

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, January 1, 2018/Pausha 11, 1939 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 160

Functioning of Army hospitals

1441. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS
BAIDYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE
be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Army hospitals
functioning at present in the country,
State-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to
open more hospitals in near future; and

(c) if so, the places identified for the
purpose?

Educational expenses of children of martyrs of disabled in action

1442. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
SHRI RITABRATA
BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government
has recently capped educational expenses
for children of martyrs or those disabled
in action at ₹ 10,000 per month;

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

(c) number of students being affected
by this decision;

(d) amount of money Government
would save due to such a decision; and

(e) whether any representation has been
received against this decision and if so, the
response of Government thereto?

Induction of FICV in the Indian Army

1443. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY:
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased
to state:

(a) whether, as per the original plan of
the Ministry, 835 new Future Infantry
Combat Vehicles (FICV) were supposed
to be inducted into the Indian Army;

(b) what are the reasons for delay in the
production and supply of FICV to the
Indian Army; and

(c) by when the Ministry proposes to
provide such FICV to the Armed Forces?

Naval surveillance in Indian Ocean

1444. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Navy has decided to increase surveillance over Indian Ocean;

(b) whether it is also a fact that, of late, China has increased its presence in Indian Ocean in the name of anti-piracy operations;

(c) whether at least 12-15 major warships are on round the clock surveillance of critical choke points in the Indian Ocean Region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Repairing of INS Chakra

1445. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the only nuclear submarine of the country INS Chakra is under repair;

(b) if so, since when it is under repair; and

(c) the steps taken to repair the submarine and by when it will be put into operation?

Road infrastructure along international borders

1446. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of urgent need of road infrastructure along the international borders in the country;

(b) whether Government would inform the estimated length of border roads in kilometer and that of actually constructed during the last three years;

(c) whether any special focus on border road construction is in the offing; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Road projects along international borders

1447. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ongoing road projects along Indian international borders;

(b) the details regarding sectors in which such projects are going on;

(c) the details of projects which have been pending for more than five years and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to expedite construction of border roads, especially those along the Indo-China border?

Disability pension and compensation to ex-servicemen and cadets

1448. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the disability pension, accruing to the ex-servicemen, during 2014-17, rank-wise;

(b) whether Government has reduced the disability pension to ex-servicemen for any rank during 2014-17;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the rationale for the cuts in disability pension; and

(d) whether it is a fact that trainees of commissioned Group A (Class I) level posts are not given proper disability or family pension on death and only "monthly *ex-gratia* payment" is made since they are not considered as Government employees and if so, the steps taken by the Ministry to change this scenario?

**Peace restoration campaigns by
Armed Forces**

1449. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of peace restoration campaigns being undertaken by the Armed Forces in various countries till date, country-wise;

(b) the number of Indian soldiers killed therein, country-wise;

(c) whether the United Nations (UN) has to make payment to the Indian Army for this work; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Withdrawal of empanelled hospitals
from ECHS**

1450. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether empanelled hospitals in the ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) are withdrawing from the scheme;

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

(c) whether Government has received complaints from ex-servicemen regarding

non-admission of patients by hospitals demanding advance payments; and

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

**Reduction in residual service for
appointment as Army
Commanders**

1451. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to reduce residual service from 24 months to 18 months for appointment as Army Commanders;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the reduction in residual service is to make it at par with other defence services;

(c) whether the decision was also in line with the Ahuja Committee recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Maintenance and support for Rafale
jets**

1452. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has arrived at any concrete decision regarding maintenance and support for the 36 Rafale jets proposed to be procured from France;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether assurance for maintenance and support, if any, given by France was included in 7.87 billion Euro deal or India has to pay for it separately?

Addition of a ballistic nuclear submarine in Indian Navy

1453. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY:
SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new ballistic nuclear submarine is proposed to be added to the water vessel strength of the Indian Navy;

(b) if so how the Ministry proposes to continue with such development and modernization in view of the meager amount earmarked for modernization in the current annual budget; and

(c) whether the Minister would consider proposing a Revised Budget Estimate specifically for the purpose of defence modernization?

Time-bound promotion of non-commissioned officers of Armed Forces

1454. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to implement time bound promotion for non-commissioned officers of Armed Forces to the rank of Junior Warrant Officer (JCO) and its equivalent in Army, Navy and Air Force as in the case with Commissioned Officers promoted to the Rank of Lt. Col. and its equivalent in other Armed Forces within fourteen years of service (ACP);

(b) if so, by when it is going to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not extending it to non-commissioned officers which is against the principle of natural justice and equity?

Overseas military base of China at Djibouti

1455. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that China has picked Djibouti to set up its first overseas military base;

(b) whether increased Chinese activity in Indian Ocean is being seen as anti-piracy patrols and freedom of navigation;

(c) whether China is looking to secure its energy and trade transportation links along the vital shipping route of the Indian Ocean;

(d) the number of sightings by the Indian Navy of Chinese warships, including submarines and intelligence-gathering vessels, during the last two years; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to tighten surveillance of the strategic waters?

