

Rajya Sabha

**List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS**

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Tuesday, August 10, 2021/ 19 Sravana, 1943 (Saka)

**(Ministries : Ayush; Corporate Affairs; Culture; Earth Sciences; Finance; Health and Family Welfare; New and Renewable Energy; Power; Science and Technology; Tourism)**

Total number of questions -- 160

**Promotion of Ayurvedic treatment**

2401 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

Will the Minister of **Ayush** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is taking any measures to promote Ayurvedic treatment along with allopathic treatment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of cities in which Ayurvedic facilities are being provided by Government, State/UT-wise and district-wise?

**Opening of AYUSH hospitals and research institutes**

2402 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

**Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

**Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

**Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Ayush** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of AYUSH hospitals and research institutes presently functioning in the country;
- (b) the funds allocated/ released and achievements/ progress made by them during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether Government proposes to open more such hospitals and institutes in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details and the locations thereof, State-wise including Uttar Pradesh?

**Action plan for effective and efficient inclusion of homoeopathy in integrative care**

2403 **Shri Ramkumar Verma:**

**Smt. Ambika Soni:**

Will the Minister of **Ayush** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any action plan towards an effective and efficient inclusion of homoeopathy in integrative care;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for preparation of a future roadmap for homoeopathic integration in public health as well as in research?

### **National Institutes of AYUSH in the country**

**2404 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

Will the Minister of **Ayush** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of National Institutes of AYUSH in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of National Institutes that are going to be accorded the status of Deemed Universities, State-wise;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in setting up of WHO Global Centre for traditional medicine in the country; and
- (d) whether Government will consider setting up of a WHO Global Centre in Karnataka as the State has a number of AYUSH institutions and since the State is also pushing hard to propagate AYUSH?

### **Doctors working under NHM and NAM**

**2405 # Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu:**

Will the Minister of **Ayush** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of doctors working under the National Health Mission (NHM) and the National AYUSH Mission (NAM) and the number of posts of doctors lying vacant, the details thereof as per different pathies, State-wise;
- (b) whether medicines have been provided to those doctors since the establishment of these two missions, if so, the details thereof for three years, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of medicines purchased by the Ministry of AYUSH in different States during the entire COVID-19 period and the number of people to whom these Ayurvedic, Homeopathic and Unani medicines were made available, State-wise?

### **Efforts to increase inflow of patients to AYUSH sector**

**2406 Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

Will the Minister of **Ayush** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government efforts have resulted in increased inflow of patients to AYUSH sectors;
- (b) if so, the data available on the market size of AYUSH sector during the last three years along with the expenditure incurred by the Ministry on various programmes;
- (c) whether the Ministry is collaborating with other Ministries to popularise AYUSH schemes; and
- (d) if so, the details of such collaborations?

### **Promotion of Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medication**

**2407 Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Ayush** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to promote Ayurveda and Unani systems of medication and treatment; and
- (b) if so, the details of funds allocated, released and utilised for promotion of Ayurveda and Unani separately during last three years and current year till date, State-wise and year-wise?

### **Global co-operation in Homoeopathy and traditional medicinal system**

**2408 Dr. Banda Prakash:**

Will the Minister of **Ayush** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has set up any forum to facilitate Global co-operation in the field of Homoeopathy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has approved any agreement to promote co-operation in the field of traditional system of medicines and Homoeopathy; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Traditional health and medicine practices**

**2409 Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

Will the Minister of **Ayush** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are many traditional practices of health and medicine existing in the length and breadth of the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to identify traditional health practices and traditional medicine practices and documenting such practices;
- (c) whether many of the persons practising traditional medicines are under target in the name of fake practice; and
- (d) the steps taken to safeguard and provide help to promote such practices?

### **AYUSH wellness centres, medical colleges, hospitals and dispensaries**

**2410 Shri Derek O' Brien:**

Will the Minister of **Ayush** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the steps being taken to promote and set up new AYUSH wellness centres, medical colleges, hospitals and dispensaries; and
- (b) the funds disbursed for the same so far and the progress made thereby?

### **Promotion of Immunity Boosters during pandemic**

**2411 Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

Will the Minister of **Ayush** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has promoted various formulations and drugs as 'Immunity Boosters' since the COVID-19 pandemic began;
- (b) if so, the empirical evidence supporting such claims of boosting immunity, especially against COVID-19;
- (c) the scientific meaning/definition of the term 'Immunity Booster';
- (d) whether Government is aware that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has taken action against firms fraudulently claiming that their products boost immunity against COVID-19, and that advertising rules in the United Kingdom prohibit such misleading claims altogether; and
- (e) if so, whether Government is considering similar restrictions on such claims and will initiate punitive action against those making them?

### **CSR expenditure**

**2412 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

Will the Minister of **Corporate Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many companies have not made their mandatory Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) expenditure;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of cases of defaults every year during the last three years, the details thereof, company-wise;
- (c) whether Government has taken any step for complying with the recommendations made by the high level committee on CSR; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Resolution of cases under IBC**

**2413 Shri K.J. Alphons:**

Will the Minister of **Corporate Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of cases referred under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC);
- (b) the number of cases resolved;
- (c) the percentage of realisation of amount lent by financial institutions in the above cases;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the haircut was above 90 per cent in some cases; and
- (e) if so, the details of the cases?

#### **Tweaking Schedule III of Companies Act**

**2414 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Corporate Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has issued new disclosure rules under the Companies Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has also tweaked Schedule III to the Companies Act relating to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) spending, crypto currency dealings, etc. and, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Amendment to CSR Policy for COVID-19 crisis**

**2415 Dr. Banda Prakash:**

Will the Minister of **Corporate Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has amended coverage of CSR policy to include-research and development of new vaccine, drugs and medical devices undertaken in normal course of business and research and development activity related to COVID-19. if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether it is compulsory for such research activity to be carried out in collaboration with Central or State Government or specified public institutes, if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has received the data regarding CSR compliance during ongoing financial year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including total amount spent under CSR funds to combat the pandemic?

#### **Inclusion of Ramappa Temple in the UNESCO World Heritage Sites**

**2416 Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Culture** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government received any requests/representation to include Ramappa Temple of Warangal in the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps being taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to declare “Medaram Jatara” festival as a National Festival?

### **Conservation work at the protected forts in Maharashtra**

**2417 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

Will the Minister of **Culture** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the upkeep and maintenance of forts declared 'protected' in Maharashtra are not up to the mark and majority of them need extensive conservation and restoration to showcase them as monuments of national importance;
- (b) if so, the details of work which need to be carried out at each of the protected forts in Maharashtra;
- (c) the nature of conservation works undertaken and year-wise expenditure incurred at each of the protected forts; and
- (d) whether ASI has prepared any perspective plan for undertaking conservation and restoration in the next five years and, if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Regular training and orientation programme for in-service officers**

**2418 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

Will the Minister of **Culture** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether archaeology, epigraphy, numismatics, archaeological science, historical landscape, conservation and restoration need special skills since these disciplines are not part of the curriculum in most of the academic institutions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there exists any system of providing regular training and orientation for in-service officers of different grades in the field of archaeology, epigraphy, numismatics, archaeological science, historical landscape, conservation and restoration, except for the yearly one-month duration conservation camps; and
- (d) if not, whether it is not a fact that ASI is discharging its functions of utmost importance through untrained officials?

