing the death penalty in the country; and

(b) if so, the views of State Governments?

Honour killings

2482. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked States and Union Territories to identify places vulnerable to honour killings;

(b) whether Government has also asked the States to create special cells with 24 hour helpline to receive/register complaints of honour crimes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Medals to probationers of SVBP NPA

2483. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 119 out of a total of 122 IPS probationers of Regular Recruitment Batch, 2016 failed to pass the necessary examinations before graduating from Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel National Police Academy (SVBP NPA) in Hyderabad;

(b) whether the SVBP NPA in Hyderabad is the counterpart of Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration in Mussoorie where IAS probationers undergo orientation;

(c) whether the IPS probationers of the 2016 batch failed in one or more subjects including Indian Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code; and

(d) whether the failed probationers include those who received medals at the passing out parade in October, 2017?

Amendment to Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973

2484. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to amend

the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, to usher in the requisite clarity on safeguards and transparency with respect to electronic data;

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

Video conferencing facilities in prisons

2485. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise list of number of prisons where video conferencing facilities for production of undertrials have been set up in States/UTs and how many of these facilities are fully functional;

(b) the State-wise list of expenditure incurred for setting up the video conferencing facilities in prisons and courts;

(c) the prison-wise information of prisoners produced through video conferencing before courts;

(d) whether any training has been provided to stakeholders engaged in conducting production of prisoners through video conferencing; and

(e) whether Government has issued any guidelines for setting up and functioning of video conferencing facilities for production of accused?

Bonded labour among cases of human trafficking

2486. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI:
PROF. M. V. RAJEEV
GOWDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of bonded

labour among the cases of human trafficking under IPC 370, State-wise and year-wise since year 2014;

(b) the rate of conviction of such cases under IPC370 since year 2013;

(c) whether NCRB records the number of victims below 14 years of age found in bondage under forced labour trafficking under IPC 370;

(d) if so, the State-wise and year-wise details of such cases since year 2014;

(e) whether measures are being taken by Government to train police officials on human trafficking; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and budget for the same, State-wise and year-wise, since year 2014?

NRC in Assam

†2487. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the work on National Register for Citizens (NRC) has been carried out in Assam so far;

(b) the total number of illegal immigrants identified so far; and

(c) the details thereof?

Establishment of forensic laboratory in Andhra Pradesh

2488. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal of establishment of forensic laboratory in the State of Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the status of the proposal as of now

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

and the reasons for the delay in setting up of the laboratory; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for early setting up of forensic laboratory in the State?

Achievements made under Shramev Jayate Programme

†2489. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Shramev Jayate Programme was introduced by Central Government on 16 October, 2014 aiming to streamline skill development of large number of youths so that India may get an opportunity to fulfil the global requirement of skilled workers in forthcoming years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the achievements made so far under Shramev Jayate Programme are in accordance with the target; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Persons laid off and persons provided jobs

2490. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH
VERMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of salaried persons laid off by private companies since 1st January, 2018 till date, sector-wise;

(b) the details of salaried persons laid off during 2015, 2016 and 2017, sector-wise and year-wise;

(c) the details of salaried jobs provided

to unemployed youths during 2015, 2016 and 2017, sector-wise and year-wise;

(d) the details of salaried jobs provided during 2018 till 1st August, 2018 sector-wise; and

(e) the details of the source of above data?

Rising rate of unemployment

2491. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that urban unemployment has risen to 8.2 per cent, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has been able to control unemployment rate since 2014 till date, if so, industry/sector/year-wise details thereof from 2014 till date; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government to increase employment with its timeline?

Scrutiny of retrenchment of workers by companies

2492. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any mechanisms in place for compensation and alternate job offers to workers who are retrenched from companies facing financial crunch;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any criteria before the Ministry to scrutinise the reasons claimed by companies when they terminate services of certain workers, whether they are justifiable or not and if not, whether there are any provisions in place for the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

purpose of granting any fine(s) on the companies; and

(d) whether the Ministry plans to strengthen the laws relating to workers' unions by providing them more powers and rights?

Tackling child labour

†2493. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of child labourers rescued by Government in the last three years;

(b) the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is taking special steps to make the country child labour free, if so, the details thereof?

Self certification returns by MSMEs under compliance to labour laws

2494. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) were permitted to self certify their returns under compliance to labour laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many MSMEs have furnished these self certifications during last year, State-wise;

(d) whether there are any complaints against the violations in this self certification and whether any action has been taken on erring enterprises; and

(e) the manner in which Government is ensuring the correctness of these returns

and protect the rights of workers working in these enterprises?