Ammunition manufactured by private sector for Armed Forces

1456. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of ammunition manufactured by the private sector for the Armed Forces since its opening for that sector;

(b) the break-up of ammunition sourced by the Indian Army in terms of indigenous by manufactured and imported items;

(c) whether Government proposes/ intends to manufacture the majority of the ammunition being supplied to the Indian Army in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the estimated amount likely to be saved as a result thereof?

Division of defence forces

1457. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Government has any proposal to further divide Defence forces as this is a more advanced system prevailing in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study was conducted on Chinese Defence forces which are having five Divisions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Foreign stake in defence sector

1458. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to raise foreign stake upto 49 per cent in the defence sector;

(b) if so, whether foreign proposals on technology development have been received from different countries therefor, since 2012;

(c) the action taken by Government therein; and

(d) the budgetary allocation and expenditure on the joint venture technology participation by the foreign companies thereof?

Modernisation and technology upgradation of India's maritime security

1459. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's maritime security needs modernization and technology upgraded support system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the proposal of Government to equip air, defence and army aviation with modern technologies and the plan with reports of DRDO and OFB?

Amendment in guidelines of the works of Defence Act, 1903

1460. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has amended the guidelines to the Works of Defence Act, 1903 in 2016 with regards to grant of NOCs to structures on private lands coming close to Defence Establishments and installation;

(b) if so, the salient features of these amendments and the details thereof;

(c) whether these amendments are applicable to all Defence lands belonging to the Army, Navy and Air Force; and

(d) if not, by when all the three defence land guidelines would be amended to cover all defence installation and establishments?

Strengthening of coastal security mechanism

1461. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that though the coastal security has improved after 26/11 terror attacks, more measures still needs to be taken up to strengthen coastal security mechanism of the country;

(b) whether Government conducts comprehensive periodical review of the coastal security;

(c) the details of the measures needed and the steps taken by Government for strengthening coastal security of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Requirements of logistics and resources for Armed Forces

†1462. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the three organs of Armed Forces have requested for fulfilment of their requirement of logistics and resources;

(b) if so, by when their demands would be met; and

(c) if not, whether all the three organs of Armed Forces have adequate logistics and resources?

Prosecution of Armed Forces under AFSPA

1463. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases received by the Central Government from Jammu and Kashmir Government for sanction of prosecution of Armed Forces personnel, under Armed Forces (Jammu and Kashmir) Special Powers Act, (AFSPA), 1990;

(b) the number of such cases in which sanctions were granted, denied and pending;

(c) the details for each request received including its year of receiving, offences alleged, outcome of investigation, current status of the sanction for prosecution; and

(d) the reasons for denying or pending status of sanction for prosecution?

Replacement of air defence guns

1464. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to replace the existing air defence guns for the IAF and Army;

(b) if so, whether there would be one consolidated tender for meeting the requirements of both the Indian Army and Air Force, in view of the fact that current requirements are being met by the same set of guns; and

(c) if not, the reasons for splitting the requirement and its adverse impact on cost of acquisition, transfer of technology and manufacturing in the country?

RFPs for manufacture of ammunition by private sector companies

1465. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry had issued

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

eight Request for Proposals (RFPs) in March, 2017 for manufacture of ammunition by the private sector companies;

(b) if so, the date for submission of response to the RFPs and reasons for responses not being submitted till now;

(c) whether the Ministry has failed to issue corrigendum to the RFPs more than seven months after the pre bid meeting with the potential Indian suppliers; and

(d) the planned action to meet the critical requirement of ammunition and disposal of RFPs due to large number of inconsistencies pointed out by the industry in the proposed acquisition process?

Peace time non-military operations

1466. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Army, Indian Air Force and Indian Navy have undertaken peace time non-military operations like refugee evacuation, natural disaster relief, etc. during the last three years, if so, the details thereof, year-wise;

(b) whether expenditure undertaken by the Armed Forces for such tasks is reimbursed back to the Defence budget;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Pricing mechanism of ordnance factories

1467. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pricing mechanism adopted for the products manufactured for Armed Forces by ordnance factories;

(b) the total losses incurred by five factories in general stores and clothing during the last three years along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective steps taken by Government to address the deficiencies in operations of these factories?

Road infrastructure along border areas

1468. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is seriously working to enhance road infrastructure along the India-China and other border areas of neighbouring countries to provide logistical support to Indian Army at time of need;

(b) if so, whether the Border Roads Organization (BRO) has been asked to complete works at the earliest; and

(c) whether, keeping in view of the present external security scenario of the country, Government has devised any plan to tighten the borders of the country?