### **Cultural Talent Scholarship Scheme**

**2419 Shri Prashanta Nanda:**

Will the Minister of **Culture** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is implementing Cultural Talent Scholarship Scheme under Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT);
- (b) if so, the details of the implementation during the last three years; and
- (c) the details of scholars/beneficiaries who have availed the scheme during the last three years particularly in the State of Odisha?

### **Cultural history of North Eastern States**

**2420 Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

Will the Minister of **Culture** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government will publish an encyclopaedia of the cultural history of North Eastern States;
- (b) whether Government will form a team to understand and collect umpteen traditions and cultural festivals of these States as the cultural roots, traditions, and celebrations are important parts of North Eastern States; and

(c) whether Government will form a commission on diversities to protect micro cultural traditions and beliefs of the North Eastern States?

### **Tagore Cultural Complex in Madhya Pradesh**

**2421 # Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Culture** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Rabindranath Tagore Cultural Complex in Madhya Pradesh pending for completion, district-wise; and
- (b) by when the proposed Rabindranath Tagore Complex in Sidhi district is to be completed and the details of the obstacles in its completion?

### **Impact of lockdown on cultural information**

**2422 Shri Derek O' Brien:**

Will the Minister of **Culture** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been any data collection on the impact of lockdown on dissemination of cultural information in the country and the livelihood of artisans, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there have been efforts to bring out India's cultural heritage through online mediums, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the funds disbursed for the same so far, and the details thereof?

### **Recognizing "Paika Bidroha" as the first war of Independence**

**2423 Shri Prasanna Acharya:**

Will the Minister of **Culture** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Odisha has sent proposals to the Union Government to recognize "Paika Bidroha", the Rebellion against British Rule by the soldiers of Odisha in the 1817, as the first war of Independence, conferment of classical status to Odishi music "Vocal and Instrumental", and to take steps to preserve the memories of tribal freedom fighters of India; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

### **Replacing Star with Ashok Stambh on Jaipur Column**

**2424 # Shri Gopal Narayan Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Culture** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that a 'star', the symbol of British Rule, is still installed above the lotus flower at the top of the Jaipur Stambh (pillar) located in the main forecourt of Rashtrapati Bhavan and as a symbol this star is a stigma on the reputation of India and also reminds of the slavery under the British Rule even though the country has entered the 75th year of freedom; and
- (b) if so, whether Government would replace this symbol of slavery, the star above the lotus with the symbol of Ashok Stambh as soon as possible, enhancing the glory of India?

### **Deep Ocean Mission**

**2425 # Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

Will the Minister of **Earth Sciences** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to launch a Deep Ocean Mission (DOM) to explore the possibilities of mining, bio-diversity, energy, fresh water etc. in deep ocean

- and to support the 'Blue Economy';
- (b) the duration and estimated cost of this mission;
- (c) the countries which have this technology at present;
- (d) the names and quantity of minerals Government is estimated to find through this mission and the estimated financial benefit to the country as per the studies conducted till date; and
- (e) whether private institutions will be included for development of technologies for this mission?

#### **Upgradation of forecast system**

**2426 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

Will the Minister of **Earth Sciences** be pleased to state:

- (a) total amount of funds spent towards upgradation of forecast system during the year 2013-14 till present;
- (b) number of upgradation projects undertaken by Government to improve the forecasting system since 2013-14 till present;
- (c) total funds spent towards the integrated Himalayan meteorological programme and a list of completed/operationalised projects during the year 2016-17 till present;
- (d) whether Government has begun developing an advanced operational forecast system and delivery system and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) total funds spent towards the development of advanced operational forecast system and delivery system since 2016-17 till present?

#### **Increase in FDI in insurance sector**

**2427 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for increasing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in insurance sector; and
- (b) the reasons to amend the Insurance Act, 1938 to increase the permissible FDI limit from 49 per cent to 74 per cent in insurance companies and allow foreign ownership and control with safeguards?

#### **Relief package announced**

**2428 Shri Shamsheer Singh Dullo:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken to boost demand and consumer spending under economic relief package announced after the second COVID-19 wave;
- (b) the quantum of funds that will be released as direct stimulus under the package;
- (c) whether Government considered direct cash transfers or other income support measures for vulnerable rural and urban households as part of such relief package;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons why such measures were not included in relief package;
- (e) whether Government intends to provide economic relief through further stimulus later this year; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Committee on recommendations on virtual currencies**

**2429 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has formed any committee / group to re-examine the recommendations of the inter-ministerial committee on virtual currencies formed in November 2017;
- (b) if so, the details of the committee;
- (c) whether the committee has invited any representations from external stakeholders/ including cryptocurrency exchanges/researchers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Protection of MSMEs in the country**

**2430 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the MSME industry in the country is reeling under doldrums due to prolonged COVID-19 situation along with 2nd wave and imminent 3rd wave warnings in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the rehabilitation package announced by Government is not at all sufficient to revitalise the industry;
- (d) whether Government has any plan of providing further sops and subsidies and financial assistance to the industry to overcome the situation keeping in view of the problems of the MSME industry, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) steps being taken by Government to protect the MSME industry in the country?

### **Loans availed by State Government of Andhra Pradesh**

**2431 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the loans given to Government of Andhra Pradesh from 2019 till date by various banks with full details; and
- (b) the details of loans sanctioned to various companies and corporation owned by State Government of Andhra Pradesh from 2019 till date?

### **Loan to women entrepreneurs under PMMY**

**2432 # Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that women entrepreneurs are being provided loan on priority to set up industries under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY);
- (b) the details of targets given to banks for providing loans to women entrepreneurs under the scheme during current financial year in Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that a large number of loan applications are being rejected on technical grounds; and
- (d) if so, whether Government would issue proper directions to banks for correction of the mistakes found in the applications and accepting them?

### **Kisan Credit Card issued**

**2433 # Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) issued to the farmers engaged in fisheries, dairy and animal husbandry since 2018 till now, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the amount that would be allocated for the said scheme in 2021-22;



- (c) the steps being taken by Government to encourage banks to give more loans to dairies and livestock-farmers; and
- (d) the way in which Government wants to make KCC application and approval process easier for the farmers?

### **Special capital assistance**

2434 # **Shri Kailash Soni:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a proposal of ₹ 649 crore has been sent by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh to the Government of India for capital works under special capital assistance in response to the letter dated April 29, 2021 of the Government of India; and
- (b) the time by when the said amount will be made available to the State Government?

### **High GST on sports goods**

2435 # **Shri Kailash Soni:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Goods and Services Tax (GST) on sports goods is very high; and
- (b) whether Government proposes to reduce applicable GST rate under Fit India and, if so, by when?

### **Unsecured loans to set up health care facilities**

2436 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government announced unsecured loans up to ₹100 crores as business loan for setting up healthcare facilities; and
- (b) if so, the details of benefited companies under this scheme up to ₹100 crore in Metro centres, ₹20 crore in Tier-1 and urban centres and ₹10 crore in small towns, State-wise break up?

### **NPAs of public and private sector banks**

2437 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhhar:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of public and private sector banks as on date, bank-wise;
- (b) whether Public Sector Banks (PSBs) are increasingly getting plagued with a plethora of problems due to NPAs compared to private sector banks and leading corporate houses/companies account for 80 percent of NPAs;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps taken for recovery of NPAs; and
- (d) whether Government has fixed the responsibility of officials of such PSBs over huge NPAs and if so, the details thereof along with the authority responsible/accountable for NPAs of private banks?