Jobs provided to registered unemployed persons

†2495. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employment exchanges established for registration of unemployed persons and to provide them employment in the country, the State-wise details thereof;

(b) the number of registration of unemployed persons in these employment exchanges and the number of unemployed persons to whom employment was provided against the registration, the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) whether there is a provision to engage the unemployed persons registered in these employment exchanges in private sector also, if so, the details of engaged unemployed persons in public and private sector?

Scheme for providing jobs to youth in Bihar

†2496. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to launch any Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for providing jobs to the youth in Bihar keeping in view the growing unemployment there;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Creation of jobs in manufacturing sector

2497. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that manufacturing sector still has potential to create more jobs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by Government to create more number of jobs in the manufacturing sector?

ESI hospitals in Odisha

2498. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ESI hospitals in the State of Odisha and their locations;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of doctors, technicians and para-medical staff in these hospitals;

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

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to fill up vacant posts of doctors and other staff thereon; and

(e) whether Government proposes to improve the facilities in ESI hospitals and enhance their standard and if so, the details thereof?

Downward revision of jobs data by EPFO

2499. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has further revised

down the jobs data by 9.6 per cent for the period between September, 2017 and April, 2018 during the month of July, 2018 for second time after downward revision in June, 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the lowest and highest job generated during the said period, month-wise;

(c) whether Government would initiate inquiry into the bogus entries in EPFO data for the said period and would fix responsibility in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Children working as domestic slaves

2500. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost 10 million children upto 18 years of age are still in employment in the country;

(b) if so, whether despite regulatory policy and judicial infrastructure, 100 per cent of such workforce are employed in unorganized sectors therefor;

(c) whether Government has report on children of the country working as domestic slaves therein; and

(d) if so, the proposal of Government for proper prosecution and rescuing children from work bondage thereof?

Minimum wages for regular as well as temporary workers

2501. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the law, the minimum wages has already been set for the regular as well as temporary workers;

(b) whether the same wage is followed for the anganwadi workers, health workers, helpers, etc. or other wages are set for them; and

(c) if so, what are the other wages?

Promoting EPF in private sector organisations

2502. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the list of companies which are following the norms of the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) for the welfare of their employees in the country;

(b) what are the measures taken by Government to promote Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) in private sector organisations and how many companies have been found guilty of avoiding the norms in the country;

(c) whether Government has any plan to improve social security in private sector organisations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Conducting heart operation in ESI hospitals

2503. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has planned to start heart operations in Employees' State Insurance (ESI) hospital in Maharashtra;

(b) how many ESI hospitals in Maharashtra are having the facilities to treat Cancer, Kidney, Liver, Heart problems, etc. type of diseases; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Social security and welfare of domestic workers

2504. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides for social security and welfare of domestic helps;

(b) if so, the details of funds allocated, released and utilised for the same during 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, till date, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the details of scheme being run for their social security and welfare along with funds allocated and utilised during 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, scheme-wise and year-wise?

Employees enrolled with EPFO and ESIC

2505. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the total net enrolment with the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) and Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and State/UT-wise?

Setting up any counselling/consultation centre to remove unemployment

2506. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the number of unemployed youths in various States/UTs;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government proposes to set up any counselling/consultation centres to remove unemployment among the youths in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Non-setting up of more medical colleges by ESIC

2507. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has decided not to set up any other medical colleges in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the decision taken regarding already set up medical colleges by ESIC across the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) whether there would be *status-quo* on the medical colleges set up by ESIC?

Unemployed youth in Jammu and Kashmir

2508. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of unemployed youth in Jammu and Kashmir State for the last three years, district/number/year/education and cost-wise;

(b) what are the main reasons for unemployment in Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) whether Government is making any plan/policy for employment in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Comparison of minimum wages and MGNREGS wage rate

†2509. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of minimum wage rate in Madhya Pradesh and its bordering States Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh, State-wise; and

(b) the State-wise rates of wages under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in the States mentioned in part (a) above?

Women and children employed as Beedi workers

2510. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Beedi workers employed in the industry across the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of women and children employed in Beedi making, State-wise;

(c) whether Government is running any schemes and programmes aimed at providing these women and children alternate livelihood;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the State-wise allocation and utilisation of funds aimed at providing alternate livelihoods to women and children?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008

2511. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Social Security Board for Unorganised Workers has been reviewing and documenting registration of workers and expenditure under various schemes, the year-wise and scheme-wise details of total number of beneficiaries and amount spent under schemes of Schedule-1 of the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 for the last three financial years; and

(b) the data of the total number of registered unorganized workers State-wise duly registered under Section 10 of the Act?