Test-fire of 'Nirbhay' cruise missile by DRDO

1469. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether DRDO has test-fired a long range sub-sonic cruise missile 'Nirbhay' recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including its operational range, capacity to carry warheads and other features;

(c) whether the test met all the operational parameters as programmed, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when, these would be ready to be deployed in the Defence Forces?

Special uniform for soldiers in borders or field areas

†1470. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study to find out the requirement of special uniform for the safety of the soldiers posted in borders/field areas of the country;

(b) whether Government has decided to implement a time-bound purchase scheme for purchasing bullet proof jackets and security equipments/clothes for the soldiers;

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when the purchase is likely to be completed; and

(d) whether Government proposes to frame any policy regarding periodic review and necessary upgradation of uniforms of the soldiers and if so, the details thereof?

Shortage of drinking water in M.P. villages

†1471. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of villages in Madhya Pradesh facing shortage of drinking water, year-wise; and

(b) the details of deep tube wells that were proposed to be dug and actually dug in the last three years and current year along with the names of villages under the

intensive tube well drilling programme?

Drainage connectivity and sanitary conditions in the country

1472. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large percentage of households in the country, do not have drainage connectivity in their toilets;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve sanitary conditions in the country?

National Water Quality Sub-mission

†1473. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have launched a National Water Quality Sub-mission aimed at providing the safe drinking water to the habitats affected by Arsenic and Fluoride;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed to provide safe drinking water to all the habitats affected by Arsenic and Fluoride; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Review and implementation of NRDWP

1474. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

reviewed the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP);

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

(c) the success achieved under the scheme during each of the last two years and the current year, State-wise including Maharashtra;

(d) whether it is a fact that more than 1.25 lakh rural habitations are forced to drink chemically contaminated water;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures being taken in this regard; and

(f) the funds released and utilised under the scheme during each of the last two years and the current year, State/UT-wise?

Supply of drinking water to houses under NRDWP

†1475. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the houses covered for supply of drinking water completely under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period has increased marginally and the houses covered partly has decreased;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons behind this slow increase in comparison to targeted rate of progress; and

(d) the name of States which could not achieve the targets of providing drinking water during the above period?

Declaration of districts/blocks as ODF

1476. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of districts and blocks declared as Open Defecation Free (ODF) during 2016 and 2017 till date;

(b) the details of methods and mechanisms adopted while declaring a particular area as ODF; and

(c) the details of areas declared as ODF on fake data, year-wise and State-wise?

Access to clean drinking water

1477. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of Indians having access to clean drinking water in 2017, State-wise;

(b) whether only 12 per cent Indians had access to clean drinking water in 2015;

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

(d) the details of funds allocated, released and spent for providing clean drinking water in 2017, till date, State-wise?

Providing piped water facilities to Gram Panchayats

†1478. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has provided piped water facilities to Gram Panchayats under any scheme, if so, the State-wise details thereof, including the State of Madhya Pradesh;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) by when similar facilities are likely to be extended to the remaining Gram Panchayats in the country; and

(c) the details of the action plan formulated in this regard and the deadline, if any, fixed to complete this task?

Funds to Telangana for drinking water

1479. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has released ₹ 350 crores to Telangana State for providing drinking water, to meet the drought situation early this year;

(b) if so, whether State has utilized the money;

(c) how the Ministry is persuading the State Government to use money in drought affected areas of the State; and

(d) whether ₹ 350 crores is a part of the package of ₹ 750 crores approved for Telangana to meet the drought conditions?

Implementation of SBM

†1480. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the scope of national cleanliness in terms of rural and urban population at present and the annual increase thereof during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the percentage of population compelled to go for open defecation in rural and urban areas owing to shortage of resources, at present;

(c) the details of number of toilets constructed in the country under Swachh Bharat Mission, State-wise; and

(d) the expenditure incurred during the last three years for creating maximum awareness among people towards use of toilets for sanitation?

Fluoride affected rural habitation in Kadapa (Andhra Pradesh)

1481. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the Integrated Management Information System, fourteen rural habitations have been identified as Fluoride affected in Kadapa district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of habitations;

(c) what efforts, the Ministry has made to make the habitations Fluoride-free as they have been declared Fluoride-affected long back; and

(d) the details of technical and financial assistance provided to the State Government to deal with the above problem?

Setting up of an IMD Centre at Mangalagiri in A.P.

1482. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has taken a decision to set up an IMD Centre at Mangalagiri in Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry has written a letter to Andhra Pradesh Government for allotment of suitable land for this purpose and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of the matter as on date?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Economic viability of development projects

1483. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the economic viability of any development projects that involve diversion of forest land may now reduce with Government coming up with a new cost benefit analysis guidelines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government, has not revised the Net Present Value despite court order; and

(d) whether they propose to revise it every three years?

Absence of biodiversity value in the compensatory afforested areas

1484. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received representations from civil societies or individuals about the absence of biodiversity value in the compensatory afforested areas in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereon and the steps being taken to ensure development of biodiversity in compensatory afforested regions and the details thereof?