### **Willful defaulters reported to Government by Nationalised banks**

2438 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhhar:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cases of wilful defaulters of banks have increased during the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor including the number of such defaulters reported to Government by the nationalised banks during each of the last five years;
- (c) the details of the Government policy to deal with such defaulters; and
- (d) the amount recovered from such defaulters by the nationalised banks/Union Government during the said period?

#### **Kodakara black money case**

**2439 Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Enforcement Directorate (ED) is carrying out any enquiry into the incidents related to the black money case in Kodakara, Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details of matters under investigation; and
- (c) the status of the investigation?

#### **Setting up new hospital in rural and urban areas**

**2440 Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to expedite the process of starting or creating more hospitals/care taking centres in both rural and urban areas of the country, in view of the increasing cases of COVID-19 and its related issues in the country;
- (b) whether Government has provided adequate funds and logistic support to various States/Union Territories in the country to start such hospitals care centres, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to improve over all health sectors of the country?

#### **Cash transfer recommended by CII**

**2441 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has recommended for cash transfer to the poor as a short-term fiscal measures to push demand side of the economy;
- (b) whether it is also the fact that CII has also recommended for giving ₹ 2 lakh crore credit guarantee scheme to MSME sector; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Seizing of Government assets abroad**

**2442 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any notification of seizure of Government of India assets abroad and if so, a list of properties seized by foreign private companies;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to prevent Government buildings and assets are protected outside of India;
- (c) a list of all arbitration awards that allows for the seizure of Government of India property held abroad; and

(d) whether there are cases in various foreign courts seeking the seizure of Government of India assets and, if so, the list of the same?

### **Loans under Stand-up India scheme**

**2443 Shri Syed Zafar Islam:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the loans provided by the public sector, private and regional banks under the Stand-up India scheme since its inception;
- (b) the details of the overall impact of the scheme;
- (c) whether Government has reviewed the functioning of this scheme at any point of time; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof?

### **Funding infrastructure projects**

**2444 Shri Syed Zafar Islam:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is observed that banks are not equipped to fund the existing and long term projected infrastructure projects due to asset liability mismatch; and
- (b) till the time we have full-fledged operational development financial institutions (DFIs), what roadmap has been created to fund such projects to boost the economy?

### **Performance of PSEs**

**2445 # Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of performance of Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) in the country during period marked with COVID-19 epidemic;
- (b) the performance of 'Navratna companies' in key sectors, during the said period;
- (c) whether any efforts have been made to reduce the cost of getting jobs in said companies, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the names of PSUs which have reduced the workforce to manage the losses?

### **Funds pending for release with the Centre for Odisha**

**2446 Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the funds towards various programmes/projects that are pending with the Centre for release to State of Odisha ; and
- (b) by when these funds are expected to be released?

### **Permission of lower interest rate on deposits in banks**

**2447 Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has permitted banks to offer lower interest rates of either savings deposits or fixed deposits on maturity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the practice impacts the present practice of auto-renewal of fixed deposits; and

(d) if so, whether this will result in the financial and physical hardship of senior citizens generally and Government pensioners, particularly and, if so, the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

#### **Selection of cases for scrutiny of Income Tax under faceless assessment**

**2448 Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Income Tax Department randomly select cases for scrutiny every year handled under faceless assessment;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that small tax payers having income less than rupees one crore are generally selected for such scrutiny;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government would consider excluding small tax payers having income of less than rupees one crore, especially when they have suffered due to COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Measures to curb inflation**

**2449 Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is taking effective measures to curb inflation, particularly keeping in view of the condition of the people suffering from coronavirus pandemic situation in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with steps taken to alleviate the problems of common man since the essential commodities have gone out of the reach of the poor and common man of the country; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Appeals pending with Income Tax Tribunals and Courts**

**2450 Shri Naresh Gujral:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) currently the number of total number of appeals pending with Income Tax (Appeals) Commissioners, Income Tax Tribunals, income tax cases with High Courts, income tax cases with Supreme Court; and
- (b) the steps being taken to deal with the appeals expeditiously?

#### **Estimate of total revenue expected to generate in current financial year**

**2451 Shri Naresh Gujral:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

in the view of coronavirus pandemic, whether the Minister would give a reasonable estimate of the total revenue that Government expects to generate in the current financial year as well as the envisaged fiscal deficit for the financial year?

#### **Freezing of IDA of executives**

**2452 Shri Sanjay Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that, in CPSEs, the Industrial Dearness Allowance (IDA) of executives only has been frozen on the basis of Government directive;
- (b) whether the PSUs have shown affordability constraint in paying revised IDAs to executives only;
- (c) whether Government would take the financial burden of IDA payment to executives of Maharatna, Navratna, Miniratna PSUs, if not, the reasons for such directive;
- (d) whether Government has lost direct tax on frozen DA amount from CPSE executives; and
- (e) whether DA freezing has affected their buying power and hence promoted economic slowdown during COVID-19 pandemic?

#### **Inactive Jan-Dhan accounts data**

2453 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the data on the inactive Jan-Dhan accounts after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic has been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the percentage of women account holders from the total inactive accounts, State-wise;
- (c) the Ministry's measures to reduce the dormant accounts;
- (d) the steps taken by Government to ensure direct cash transfers for areas with most inactive account holders; and
- (e) the measures taken during the pandemic to increase the financial literacy and increasing awareness for the benefits of the account holders specially the women Jan Dhan account holders?

#### **Review petitions in case of SLP(C) 173/2021**

2454 **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

**Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

**Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

**Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the answer to the Unstarred Question 248 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20th July, 2021 and state:

the details of the number of review petitions filed in Hon'ble Supreme Court in response to dismissal of SLP (C) 173/2021 on 04/02/2021 along with the details of date of filing?

#### **Loan facility to tenants on agreement with landlords/ owners**

2455 **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

**Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

**Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether RBI would extend credit linkage/loan facility to tenants who enter into an agreement with landlords/owners of flats for rented accommodations on the line of section 9 of the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020, which allows farming agreement to be linked with credit instrument/loan facility under any scheme of the Central Government or the State Government or any financial service provider to sponsor that is company which enters into contract with farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for extending such credit/loan facility to corporate only?

### **Disbursement packages announced by Prime Minister**

**2456 Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the disbursement of ₹20 lakh crore package, announced by Prime Minister in May 2020, sector-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether any balance amount is pending with Government from the above amount; and
- (c) the details of the disbursement of Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme sector-wise and State-wise?

### **Cheque bounce cases**

**2457 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cheque bounce cases pending in various courts of the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of guidelines issued by the 5 Judge Supreme Court Bench on cheque bounce cases;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the apex court has asked Government to amend the Negotiable Instruments Act for this purpose; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Taxes collected on petrol and diesel**

**2458 # Shri Digvijaya Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the current price of petrol and diesel and the excise duty/other central tax being collected per litre by Union Government on petrol and diesel;
- (b) the details of the price of petrol and diesel and the central tax levied thereon from the financial year 2013-14 to 2020-21, year-wise; and
- (c) the revenue received by the Union Government from petrol and diesel in the form of central excise duty from the year 2014-15 to 2020-21?