Benefit to domestic workers from welfare schemes

2512. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether domestic workers have been benefiting from welfare schemes scheduled for them;

(b) whether Government intends to finalise long pending draft of National Policy on Domestic Workers; and

(c) if so, the details of progress made in this regard by Government in last three years?

Financial assistance under RMA scheme

2513. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of MSME units which

received financial assistance under Raw Material Assistance (RMA) Scheme;

(b) the number of MSME units from Kerala State which applied for assistance under RMA;

(c) the details of amount and name of such units from Kerala which benefited under the Scheme; and

(d) the initiatives taken by National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Hub, the details thereof?

Order from Air India to KVIC

2514. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has asked departments to place maximum orders to Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) for providing sustainable employment through micro enterprises to rural artisans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the KVIC has received an order worth ₹ 8 crore from Air India;

(d) whether it is also a fact that this was the third successive order from Air India to KVIC; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of CITUS in coastal Maharashtra

2515. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently launched Coir Industry Technology

Upgradation Scheme (CITUS) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how Government proposes to implement CITUS in coastal Maharashtra?

Condition of cottage industries

2516. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of cottage industries in the country particularly in Odisha has worsened during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State/UT-wise including Odisha;

(c) the corrective measures taken/being taken by Government to revive and promote cottage industries in the country including Odisha;

(d) whether Government plans to establish more cottage industries in the backward and tribal areas of the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Investment made in MSME sector

2517. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of total investment made in MSME sector in the country including Kerala during the last four years, State-wise;

(b) the total number of employment opportunities generated in each State during the said period; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by

Government to encourage investment in MSME sector in the country?

Financial assistance to MSME units in West Bengal

2518. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance extended to MSME units in West Bengal in the last two years;

(b) whether MSME units are not getting required financial help; and

(c) if so, what steps Government is taking to help these units?

Insufficient number of oil depots in North-Eastern States

2519. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there are some States in the North-Eastern region that have insufficient number of oil depots; and

(b) what are the requirements for a State with inadequate number of oil depots, to get more oil depots for sufficient supply of diesel and petrol?

Production of ethanol

2520. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of demand, supply and consumption of ethanol in the country during the last three years and also the current year;

(b) the total requirement of ethanol by

the industry in the country, particularly in the States of Jharkhand and Gujarat;

(c) whether there is a shortage of domestically produced ethanol and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to increase the production of ethanol to meet the demand?

Free LPG connections for people living in forest areas

2521. MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to issue free LPG connections across the country for people living in forest areas or nearby forests; and

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

Signing of PSCs for oil blocks

2522. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has signed Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) for 26 discovered blocks, 28 exploratory blocks under pre NELP and 254 blocks under NELP;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has now moved to the revenue sharing mechanism under the Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) regime;

(d) whether the first round of auction of hydrocarbon fields under the new regime saw explorers showing interest and bidding for 55 oilfields; and

(e) whether the oilfields are yet to be awarded?

Profit and loss of GAIL

2523. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects being operated by GAIL in Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Punjab along with the present status/progress of the said projects, particularly in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the details of profit earned/loss incurred by GAIL during the last three years and current year, year-wise and project-wise?

Greenfield Petroleum Terminal in Himachal Pradesh

2524. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the Greenfield Petroleum Terminal in Pekhubella village in district Una in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the Central Government proposes to supply petroleum products to Ladakh region through this project;

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to lay a pipeline through Rohtang and Zojila passes to Ladakh to meet the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Fresh contracts for oil and gas blocks

2525. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

has refreshed the contract for oil and gas blocks to give State run licensees and their private partners a fair deal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that under the new terms, statutory levies such as royalty and cess will be shared by the licensee ONGC and OIL and the private partner operating the fields in proportion to their equity; and

(d) whether these payouts will also be considered as costs and the companies will be allowed to recover them before calculating profit?

New Exploration Licensing Policy

2526. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) announced by Government will help increase revenues to States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the new policy announced by Government will help the ease of doing business in the country;

(d) whether Government had been working on some proposals which are expected to improve ease of doing business by reducing delays and discretionary powers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

License for bitumen dealership

2527. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is granting license to deserving applicants for bitumen dealers/suppliers;

(b) if so, what are the existing requirements for the bidders; and

(c) how many such applicants have been appointed/approved by the Ministry in the eight North Eastern States respectively?