Toxic air due to pollution and rapid industrialization

1485. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that increasing pollution and rapid industrialization is making India's air more toxic;

(b) if so, the preventive measures proposed to be taken by Government;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are around one lakh deaths every year due to breathing ailments and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of CO₂ concentration level in India's metro cities?

Protection of forests in Chhattisgarh

1486. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, at many places, forest prevails on records but practically there are no forests;

(b) whether there is any planning to replant trees in those places;

(c) whether cutting of sal trees by Government is done routinely especially in Jashpur district of Chhattisgarh; and

(d) what measures are being taken to protect forests and to replant the trees in Jashpur district, Chhattisgarh?

Programme for allowing wildlife enthusiasts to venture into core forest areas

1487. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is aware that the West Bengal Government has launched a project 'Bonya Pran Sathi' (Honorary Wildlife Volunteer Service Programme) that offers wildlife enthusiasts to venture into core forest areas especially in North Bengal and Sunderbans to get the real life experience of dealing with animals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government is ready to take up this unique idea to garner public support for wildlife conservation and implement it in different parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Release of Central share funds to Rajasthan

1488. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to release Central share of ₹ 20 crore to Rajasthan, in view of the fact that, by keeping in abeyance the 3rd instalment, the progress of work has been affected and projected expenditure is not being utilized;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Flouting of green norms by ports

1489. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of reports regarding certain ports in the country which are flouting green norms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps taken by Government to ensure that all the ports strictly follow all the relevant environment laws?

Permission for GM food crops

1490. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has permitted Genetically Modified (GM) food crops in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has any study report on GM crop trials and its aspects therein;

(c) whether Government has made any survey on BT Cotton seeds; and

(d) the report and appraisal of the Biotechnology Regulatory Authority of India (BRAI) on different transgenic seeds?

Antibiotic resistance in poultry farms

1491. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rampant misuse of antibiotics in poultry farms is leading to large scale antibiotic resistance

because of unsafe poultry litter and waste in agricultural land;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a study has found that misuse of antibiotics in animals is leading to proliferation of multi drug resistance bacteria which has a potential to infect human beings; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that anti-microbial resistance threatens effective prevention of treatment of an ever increasing range of infectious diseases like tuberculosis, malaria, urinary tract infection and HIV?

Threat of extinction of Dugong

1492. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the marine animal Dugong, commonly known as sea cows are under threat of extinction in the Gulf of Mannar; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government for the conservation of the Dugong as well as other marine life in the Gulf of Mannar?

Effect of pollution on rivers and natural resources of Meghalaya

1493. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rivers and natural resources of Meghalaya are vanishing due to pollution;

(b) whether any authentic data is available on the effect of pollution on natural resources and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether both the National Green

Tribunal and Pollution Control Board are unsuccessful in controlling it;

(d) whether the local public of Meghalaya is facing health problems, such as stomach ailments, cancer etc., during the last three years as per Government reports;

(e) if so, the number of people who suffered from such diseases; and

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

New norms for implementation of solid waste management policies

1494. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated new norms for effective implementation of solid waste management policies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

National Wildlife Action Plan 2017-2031

1495. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that use of technology, including e-surveillance through drones and modalities involving people around national parks and sanctuaries in conservation efforts would be the key to the new National Wildlife Action Plan 2017-2031 announced by Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the plan has a road map to deal with poaching and illegal trade of animals and animal parts and management of tourism in wildlife areas;

(c) whether 2017-2031 National Action Plan would be the third such plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Timely clearance of projects

1496. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to clear projects on war footing basis and set a strict time-frame;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Impact Assessment (IA) division of the Ministry has already missed the first deadline fixed by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Estimate of daily waste produce

1497. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any estimate of waste produced daily in the country; and

(b) how much of it is allowed to be managed using modern methods, traditional practices and left to rot as such?

Air quality of the Capital

1498. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Capital's air quality has been rated as one of the worst in the World, by International agencies including WHO with millions of

vehicles, factories and burning of crops stubble from neighbouring States belching out clouds of tiny PM 2.5 particles which has resulted in the alarming rise of lung cancer cases even amongst the non-smokers; and

(b) if so, whether Government have chalked out any programme to reduce pollution in the Capital and if so, the details thereof and by when the Capital is likely to be free from pollution?

Deterioration of air quality in Delhi

1499. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that quality of air in Delhi city has deteriorated during the last few years;

(b) whether it is a fact that during the winter period the air quality at Delhi further deteriorates and it is a serious health hazard; and

(c) what steps Government proposes to take to reduce air pollution and improve the air quality for better health standards?

Pollution in rivers flowing through urban areas

1500. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of pollution caused to rivers flowing through urban areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any plans to conserve lakes and rivers in the country including Himachal Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated to Himachal Pradesh under the plan?