### **Exemption of GST for handloom and handicrafts sector**

**2459 Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government will consider exempting Goods and Services Tax (GST) for handloom and handicrafts sector to promote the rural and tribal artisans; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

### **Digital banking for MSME financing**

**2460 Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to encourage digital banks that provide banking services digitally and, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has considered separate licensing category for digital banks exclusively financing MSMEs to bridge MSME credit gap;

- (c) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of steps Government is taking to encourage such digital-only financial institutions to encourage dynamism in banking sector?

### **Decline in GDP**

**2461 Shri M. Shanmugam:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that GDP has been continuously declining for the last three years, despite increase in inflation rate; (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken or being taken by Government including increase of demand and favourable investment climate in the post-pandemic period and the details thereof?

### **Cases of fraud booked by DGGI**

**2462 Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of fraud booked by Director General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) and amount involved in fake Input Tax Credit (ITC) in last three years, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) the quantum of amount recovered and number of people arrested in last three years, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the further steps Government will take to check misuse of ITC?

### **Growth versus inflation targeting**

**2463 Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

**Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry along with the Monetary Policy Committee has adopted a policy to boost growth over controlling inflation;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor including whether the Ministry has considered a formula to support the decision to target growth over inflation;
- (c) if so, the details of the formula and/or calculation underlying the decision to target growth over inflation;
- (d) whether the calculations consider the effect on purchasing power effect on consumers spending and saving behaviours and how these will affect the economy and the effect of loss of incomes; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Representation on pension scheme**

**2464 Dr. Subramanian Swamy:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the retired employees and serving employees of the Association of Aeronautical Development Agency of Defence Ministry who joined before 2004 have been making representation to the Ministry of Finance requesting the implementation of the pension scheme;
- (b) the main features of their representation; and
- (c) the response of the Finance Ministry to the representation?

### GST dues to States

**2465 Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of GST dues owed to States for the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the details of GST dues actually paid to States for the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether there is a discrepancy in the GST dues owed and dues paid to States; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof?

### GST on COVID-19 essential medical products

**2466 Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

**Dr. Ameer Yajnik:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government imposed GST on essential medical products like oxygen, ventilators, vaccines and medicines during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) the percentage of GST on such items;
- (c) the reasons for imposition of GST on life saving medicines and equipments;
- (d) whether Government intends to remove GST from all life saving medicines and equipments that are being used to fight the pandemic; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### GST Compensation Cess Fund

**2467 Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the amount of ₹47,272 crore identified by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) as short credited to the GST Compensation Fund during the financial year 2017-18 and 2018-19 cumulatively will be duly transferred to the States; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

### Division of taxes levied on fuels

**2468 Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the annual revenue collected from taxes, excise duties and cesses on petrol and diesel from financial year 2015 till date;
- (b) the amount of these revenues devolved to States;
- (c) an estimation of the distribution between the State and Union Governments for every one rupee earned as tax through the sale of fuels, with an appropriate supporting formula; and
- (d) the details of the various budgetary heads included while calculating taxes, excise duties and cesses on fuel?

### Financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh

**2469 Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount of financial assistance sanctioned and released to Andhra Pradesh



- since 2014-15 under various Central and Centrally sponsored schemes (CSS);
- (b) the details of the above assistance scheme-wise and year-wise;
- (c) financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh as grants/special grants, year and category-wise;
- (d) the ongoing externally aided projects in Andhra Pradesh, the details of project cost, funding agency;
- (e) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested repayment of externally aided project loans as per special assistance measure granted in 2016 in lieu of special category status;
- (f) if so, quantum of assistance under Special Assistance Measure; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **GST collection and payment to States**

**2470 Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of revenue earnings under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) since its implementation, month-wise;
- (b) the details of revenue earnings one year prior to introduction of GST, month-wise;
- (c) the details of GST to be paid and already paid to various States/UTs including Karnataka since implementation of GST, month and State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether it is a fact that GST compensation has gone up during the last few years and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if so, the manner in which Government is planning to go ahead in this regard to shore up GST revenue?

### **Slowdown of GDP growth rate**

**2471 Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that GDP growth rate has slowed down compared to last year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action Government has taken in this regard?

### **Wrong pricing and export cases unearthed by ED**

**2472 # Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of wrong pricing and exports done through malafide means from Special Economic Zones (SEZ) that have been unearthed by the Enforcement Department (ED), Customs or other departments of Government during the last three years and the details thereof; and
- (b) the plan of Government to take steps to stop these illegal activities?

### **Collection of GST Compensation Cess**

**2473 # Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that cess collected in a year should be deposited in non-lapsable fund known as GST Compensation Cess Fund as per the provision of GST (Compensation to States) Act, 2017;

- (b) if so, the details of collection of GST compensation cess during the years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20, year-wise; and
- (c) the total transferred amount to the funds out of that collection and the amount of credited cess other than the funds in violation of law and the details thereof?

### **Banking Sector Reforms**

**2474 Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the banking sector has failed to meet the targets for weaker sections of the society and, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government proposes to undertake any major reforms in the banking sector and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to push banking sector reforms to lift them out of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) and revive lending growth and, if so, the details thereof?

### **Digital currencies and cryptocurrencies**

**2475 Shri Vaiko:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of allowing cryptocurrencies issued by private agencies in the country;
- (b) whether any Inter-Ministerial committee examined the issue of cryptocurrency and, if so, the outcome of the committee;
- (c) whether Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed to issue digital currency in addition to currency notes and coins, to meet the challenge of private cryptocurrencies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether any legislative proposal would be brought for making it a legal tender and, if so, the details thereof?

### **Arbitration by AMRCD**

**2476 Shri Anil Desai:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that under the newly created Administrative Mechanism for Resolution of CPSEs Disputes (AMRCD) the arbitration of merging Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) are ignored by the parent PSU;
- (b) if so, the details of merged PSUs cases resolved by AMRCD in last three years;
- (c) if not, whether Government is aware of the pending cases of HSCL and NTPC Kahalgaon which is unsettled since its merger in 2017; and
- (d) the steps the Ministry has taken as a guardian of AMRCD?

### **National portal for persons living with rare diseases**

**2477 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a national crowdfunding portal is being set up for persons living with rare diseases to crowdsource funds for their healthcare, as suggested in the National Policy for Rare Diseases 2021, and the recent Delhi High Court order; and
- (b) whether there are entities being incentivised under the Production Linked Incentives scheme to innovate and manufacture orphan drugs, as suggested in the National Policy for

Rare Diseases 2021?

**Death due to inadequate supply of oxygen in the State of Andhra Pradesh**

2478 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had made any inquiry into the instances of death in the State of Andhra Pradesh due to inadequate oxygen supply in hospitals particularly in Ruia Hospital, Tirupathi, Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has issued instruction to all the hospitals across the country to have adequate storage of oxygen to meet any exigencies, if any, arises;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Shortage of qualified teachers in Medical Institutions**

2479 # **Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a shortage of qualified teachers in medical institutions in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the remedial steps being taken by Government to meet the shortage of qualified teachers in the medical institutions of the country?

**Low ratio of doctors per thousand people**

2480 # **Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the set standards of World Health Organization the number of doctors on per thousand people is quite low in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the number of medical colleges in the country and available seats in the same are still very less in view of the need of providing doctors every year as per the standards of WHO, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken to ensure the availability of doctors in the country as per the standards of WHO, the details thereof?