Providing clean fuel under PMUY

2528. DR. L. HAMUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set any target under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) to safeguard the health of women and children by providing them with a clean cooking fuel, LPG;

(b) if so, whether the said target is achieved by Government;

(c) the details thereof;

(d) if not, whether Government is taking any steps to create coordination between various Departments/Ministries including the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for speedy completion of the target under the programme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

LPG distribution centres in Jammu and Kashmir

2529. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how many LPG distribution centres are working in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, district/place and company-wise;

(b) whether Government has invited new applicants for the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof district and company-wise; and

(d) if not, whether Government will consider for the same?

Streamlining of existing production sharing contracts

2530. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has streamlined the existing production sharing contracts with four key changes in the policy framework to increase domestic hydrocarbon production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the exploration period has also been increased by two years and the appraisal period by one year for North Eastern hydrocarbon fields; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Target for LPG connections in rural areas

†2531. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise annual targets of the distributors, policy of distribution, action plan for providing LPG gas connections in rural areas of the country for five years; and

(b) the number of subsidised gas connection along with other concessions to be provided to the poor class under this scheme?

Action plan for providing subsidised LPG connections

†2532. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise current status of

number of LPG connections provided to the poor people under the Ujjwala Yojana along with the concessions being provided for connections and the payment made; and

(b) in view of (a) the action plan to provide subsidised LPG connections every year in next five years?

Gas connections to ineligible persons under the Ujjwala Yojana

†2533. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry is aware that gas connections are being provided to ineligible persons under the Ujjwala Yojana;

(b) whether it is also a fact that several ineligible persons have been provided gas connection by Indane rural distribution under the Ujjwala Yojana in Rathor Bargaon, district Banda, Uttar Pradesh through corruption;

(c) whether it is also a fact that cylinders are handed over in bulk to non-official persons appointed by the said agency in villages Bara and Salhepur illegally posing them as sub-distributors; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken in this regard?

Monthly remuneration of employed persons under PMKVY

2534. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of individuals who have been trained under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, till date;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the total number of the above individuals who have received gainful employment after training, the State-wise distribution thereof; and

(c) the average monthly remuneration of those employed, the State-wise distribution thereof?

Scheme for skill development of domestic help

2535. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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

(a) whether any scheme for skill development of domestic help is being run under the skill development programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Skill development initiatives by PSUs

2536. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:
SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that skill development initiatives taken up by PSUs are not being communicated to the concerned MP/MLA from time to time to take suggestions from his constituency jurisdiction, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to involve the MP/MLA of

the concerned area to take part in such skill development initiatives?

New projects for skill development

2537. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new projects advanced by Government in the area of skill development aiming at India's development in 21st century;

(b) what is the present situation and number of job opportunities created under 'Make in India'; 'Startup India'; 'Digital India';

(c) whether there is a project under the name 'Skill India'; and

(d) if so, how far it had achieved in skill development?

Skill development training in Odisha

2538. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons who received skill development training in Odisha and total funds sanctioned/utilised under various schemes of training and programmes of the Ministry in Odisha;

(b) the total number of trained skilled persons already recruited in the public/private sector in Odisha, district-wise and person-wise information including the name of the recruiters; and

(c) out of the total number of skilled unemployed in Odisha, what is the percentage of employment of locals in different Central Government

Undertakings/private sector, district-wise details thereof?

Employment under National Skill Development Mission

2539. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) how many people have been skilled by the Central Government under the National Skill Development Mission;

(b) the year-wise details for the last three years;

(c) how many of those skilled have received jobs;

(d) the year-wise details for the last three years; and

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to ensure that those who are being skilled find ready employment?

Skill Development Centres in rural areas

†2540. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prime Minister Skill Development Centres are still not working in the rural areas, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) if not, the number of youth from rural areas given employment under this scheme till date; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Establishment of ITI in Chhota Udaipur in Gujarat

†2541. SHRI RATHWA NARANBHAI JEMLABHAI: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Industrial Training Institute (ITI) is being established/has been established by Government in Chhota Udaipur district of Gujarat under vocational training reform scheme in collaboration of World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the trades with which the ITI is related; and

(c) the present status of the progress made in the direction of functioning of this ITI?

Unemployment in non-technical grades

2542. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the increasing unemployment in non-technical trades in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken by Government to remove unemployment;

(c) whether Government contemplates to increase the employment opportunities by starting different new skill development and technical courses in the coming years; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposals prepared in this regard?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Skill Development Centres in Rajasthan

†2543. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Skill Development Centres opened in various States of the country, State-wise details thereof; and

(b) the number of Skill Development Centres opened in all over Rajasthan and number of students therein, district-wise details thereof?