Destruction of wild life habitats due to mining activities

1501. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether wild life habitats are being destroyed due to mining activities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the existing laws to compensate the loss of forests and wild animal habitats as a result thereof;

(c) whether the mining companies are not complying with the laws framed for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government against the erring companies, company-wise?

Participation of NGOs in environmental projects

1502. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government encourages Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for participation in environmental projects and to spread environmental awareness in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the criteria fixed for NGOs;

(c) the details of the NGOs in the country receiving grants under various schemes under the Ministry during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) the details of schemes along with the amount sanctioned against each of these schemes during the said period, State-wise;

(e) whether cases of irregularities regarding misuse of funds have been reported; and

(f) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon?

Pending projects from Telangana

1503. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six projects from Telangana are pending before the Ministry for its clearance;

(b) if so, the details of each of the projects, such as when it was submitted, the reasons for delay and the present status of such projects; and

(c) by when each of the above projects is going to be cleared by the Ministry?

Feedback on cattle trade ban order

1504. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has sought feedback on cattle trade ban order;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to lift the cattle trade ban;

(c) whether a new draft notification would be framed, based on the feedback from States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Policy on GM crops

1505. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a policy would be announced for GM (genetically modified) crops, prohibiting GM regime for edible crops; and

(b) whether an appraisal would be done on the impact of GM cotton in general and the impact of GM cotton seed based feed stock on bovine and human health in particular?

Identification of land as tiger reserves in Chhattisgarh

†1506. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land identified in Chhattisgarh as tiger reserves, area-wise;

(b) whether Government has received any proposal from Chhattisgarh to bring the Boramdeo forest under the tiger reserve; and

(c) if so, by when it is proposed to be done and the number of villages which are likely to be evacuated in this process and the estimated amount of money to be provided to the displaced families?

Adherence of environmental norms by Alang-Sosiya Ship Recycling Facility

1507. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Alang-Sosiya Ship

Recycling Facility in Gujarat, the largest in the world, is increasingly turning green with more than 40 per cent of its yards having obtained ISO 30,000 certification for adherence to the highest standards in environmental norms;

(b) whether the Ship Recycling Association of Alang-Sosiya claims that they do not content with meeting Indian standards and that several yards are striving to match the more stringent Hong Kong Convention (HKC) 2009 norms; and

(c) whether the fact finding mission from the European Community Ship Owners Association had visited Alang last year and applauded the improvements?

Impact of coal importing industries in Goa

1508. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards a report that many big industries which currently import huge amounts of coal at Goa, are putting entire habitations in villages and towns at risk as coal dust is damaging lungs and pushing up incidents of respiratory disorder and also threatening fragile forests, paddy fields, countless streams and rivers; and

(b) if so, Government's response and reaction thereto?

Air pollution due to petcoke exported from the US

1509. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the US oil refineries are exporting vast quantities of fuel waste product, petroleum coke which could not be sold in their country to India;

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

(c) whether the petcoke burnt in countless factories and plants is contributing to polluted air in the country;

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(e) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for the environment protection and public health by avoiding such hazardous products in the country?

Compliance of electronic waste procurement norms

1510. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

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

(a) whether a large number of electronic goods manufacturing companies are not complying with electronic waste procurement norms;

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

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to ensure that the e-waste goods are collected and scientifically recycled on regular basis?

Elephants killed in notified elephant corridors

1511. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) the number of elephants killed in accidents in notified elephant corridors in the country, during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that 6 elephants were killed and many injured recently while crossing railway track in Sonitpur district of Assam recently;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when speed restriction of 30 kmph will be in force in the area and if so, the details of actions taken against the erring persons including Railway drivers by the administration?

Approval of GM crops

1512. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the procedure for approval of GM crops;

(b) whether Government has made any changes to the bio-safety rules for the approval of GM crops during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government is planning to set up a Bio-safety Regulatory Authority of India?

Targeted forest cover under National Forest Policy

1513. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the targeted forest cover under the National Forest Policy;

(b) how many forest rangers are currently employed by the Department of Forest; and

(c) how many vacancies are currently there in Department of Forests in all the States?

Digitization of cable network by TACTV

1514. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has granted time till December, 2017 to the Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation (TACTV) to complete the process of the digitization of its cable network;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Regulation for content of news channels

1515. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to regulate the content of news and videos aired 24/7 by news channels;

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

(c) whether Government has taken keen note of increasing trend of paid news and the menace of news sensationalism and breaking news culture;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the stringent action plan to be adopted by Government to tackle the above said issues?

Prohibition on broadcast of condom advertisements

1516. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the Ministry's order prohibiting the broadcast of condom advertisements on television between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.;

(b) whether it has consulted experts to establish a link between condom advertisements and its impact on children;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of the categories of advertisements that have been restricted to 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. banned in accordance with the Rule 7 (7) and (8) of the Cable Television Network Rules, 1994?