**Prevalence of Geriatric Depression in the country**

2481 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the elderly population in India (60 years and above) is projected to reach 19 per cent of the total population by 2050;
- (b) whether any studies show that there is a high prevalence of depression among this group;
- (c) whether the prevalence of depression among the elderly will be a major contributor towards disease burden in the future;
- (d) whether Government has taken any steps currently to mitigate this crisis or plans to take any measures in the future; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Vaccinations under the Universal Immunisation Programme**

**2482 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of children who have been inoculated under the Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP), State-wise in 2019, 2020 and 2021;
- (b) whether there is a reduction in this number in 2020 and 2021 as compared to 2019 because of COVID-19;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to bring the vaccinations back to pre-pandemic levels; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Steps taken for the betterment of local public health system**

**2483 Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any specific steps have been taken for the betterment of local public health systems in the country, improvement of primary healthcare centers, higher availability of medicines and medical care arrangements; and
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken for urban and rural areas separately?

### **Preparation for the Third wave of COVID-19 pandemic**

**2484 Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) how long it further takes to completely vaccinate the citizens with both the doses;
- (b) the data on the vaccine supply from 2020 to 2021, State- wise, monthly-wise;
- (c) the data of vaccination status of single dosage and double dosage, State-wise till date; and
- (d) the specific measures taken to take care of the people from third wave of spreading particularly when the complete vaccination is a faraway dream?

### **Black Fungus coverage under Ayushman Bharat**

**2485 Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated, or has plans to formulate, specific steps to provide financial assistance/health insurance to patients of Black Fungus or Mucormycosis linked to COVID-19 under the Ayushman Bharat scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reason therefor?

### **Status of ECMO, ICU beds and ventilator ambulances in the country**

**2486 Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) machines and ICU beds available in India, State-wise; and
- (b) the details of number of ventilator ambulances available in India, State-wise?

### Deaths due to lack of Oxygen

2487 **Shri Rajmani Patel:**

**Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has maintained a record of deaths caused due to lack of oxygen in India;
- (b) if so, the number of deaths caused by lack of oxygen between March 1, 2021, till date; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for the same, including the reasons whether or not Government intends to build such a database?

### Vaccine administration to community based health workers

2488 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the data on vaccination coverage to all frontline community-based health workers (ASHAs and ANMs) across all States and UTs;
- (b) the data on reported incidents of violence against ASHAs while they have administered their COVID-19 duties, including vaccination drives;
- (c) the measures that are underway to prevent such instances of violence; and
- (d) how many training sessions have been designed for ASHAs on the preparation for the third wave of COVID?

### Status of COVID-19 vaccination in the country

2489 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

**Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of general public who have been vaccinated for COVID-19 since March 1, 2021;
- (b) whether Government has taken any step to procure vaccination from vaccine makers for distribution to States under free vaccination programme;
- (c) if so, the criteria fixed by the Union Government for allocation of vaccine to the States; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any initiative to help Indian vaccine manufacturers who are in the process of developing COVID-19 vaccine which are in trial three of advance stage and if so, the details thereof?

### Nation-wide COVID-19 Sero survey

2490 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

**Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning a nationwide COVID-19 sero-survey to determine the prevalence of COVID-19 virus antibodies in the community;
- (b) the details of States/districts to be covered under Sero survey and the time when it will be started and completed;
- (c) whether the Union Government has also asked the States to carry out their own localised surveillance exercises to assess the real extent of the infection's spread and, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other steps taken by the Central Government to stop the spread of COVID-19 virus in the country?

#### **Insurance coverage to COVID frontline workers**

**2491 Shri Abdul Wahab:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has issued circular to end the insurance coverage given to COVID frontline workers under Pradhan Mantri Gareeb Kalyan Yojana;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details therefor; and
- (c) the details of insurance claims of COVID frontline workers that have been passed, rejected, and pending under this scheme?

#### **Declaration of COVID-19 as Occupational Disease**

**2492 Shri Abdul Wahab:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to declare COVID-19 as an occupational disease and guarantee compensation for workers who contracted the disease in line with the advice of WHO; and
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Impact of population on national resources**

**2493 Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country is getting trapped in a serious crisis due to immense pressure of population resulting in imbalance in available resources, overall development and provision of all kind of services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that as a result of population explosion, youths in the country are facing a severe crisis with regard to employment opportunities despite untiring efforts by Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Resolution passed in International Conference on Population and Development**

**2494 # Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has signed the resolution passed on population control in the 'International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) held in Cairo, Egypt;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that married couples have been given the right to decide the number of children they want to give birth to and freedom to raise them in the said conference;
- (d) if so, whether the said proposal is against Indian interest in the Indian context; and
- (e) if so, the stand of Indian Government in above context as on date?

#### **Deaths of burial, crematorium and funeral service workers due to COVID-19**

**2495 Shri Anand Sharma:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of crematorium and funeral service workers and burial site workers who have contracted and died from COVID-19;
- (b) whether Ministry plans to include burial, crematorium and funeral service workers within the ambit of frontline workers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Ministry has formulated or has plans to formulate financial assistance package (including protection kits, priority vaccination) for these workers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Vacancies in Government health facilities for medical professionals**

**2496 Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed the need for the human resource needed to operate the health equipments and the gap between the needed human resource and the actual human resource;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State wise;
- (c) whether Government is aware of the vacancies in Government health facilities for medical professionals including medical officers, specialist doctors, nurses, laboratory technicians, pharmacists and radiographers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof with a faculty-wise breakup and the plan of Government to fill vacancies in States with high vacancies for utilisation of COVID resources and outcomes of previous plans for recruitment?

### **COVID-19 vaccination among pregnant women, PwD and transgenders**

**2497 Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pregnant women who have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccination and the number of pregnant women who are fully vaccinated;
- (b) the number of transgenders who have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccination and the number of transgenders who are fully vaccinated; and
- (c) the number of persons with disabilities who have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccination and the persons with disabilities who are fully vaccinated?

### **Achievements made under Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY scheme**

**2498 Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY scheme achieved its 2020-21 outcome target of reducing household health expenditure, in particular, based on the following indicators - proportion of households incurring catastrophic health expenditure, percentage and average out of pocket health expenditure, if so, the data for all indicators, State-wise;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the target of empanelment 22000 hospitals under the AB PMJAY scheme for 2020-21 has been met, if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with percentage share of public hospitals and private hospitals in empanelment; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### Positivity rate of COVID-19

2499 **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the districts where positivity rate of COVID -19 cases prevails between 5 per cent to 15 per cent;
- (b) the details of the reconciled number of deaths reported, year-wise for the years 2019-2020, 2020-21, and 2021-22 due to COVID-19, date-wise and district-wise; and
- (c) whether the Ministry is considering any preparation of guidelines or death audits to cross-check if a life could have been saved by making certain modifications in the system, if so, the details thereof?

### Task force to identify violation of COTPA, 2003

2500 **Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:**

**Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has set up a Task force to identify violation of COTPA, 2003 or advised the State Governments to do so; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

### Proposal to remove point of sale advertising under COTPA, 2003

2501 **Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to remove the provision of allowing point of sale advertising by the Ministry under COTPA, 2003, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken measures to ensure that tobacco and pan masala packets are sold to lure children which is prohibited or doing so, it qualifies as a direct violation of the COTPA, 2003 and its rules; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

### Medical Oxygen Capacities

2502 **Shri Digvijaya Singh:**

**Shri Rajmani Patel:**

**Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of plants in India that currently produce medical grade oxygen and the production capacity of such plants;
- (b) the details of such plants set up between March 2020 till date;
- (c) the number of hospitals that have their own oxygen plants and the details thereof;
- (d) the number of functional oxygen tankers for the transport of Oxygen, as on date; and
- (e) the number of oxygen tankers added to India's fleet between March 2020 till date?