Funds allocated for Jammu and Kashmir for skill development

2544. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH MANHAS: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allocated for the State of Jammu and Kashmir for the financial year 2017-18 under skill development;

(b) how much funds have been utilised under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) if so, the district-wise details thereof?

Skill Development Centres in Jammu and Kashmir

2545. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH MANHAS: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise details of the

centres working under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and skill development in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) how many students got placed after training in different companies, the district-wise details thereof?

Opening of SDCs at Tehsil and Block level

†2546. SHRI KAILASH SONI: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open Skill Development Centres (SDCs) at Tehsil and Block level, if so, the time by when these centres will be operational; and

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

Employment under Skill India Mission

†2547. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data regarding number of people who were provided employment after training under Skill India Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof for last two years along with number of persons who got employment; and

(c) the steps taken to provide skill training to people belonging to low social-economic strata and minorities?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Losses faced by SAIL

†2548. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBAR
PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been facing losses continuously for several years;

(b) the details of the losses/profits made by SAIL in the last five years;

(c) the reasons for the increasing difference between the losses and profits of SAIL; and

(d) the steps taken to reestablish the profit position of SAIL as it was in the past and the effect thereof?

Corruption in SAIL

2549. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU:
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of corruption/irregularities reported during each of the last three years in Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and its subsidiary Bokaro Steel Limited (BSL);

(b) the details of the officers against whom charges were registered by the investigating agencies;

(c) the number of cases in which persons were chargesheeted/found guilty;

(d) the action taken against the guilty officers; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to eliminate corruption in SAIL?

Pension schemes for Central Steel PSEs

2550. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has agreed to introduce a pension scheme for its Central Steel Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) like Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this move will help 96,000 serving and 56,000 retired employees;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the pension scheme is estimated to cost additional financial burden of ₹ 540 crore; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Availability of iron ore in Madhya Pradesh

†2551. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH:
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) The quantity of iron ore currently available in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether sufficient quantity thereof is available in the State to set up a steel plant over there;

(c) if so, whether any plan has been formulated by the State Government or the Central Government in regard to setting up steel plant there; and

(d) if so, the status thereof, in terms of its implementation?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Shifting of office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts)

2552. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to shift the office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Southern Division from Chennai to Bengaluru; and

(b) if so, the reasons behind such a decision?

Cotton purchased by Government in Gujarat

2553. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data of cotton purchased by its agencies in Gujarat in the year 2017-18; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Funds for handloom industry in A.P.

2554. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to develop the handloom industry in the State of Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the quantum of funds being allocated in this financial year for development of handloom industry in the State; and

(c) whether the Ministry has received any proposals from Government of Andhra Pradesh with regard to development of handloom clusters, financial assistance for handlooms, etc., the details thereof?

Achieving potential growth in textile sector

2555. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a section of textile industries has proposed that Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) Scheme, 10 per cent margin money and 9 months credit limit may help Indian spinning mills to compete with multinational cotton traders;

(b) how far proposal along with Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) and introduction of Bt. Cotton is likely to bring better price to farmers, prevent hoarding and speculations and achieving growth rate of 12 per cent from existing 6 per cent;

(c) whether PSF and TMC are likely to increase production of cotton, create more employment, boost exports and increase revenue collections; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

Petitions of small bullion parties on their outstanding dues

2556. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has received several petitions from small bullion parties regarding inordinate delay in releasing their legitimate dues by M/s Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited (HHECIL) under the Ministry of Textiles;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on these representations;

(c) whether Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) have since given their views and directed HHECIL to release payments of small bullion parties; and

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

Development of handloom and handicrafts sectors in Maharashtra

2557. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put in place any roadmap to revive, promote and develop handloom and handicrafts sectors in Maharashtra and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when Government proposes to have such a roadmap for implementation?

Creating awareness amongst employees on Government programmes

2558. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has attempted to create requisite awareness amongst its own employees, its associates all over India, including all its Departments and its public sector organisations as regards important programmes of Government such as Swachh Bharat Mission, Digital India and Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao, etc., if so, when was it done and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether any replicable practices of implementing these programmes or creating greater awareness about them have been identified and if so, the details thereof?

Upliftment of weavers living in Bhagalpur

†2559. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has data of weavers living in Bhagalpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for their upliftment?

Development and export of handlooms

2560. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps for the development of handlooms in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether export in textile sector has decreased;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the extent to which the increase in labour cost and competition from neighbouring countries has affected India's export in textile sector; and

(f) the steps taken to increase export of knitwear and handloom?

NEW DELHI;
The 2nd August, 2018
Shravana 11, 1940 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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