Misleading advertisements in media

1517. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of misleading and surrogate advertisements in media even by public idols;

(b) if so, whether there is any law to prevent these and also restraining big names from doing so;

(c) the reasons for not enforcing that law; and

(d) if not, the action being taken in this regard?

Disclosure of ownership of media houses

1518. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to make it mandatory for the Media Houses to disclose their ownership details in the public domain and if so, the details thereof;

(b) if so, by when Government is planning to pass such a notification; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Re-auction of mining rights of aborted mineral fields

1519. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government intends to allocate mining rights of aborted mineral fields through re-auction; and

(b) if so, the details of the respective mineral fields and re-auction?

Utilisation of DMF funds

†1520. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds allocated under the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) to the District Mineral Foundation (DMF) so far, district-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of mining affected areas on which contribution made by Government under PMKKKY is being utilised;

(c) whether Government is aware of that in some districts, DMF funds are being utilised for schemes of the State Governments and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether in some districts DMF fund are not being utilised on time due to which ensuing instalments are not being received?

Representation of women in PRIs

1521. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of States which have implemented reservation of fifty per cent seats in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for women in the country during the last three years; and

(b) whether Government has any data regarding the number of women Sarpanches/Members/Functionaries in PRIs and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

Allocation of funds to PRIs

1522. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than ₹ 2 lakh crore has been allocated to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) by the 14th Finance Commission during its award period;

(b) if so, the details of allocations made and expenditure incurred during 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, State-wise; and

(c) the details of States that have prepared and implemented Gram Panchayat Development Plan?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Funds for Panchayat Sashaktikaran
Abhiyan**

1523. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the budget allocation made and funds released under the Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (PSA) during the last three years and the current year, including Jharkhand and Gujarat, State/UT-wise;

(b) the details of progress in implementation of PSA and its role in strengthening the Panchayati Raj Institutions, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to revamp the scheme for effective implementation of the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Performance of the Ministry under
SCSP**

†1524. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a huge difference in budget estimate, revised estimate and total expenditure made by the Ministry under Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP), if so, the details thereof during the last three years, along with the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of actual target fixed and achievements made by the Ministry during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the directions given by the Ministry to implementing agencies to receive proposals within specified time limit?

Release of funds directly to Panchayats

1525. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any representation from association of Panchayat Presidents requesting for release of Panchayat funds directly to the respective Panchayat account and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has taken any decision thereon and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's stand in this regard?

Road projects in Amritsar

1526. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the details of proposed, sanctioned and on-going projects for the upliftment of road network in Amritsar district in Punjab?

**Delay in construction of Delhi-Meerut
Expressway**

1527. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had inaugurated Delhi-Meerut Smart Expressway on 31 December, 2015;

(b) whether Government has calculated the escalation in project cost which was estimated to be ₹ 7500 crore;

(c) the reasons for delay in the project alongwith the measures taken to expedite the project and timeline for the project; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the details regarding the status of Eastern and Western Peripheral Expressways, its budget and timeline?

Potholes on roads in Delhi

†1528. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the report titled Report Accident India — 2016 of the Ministry, there are 2,000 potholes on roads in Delhi, which causes accidents, especially during the rainy season;

(b) the steps taken by Government to provide pothole free roads to the people of Delhi;

(c) whether few roads in Delhi are still in poor condition; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve their condition?

Duplicate driving licences

1529. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of fake or duplicate driving licences are under circulation and if so, whether Government has taken any steps to check the menace;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is planning to link all 1,300 RTOs to the central depository;

(d) if so, whether this issue was taken up at the Transport Development Council meeting;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) the other steps taken by Government to check the menace of multiple licencing?

Crash test on cars

1530. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the cars sold in the country are not tested for front and side crash;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the percentage of such accidents to the total accidents; and

(d) whether any time line fixed for doing this test on cars?

Ring roads in Jaipur and Jodhpur

†1531. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared a ring road project to reduce the traffic load in Jaipur and Jodhpur cities in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details of the action plan chalked out by Government to complete the ring road project in these cities; and

(c) by when this project would be completed?

New National Highways

†1532. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to construct new National Highways in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether Government have accorded sanction for construction of these new highways;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details of expenditure to be incurred on their construction; and

(d) whether the detailed project reports have been prepared by the State Governments for these roads, if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Length of elevated roads and flyovers on NH-24

†1533. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the draft project report of Delhi Meerut and Delhi Hapur Expressway (NH-24) along with the estimated cost and the time period for completion of this project;

(b) the number of flyovers and length of elevated road, in kilometer, proposed to be built in this project and the details of changes, if any, proposed; and

(c) whether the project would be completed in prescribed time-limit as the speed of the above work is slow?

Schemes for construction of highways and roads

†1534. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes under which highways, access roads and roads in rural areas are being constructed by Government;

(b) the details of the targets fixed by Government during each of the last three years, and the extent to which above roads have been constructed; and

(c) the details of the important steps

taken by present Government to ensure speedy construction of above roads?