### Antigen and RTPCR tests in the country

2503 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has made any assessment of how many Antigen and how many RTPCR tests are done in the country since the beginning of pandemic;



- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and month-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that after getting negative in Antigen test there are many cases where people got positive after getting themselves tested RTPCR;
- (d) whether false negative Antigen test does not add in spreading of virus in the country; and
- (e) if so, how Ministry is planning to ensure that only RTPCR tests are done to find out COVID-19 virus?

#### **Deaths due to shortage of oxygen**

2504 **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

**Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

**Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to refer to answers to Unstarred Questions 282 and 243 dated 20/07/2021 and state:

- (a) whether not even a single death of COVID patient has been reported in country due to shortage of oxygen;
- (b) if so, the basis and methodology adopted to count this;
- (c) whether Government is aware that at least 30 to 100 persons have died in every village of Uttar Pradesh between 10th April to 20th May, 2021 without testing, treatment and due to lack of oxygen, medicines and it amounts to around 30 lakhs deaths alone in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Dissolution of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**

2505 **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

**Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to refer to answer to the Unstarred Question 243 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20th July, 2021 and state:

- (a) whether health is a State subject;
- (b) if so, the rationale and reasons for running jumbo Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare along with the Ministers and huge expenditure of public money thereon;
- (c) whether Hon'ble Minister would propose to Cabinet Secretariat/PMO to dissolve the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as health is a State subject and to reduce the unnecessary burden on public exchequer;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the rationale and reasons therefor?

#### **Regional and Tertiary cancer care centres**

2506 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

**Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

**Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to expedite the process of starting more regional cancer care centres and tertiary cancer care centres in the country in view of the increasing cases of cancer patients in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has provided adequate funds and logistic support to various States/Union Territories in the country to start such cancer care centres, if so, the details

thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to start cancer care centres and Palliative care centres in the country?

### **Investigation in Honey-gate scandal**

**2507 Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken cognisance of the Honey-gate scandal as exposed by Down to Earth;

(b) if so, whether any investigation has been initiated into the claims of the report;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Shortage of CGHS dispensaries in NCR**

**2508 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is an acute shortage of CGHS dispensaries in the National Capital Region particularly in Indrapuram, Vaishali and Kaushambi which are mostly inhabited by serving and retired Government servants;

(b) whether Government has any plan to get in touch with the Government of Uttar Pradesh for allotment of land for having a wellness centre having specialist medical services in any of these areas;

(c) the reasons for running CGHS dispensaries in rented buildings; and

(d) whether Government will consider augmenting the CGHS facilities in East Delhi till such times?

### **PM Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana**

**2509 Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

(a) whether PM Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana has been announced in the budget of financial year 2021-22, for building on existing capacities of primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare systems, strengthening the existing national institutions and creating institutions to cater to detection and cure of new and emerging diseases;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of funds allocated, released and utilised under the scheme as on date, State-wise?

### **Funds allocation to Chhattisgarh under NHM**

**2510 # Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated under National Health Mission (NHM) to Chhattisgarh during the last three years and current year, year-wise;

(b) the funds spent on purchase of medicines, equipments and other things and the remaining amount of funds, district-wise and year-wise, medicines and equipment-wise spending;

(c) whether Government has received any complaint regarding irregularities happening in purchase of the said things; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government against the culprits?

### **Virtual clinics**

**2511 Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has accepted the need of virtual clinics to facilitate people of remote areas;
- (b) if so, the number of clinics that have been opened or in the process of being opened; and
- (c) if not, whether Government will consider the opening of the virtual clinics?

### **Deaths post COVID-19 vaccination**

**2512 Dr. Amee Yajnik:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people who got affected by COVID-19 virus even after vaccination in the country, State wise;
- (b) how many amongst them lost their lives to COVID-19;
- (c) whether there is any provision or Government planning to introduce any scheme to support those families where any member has lost life post vaccination; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Reservation in All India Quota for Undergraduate and PG Medical students**

**2513 # Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the extent of reservation along with the classes that are given reservation under All India Quota of 15 per cent for enrolment in medical under Graduate and Post Graduate studies;
- (b) the reasons for non-implementation of reservation for 27 per cent backward classes in the medical colleges of the States in the said 15 per cent All India Quota;
- (c) whether Government agrees to the report of committee constituted regarding OBC reservation on the directions of Madras High Court; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to implement 27 per cent reservation for backward classes in All India Quota in 2021-22 session?

### **Photograph of PM on COVID-19 Vaccine certificate**

**2514 Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is necessary and compulsory to print photographs of Prime Minister on the certificate of COVID 19;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and who has made it compulsory;
- (c) whether any State/UT has not printed the photograph of Prime minister on the COVID-19 certificate, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the action Government has initiated against such State/UT; and
- (e) whether any Government before has made necessary or compulsory to print the photograph of then Prime Minister on any vaccines such as Polio, small pox, etc, if so, the details like name of the Prime Minister, year and the names of vaccines?

### **Status of Re-purpose Used Cooking Oil (RUCO) Initiative of FSSAI**

**2515 Shri John Brittas:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of the Repurpose Used Cooking Oil (RUCO) initiative of FSSAI;
- (b) whether Government has undertaken measures under RUCO initiative to create awareness about the same; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

### **Identification of adulteration in dairy products**

**2516 Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any modern technology to identify adulteration in various dairy products;
- (b) whether Government is taking steps to create awareness to common public regarding adulteration of dairy products; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

### **Deaths in AIIMS and PGIMER**

**2517 Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the patients including children died during each of the last three years and current year in Government hospitals and its associated medial institutes including All India Medical Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), along with the deaths/patient ratio, State-wise; and
- (b) whether any team of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) had visited these hospitals and if so, the shortcoming noticed by the team along with the corrective measures taken by Government thereon?

### **Functional ventilators in Government and private hospitals**

**2518 Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of functional ventilators in Government and private hospitals in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the ratio of the ventilators to be kept in hospitals as compared to the population in the country;
- (c) whether Government is planning to increase number of ventilators in all Government & private hospitals;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Treatment of COVID-19 patients**

**2519 # Shri Vinay Dinu Tendulkar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of beneficiaries who have availed COVID-19 treatment under Ayushman Bharat Yojana in view of the fact that the treatment for COVID-19 virus is included in the Ayushman Cards issued by Government, the State-wise/Union Territory-wise; and

(b) if people have not got treatment, the reasons therefor?

### **Increase in medical and nursing seats in Government and private colleges**

2520 # **Shri Vivek Thakur:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that COVID-19 pandemic has re-affirmed that increasing human resources in health sector is extremely important;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that massive increase in number of medical and nursing seats in Government and private colleges is mandatory with an out of the box thinking to prepare for future India;
- (c) whether Government is planning to increase the number of medical and nursing seats;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Funds under various Schemes for UP and AP**

2521 **Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

the allocation, release and utilisation of funds under different schemes of the Ministry to the States of Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh since 2014, year-wise?