Deficiencies in execution of NH projects

1535. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has found any complaints/anomalies in execution of National Highway projects running across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the lives lost/major injuries to commuters due to accidents in the last three years, if any;

(d) the details regarding safety measures taken/being taken, NH-wise and State-wise along with their impact; and

(e) the details of roads connected with highways during the last three years, State-wise?

Allocation to Maharashtra from CRF

1536. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds have been released to Maharashtra from Central Road Fund (CRF) for repairing roads in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the funds were released as per the request made by the State Government; and

(d) if not, what were the variations and the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Construction of Delhi-Jaipur
expressway**

†1537. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI:
SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that construction
of Delhi-Jaipur expressway is under
consideration;

(b) if so, the action plan formulated by
Government to construct this expressway
and by when the work is likely to
commence;

(c) by when it is likely to be completed;
and

(d) the estimated cost of this project?

Proposals received from Chhattisgarh

†1538. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM:
Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT
AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received by
Government from the Chhattisgarh
Government regarding construction and
maintenance of National Highways during
the last three years;

(b) the number of proposals received
along with the status of proposals pending
with Government;

(c) the details of funds allocated by
Government for approval of the proposals;
and

(d) by when the remaining proposals
are likely to be sanctioned by Government?

**New policies/programmes for
improving NHs**

1539. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

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

(a) whether, in view of the increasing
number of road accidents, Government has
made any new policies/programmes for
improving the condition of National
Highways (NHs) and upgrade the standards
of roads in the country; and

(b) the details of the corrective steps
taken/proposed to be taken by Government
in this regard for safety of people and for
avoiding accidents?

**Criteria for distance between toll
plazas**

†1540. SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:

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

(a) the criteria for distance between two
toll plazas on National Highways of the
country;

(b) whether the existence of four toll
plazas on National Highway No. 28,
connecting Gorakhpur to Lucknow and
having a length of 275 kilometers, is
justified and consistent with the norms in
this regard;

(c) the revenue generated by the National
Highways Authority of India (NHAI)

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

through different toll plazas during the financial year 2015-16 and 2016-17; and

(d) the total number of toll plazas across the country and the number of those set up after the year 2015?

Registration of new vehicles

1541. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many States in the country have entrusted the rights to dealers, instead of RTO's, to register new vehicles;

(b) the names of those States; and

(c) whether this has resulted in the reduction of corruption?

Funds allocated for Dimapur-Kohima highway

1542. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allocated for the four lane highway between Dimapur and Kohima;

(b) the details of the funds utilization report till date;

(c) whether there is a timeline set to finish construction of highway;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Construction of plastic-bitumen roads

1543. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken

by Government for building plastic-bitumen roads to promote eco-friendly infrastructure;

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

(c) the details of the steps taken to prevent release of noxious HCL gas during road laying process?

Meetings of CEGC and SEGC

1544. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Employment Guarantee Council (CEGC) and the State Employment Guarantee Councils (SEGC) monitor the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) across the country and in States, respectively; and

(b) if so, how many meetings of CEGC and SEGC have been held in the last three years and what is the status of compliance with the recommendations of these Councils?

Women employment in rural areas

1545. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether rate of women employment under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) has decreased over the years in rural areas;

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

(c) the number of women workers who were provided employment under

MGNREGA during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise;

(d) whether Government proposes to provide non-transient/table jobs to women workers to increase their participation under MGNREGA and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of measures taken by Government in this regard?

Changes in SAGY

1546. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to modify the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) considering the special circumstances of the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to earmark funds for implementation of SAGY and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has conducted any study regarding the population in Gram Panchayats in different States of the country for formulating SAGY and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government proposes to change the guidelines for SAGY considering the views of the States and if so, the details thereof?

Regulation of MGNREGA

1547. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to regulate the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in the light

of cases of widespread corruption being noticed in its implementation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is of the view that embezzlement of MGNREGA funds has taken place on a large scale and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether MGNREGA is suffering from procedural lapses in the implementation and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial measures taken/being taken by Government to address the lapses?

BPL families

1548. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families Below Poverty Line (BPL) in each State;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of such families has increased during the last two years and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has chalked out any programme to reduce the number of such families and if so, the details thereof?

Progress of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission

1549. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) is under implementation;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the nature of works to be taken up under the Mission; and

(c) the progress of the Mission in Maharashtra?

Delay in payment of wages under MGNREGA

1550. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether beneficiaries under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) are not getting timely payments and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether payments to functionaries and agencies by Government have been delayed and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to avoid delays in payment of wages to the workers and the monitoring mechanism for the same?

Status of Karnataka Watershed Development Project

1551. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Watershed Development Project-II has been taken up with financial assistance from the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details and the present status of the project; and

(c) by when it is likely to be completed and the details of the benefits to farmers in Karnataka out of this project?