### **Current tobacco use and national health policy**

2522 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

**Shri Sanjay Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study to determine if it has reached to the target set of 15 per cent reduction in the prevalence of current tobacco use;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to ensure 30 per cent reduction by 2025 as mentioned in the National Health Policy;
- (d) whether the Ministry has proposed to increase any additional taxes on tobacco products to discourage tobacco consumption; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

### **MBBS and PG seats in medical college**

2523 **Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to enhance MBBS and PG seats in equal numbers in medical colleges in the country, if so, the details in this regard, State/ UT-wise;
- (b) the number of MBBS/PG seats as on date in various Medical Colleges in the country particularly in Karnataka;
- (c) whether NITI Aayog has also recommended any proposal to Government in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, the time and the academic year from which such seats will be available in various Medical Colleges?

### **Shortage of ventilators in Government hospitals**

**2524 Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a huge shortfall of ventilators in Government hospitals in the country; and
- (b) if so, the number of ventilators available in Government hospitals all over the country, State-wise and hospital-wise details?

### **Acute shortage of COVID-19 vaccine**

**2525 Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the nation is facing the acute shortage of COVID-19 vaccines, as there have been reports of vaccination centres shutting down, and gradual decrease in the number of people being administered vaccines, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (b) whether the prisoners lodged in various jails are being administered vaccines, if so, the details thereof?

### **Condition of Healthcare Workers/COVID Warriors in AIIMS**

**2526 Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that in AIIMS, Healthcare Workers or COVID Warriors (Resident Doctors, Nurses, and other supporting staff) have been allocated COVID-19 duties;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any studies of Healthcare Workers or COVID Warriors in respect to their mental health, academics and daily needs;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Doctors (Residents) are working at AIIMS subject to work for long duty hours and excessive academic load; and
- (f) the current status/expenditure of different research projects at AIIMS, New Delhi?

### **Funds allocation to Tamil Nadu under National Health Mission**

**2527 Shri Vaiko:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the funds allocated and utilised under National Health Mission (NHM) during the last three years for the State of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to strengthen National Health Mission and make it more effective by increased allocation of funds;
- (c) the details of Community Health Centres and Public Health Centres set up in Tamil Nadu under NHM for the last three years; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to assess the implementation and growth of National Health Mission (NHM) along with the present status thereof?

### Survey to monitor actual number of COVID-19 deaths

2528 **Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

**Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

**Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per a recent US study conducted by a former Chief Economic Advisor of India, at least 49 lakh people have died due to COVID-19 in India since January 2020 to June 2021;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Central and State Governments are concealing deaths to avoid compensation under Epidemic Act to the victims of COVID-19;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government would initiate court monitored survey in every district to ascertain the real numbers of deaths due to COVID-19; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

### People with disabilities deceased due to COVID-19

2529 **Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the data on the number of people with disabilities vaccinated for the 1st dose of COVID-19 and both the doses of COVID-19 is available;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the data on the number of people with disabilities deceased due to COVID-19 is available;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government has issued any notification to vaccinate people with disabilities on a priority basis; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

### Side effects of COVID-19 vaccination

2530 **Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the vaccines for COVID-19 do not provide any guarantee on their side effects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including reasons; and
- (c) the steps taken or being taken by Government to ensure that people who develop side effects after vaccination are suitably compensated?

### Progress made under PM-KUSUM

2531 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **New and Renewable Energy** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of progress made along with announcement/implementation/execution of the Pradhan Mantri-Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) projects phase-wise and States covered/beneficiaries listed and criteria adopted along with funds sanctioned/released, and the results yielded so far, sector-wise in the last four years and current year-wise as on date;
- (b) demands received/action taken from States, year-wise; and
- (c) future action plan in this regard?

### Installed renewable energy capacity in Rajasthan

2532 **Shri K.J. Alphans:**

Will the Minister of **New and Renewable Energy** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total installed renewable energy capacity in Rajasthan;
- (b) how much of the above is from solar; and
- (c) whether there is any limit to the potential for tapping solar energy considering the fact that the State has sunshine throughout the year?

### PM-KUSUM in Andhra Pradesh

2533 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

Will the Minister of **New and Renewable Energy** be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of PM-KUSUM;
- (b) the details of solar pumps installed under PM-KUSUM in the State of Andhra Pradesh as of June 2021, district-wise; and
- (c) whether any target is set for 2021-22 under PM-KUSUM and, if so, the details thereof, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

### Funds sanctioned under PM KUSUM scheme

2534 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

Will the Minister of **New and Renewable Energy** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised under the “Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan” (PM-KUSUM) scheme during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) the total number of beneficiaries under the scheme since its inception, State-wise;
- (c) the average income generated for farmers under the scheme, State-wise;
- (d) identified roadblocks to the successful implementation of the scheme and action taken regarding same; and
- (e) whether Government has made any provision in the PM-KUSUM scheme for the farmers belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes?

### Schemes to promote solar and wind energy in Tamil Nadu

2535 **Shri P. Wilson:**

Will the Minister of **New and Renewable Energy** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes / policies launched or formulated for the promotion of Solar and Wind Energy in the country during the last year five years, especially in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the details of the funds allotted, sanctioned for the development of Solar and Wind Energy along with the utilization of funds so far in the country, especially for Tamil Nadu;
- (c) whether steps have been taken/being taken by Government to set up more solar power plants in the country, especially in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

### Generation of Wave (Tidal) energy

2536 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **New and Renewable Energy** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to identify the wave (tidal) energy potential in the country given that India has coastline of around 7500 km which can be harnessed to



generate wave (tidal) energy; and  
 (b) if so, the details thereof?

### **Installation of solar pumps**

**2537 # Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of units of solar pumps installed across the country at present;
- (b) the details of the profit being made by the farmers of the country with these units;
- (c) whether Government proposes to give grid connected solar pumps to the farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

### **New techniques of solar energy for farmers**

**2538 # Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is focussing on feasibility and availability of new techniques of solar energy for the farmers of the country with the aim of providing augmented financial activities at rural level;
- (b) the measures being taken by Government to provide alternative of clean energy to the rural people, especially women and children of rural areas in Uttar Pradesh by decreasing the consumption of firewood; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Schemes to promote solar grid power generation**

**2539 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the major schemes/policies for building a solar grid to generate 100GW solar energy during the last three years and the details thereof;
- (b) the total expenditure incurred by Government as the cost of implementing these schemes over the last three years and the details thereof; and
- (c) the total amount of solar energy generated/added through these schemes during the last three years and the details thereof?

### **Generation of renewable energy**

**2540 Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the Gigawatts of energy produced by renewable energy resources during the year 2020-21 and the details thereof; and
- (b) the percentage share of renewable energy consumption for the year 2020-21 and the details thereof?

### **Fund allocated for renewable energy schemes**

**2541 Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of fund allocated /spent on the renewable energy schemes during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;

- (c) the target fixed in terms of Megawatt for the renewable energy production; and
- (d) the total quantity of electricity distributed every year from the said production?

### **Hydro-electric projects in hilly States**

**2542 Smt. Ambika Soni:**

Will the Minister of **Power** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any policy for construction of hydro-electric projects in the hilly States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to have a comprehensive well considered policy in this regard?

### **Use of Facial Recognition Technology by NTPC**

**2543 Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:**

**Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Power** be pleased to state:

- (a) the legal framework under which the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) seeks to implement Facial Recognition Technology (FRT) for employees attendance;
- (b) whether Government intends to expand usage of FRT to other PSUs;
- (c) the legal justification by Government on how use of FRT by NTPC will not violate the Fundamental Right to Privacy of its employees;
- (d) whether employees will be required to provide explicit consent to be subjected to FRT; and
- (e) if so, details thereof including how such consent will be acquired and the course of action for those employees who do not provide such explicit consent?

### **Outstanding dues of power DISCOMs**

**2544 Shri P. Wilson:**

Will the Minister of **Power** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether outstanding dues of power distribution and transmission companies have been cleared in various parts of the country, especially in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has achieved complete electrification of all rural and urban areas of the country especially in Tamil Nadu and, if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of State owned DISCOMs revenue losses due to COVID-19 during lockdown, especially in Tamil Nadu; and
- (e) schemes launched / formulated by Government to rehabilitate DISCOMs pan India especially in Tamil Nadu?

### **Choice to consumers for buying electricity**

**2545 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

Will the Minister of **Power** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to introduce a Bill enabling the power consumer to choose from multiple service providers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the All India Power Engineers Federation has urged

Government to put on hold the Bill for discussion on comments and suggestions by all the stakeholders, particularly electricity employees and consumers after putting the draft in the public domain; and

(d) if so, the response of Government in this regard?

### **National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE)**

2546 **Shri John Brittas:**

Will the Minister of **Power** be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of implementation of National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE) and the various schemes under it including Perform Achieve and Trade (PAT) and Market Transformation for Energy Efficiency (MTEE);

(b) whether PAT Cycles III, IV have achieved their targets, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of implementation of PAT Cycle VI?

### **Use of unwashed coal in power plants**

2547 **Shri Anil Desai:**

Will the Minister of **Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allowed unwashed coal to be used for power generation at Power plants;

(b) whether it will be a pollution free option;

(c) the details of power generation companies of various States, private power plants and NTPC who are using unwashed coal, plant-wise and coal quantity-wise; and

(d) whether it is a fact that Madhya Pradesh Power Generation Corporation intends to use washed coal for their Khandwa and Sarni plants which is considered eco-friendly, if so, the details thereof?

### **Global S&T research and initiative**

2548 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

**Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

**Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Will the Minister of **Science and Technology** be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has emerged as a key mover of global S&T partnerships in critical areas like energy, water, health and astronomy which are global challenges to make the world a better and more scientific place to live in and, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether India played a crucial role in launching 'Mission Innovation' which is a global initiative and, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the COVID-19 pandemic established India's position as a leading country in tackling the pandemic crisis and, if so, the details thereof?

### **Insufficient domestic investment in R&D**

2549 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Science and Technology** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been insufficient domestic investment in R&D and there has been a persistent shortage of well-trained scientists and engineers in the country to keep up with the growth in the economy;

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

(c) whether Government is aware of the report by UNESCO called "Science Report" which

states that research intensity in the country is stagnant and patenting by domestic corporations, research institutes, universities and individuals remains low; and  
(d) if so, the reasons for the low investment?

### **GDP spent on Science and Technology infrastructure**

**2550 Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

Will the Minister of **Science and Technology** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of GDP being allocated or spent on strengthening the Science and Technology infrastructure in the country year-wise since 2014-15;
- (b) whether the present level of investment of GDP in Science and Technology is inadequate to meet the requirements of the sector; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

### **Timeline for STI Policy release and increasing GERD**

**2551 Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

Will the Minister of **Science and Technology** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of timeline and roadmap for release of the new Science, Technology and Innovation Policy;
- (b) whether there have been delays in the release of the same and the reasons therefor;
- (c) reasons for Gross Expenditure on Research and Development (GERD) not reaching 2 per cent of GDP as recommended in Science, Technology and Innovation Policy of 2013; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to increase private investment in Research and Development, especially through Corporate Social Responsibility funds?

### **Use of Hydrogen Fuel Cells as fuel**

**2552 Dr. Subramanian Swamy:**

Will the Minister of **Science and Technology** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is exploring the possibility of Hydrogen Fuel Cells to be used as fuel for the future of the country;
- (b) whether Government has given priority to this study and research; and
- (c) the details thereof?

### **National Mission on Quantum Technologies & Applications**

**2553 Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

Will the Minister of **Science and Technology** be pleased to state:

- (a) the goals, details and specifications of the National Mission on Quantum Technologies & Applications (NMQTA) announced by Government in 2020;
- (b) whether the NMQTA is being implemented in Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode and, if so, the names and details of the private sector partner identified and engaged for said purpose;
- (c) whether there are any persons, body corporates or any other organizations as consultants engaged for the NMQTA on contractual basis, if so, the number of such contracts entered into and their specifications; and
- (d) the total amount of funds allocated for the NMQTA for the financial year 2020-21?

### Online presence of PRASHAD Scheme

2554 **Shri Prashanta Nanda:**

Will the Minister of **Tourism** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken steps to establish the online presence of the PRASHAD scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) if so, the number of users who have registered for online services under PRASHAD scheme; and
- (e) allocation and utilization of Central Financial Assistance for launching mobile application under the PRASHAD scheme?

### Safety at adventure tourism sites

2555 **Dr. Ameer Jainik:**

Will the Minister of **Tourism** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of services added to enhance safety and convenience at several adventure tourism sites in the country during the last two years;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any survey to recognise new sites for adventure tourism in the last two years; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

### Loss in tourism sector

2556 # **Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Tourism** be pleased to state:

- (a) the extent of loss caused to the State of Madhya Pradesh in the context of Government's loss in tourism sector due to lockdown and closed activities in wake of COVID-19; and
- (b) whether Government proposes any plan to promote tourism?

### Adopt a Heritage Scheme for West Bengal

2557 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

Will the Minister of **Tourism** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has sanctioned any project under "Adopt a Heritage Scheme" for West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the rules governing the sanction of the scheme; and
- (c) the list of Government recognized heritage sites in West Bengal?

### Accreditation of local tourist guides

2558 **Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:**

Will the Minister of **Tourism** be pleased to state:

- (a) the framework/procedure for the accreditation of local tourist guides at the historical monuments notified by the Ministry;
- (b) whether there is any mechanism to monitor/review their performance;
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken any initiatives to induct local tourist guides with the help of Departments of History of respective universities in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

### Promotion of monsoon tourism

2559 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

**Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Will the Minister of *Tourism* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to promote monsoon tourism in different States considering its immense potential and, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is ready to promote the scope of monsoon tourism in international platforms to attract foreign tourists to the country and, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the various promotion campaign undertaken by Government for the promotion of monsoon tourism in the country; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government for the promotion of tourism sector in the country including monsoon tourism?

### Promotion of rural tourism

2560 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Will the Minister of *Tourism* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated a draft National Strategy and Roadmap for Development of Rural Tourism in India as an initiative towards AatmaNirbhar Bharat and, if so, the details thereof and main feature of the draft;
- (b) the details of rural tourism projects implemented/ sanctioned in this regard, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether Government has received any proposals from the States/UTs in this regard and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the number of villages identified and developed as rural tourist spots under rural tourism during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise?

New Delhi  
The 3rd August, 2021  
 12 Sravana, 1943 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,  
 Secretary-General.

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