Report of Socio-Economic and Caste Census

†1552. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred in conducting Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC), 2011 and the steps being taken by Government to bring further improvement in social, economic and academic conditions of castes following its report;

(b) the report of the Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, NITI Aayog, to rectify errors in SECC and whether the Ministry proposes to take remedial steps on the basis of that report;

(c) the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons for not making the report of caste-based census public and by when the Ministry proposes to make this report public?

Impact of MGNREGA on poverty and migration

1553. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies have been conducted to assess the success of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in addressing poverty and rural to urban migration of people; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Progress of SAGY

†1554. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of villages adopted under the first phase of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) State-wise indicating the status of drinking water, toilets, power, roads, telephone connectivity and construction of immovable assets along with inspection reports thereof;

(b) whether the progress of works being undertaking in villages under the second phase of the scheme is satisfactory so that they would be completed by 2019 and the villages would be fully developed, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the expenditure incurred and assets created under corporate social responsibility during the first and second phases of the scheme, State-wise and village-wise?

Staff working at SCTIMST

1555. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of permanent staff working in the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) at Thiruvananthapuram in hospital services division, Biomedical Technology Wing (BMT), Achutha Menon Centre for Health Sciences Studies, Academic wing and in the administration;

(b) the details of staff working on temporary and contract basis in those wings and the details of SC and ST employees thereof;

(c) whether a liaison officer is posted, if so, since when and the details thereof; and

(d) whether a reservation cell is constituted in the institute and, if not, the reasons therefor?

Launching of 'Jigyasa' programme

1556. SHRIMATI JAYABACHCHAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched 'Jigyasa' a student-scientist connect programme recently and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the programme would connect school students and scientists and also extend students' classroom learning to a very well planned research laboratory based learning and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of institutions involved and the schools selected for the programme, along with details of allocations, State-wise; and

(d) whether Government has considered including other Government schools in this scheme to boost awareness amongst children in all the States and if so, the details thereof?

Affiliation of IIPH to SCTIMST

1557. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) is a university empowered to grant affiliation to private institutions;

(b) whether IIPH, New Delhi is a Government or private institute and if Government, under which Ministry;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether SCTIMST has granted affiliation to IIPH to conduct its Master of Public Health and Ph.D. courses;

(d) what are the feeder disciplines like science, social science, etc. graduates of which are allowed to apply to this course; and

(e) whether these degrees are approved by MCI?

Grants for research work

1558. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to provide grants for research work in every field;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many proposals under the said initiative are pending with Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Identification of medicinal properties of vegetations found in North-East

†1559. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously contemplating about identifying medicinal properties of vegetations found in the North-East;

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

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

Enhancement of Women's participation in S&T

†1560. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering to enhance the participation of women in the Science and Technology sector;

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

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

Regularisation of CSIR staffs

1561. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what corrective action has been taken by CSIR for regularisation of canteen staff, Hindi Officer, Protocol Office and other isolated posts/schemes, by obtaining ex-post-facto approval from the Ministry of Finance;

(b) whether the rules, regulations and bye-laws were approved by Government and if not, the detailed reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Governing Body is empowered to amend the fundamental rules, if so, the relevant provision and if not, the detailed reasons thereof?

Audit of IUSSTF and IFCPAR

1562. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has conducted an audit of the Indo-US

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF) and Indo-French Centre for Promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not getting the audit done of these units by C&AG since 1987?

ISPS compliant Ports

1563. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the major ports where Government has deployed the Central Industrial Security Force;

(b) whether it is a fact that some major ports still lack radiation detection equipment;

(c) the number of ports which are International Ship and Port Security (ISPS) compliant;

(d) whether Government proposes to make all minor ports ISPS compliant;

(e) if so, the details thereof ;

(f) whether the Intelligence Bureau conducted a security audit of minor ports recently; and

(g) if so, the salient features of its report?

Solarisation of ports

1564. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether all ports trusts in the country have commenced their work for solarisation of ports, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the current status of progress of solarisation of ports at Visakhapatnam Port and Paradip Port, the details thereof; and

(d) amount of funds allocated by the Ministry for solarisation of ports in the years 2015-16 and 2016-17 and if so, the details thereof?

Comprehensive policy to enhance drafts of Indian ports

1565. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that very low drafts at Indian ports, do not match with the international standards as per the Maritime Agenda 2010-20;

(b) if so, details of drafting facilities exist as of now in 12 major ports in the country;

(c) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive policy to enhance the drafts at Indian ports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Expansion and modernisation of ports in Maharashtra

1566. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major, medium and minor ports in Maharashtra;

(b) how many of these have been modernized and expanded;

(c) how long would it take to modernize and expand the remaining ports;

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) what has been the response of Maharashtra Government in this regard?

Strengthening coastal security through road linkage

1567. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that linking coastal cities *via* coastal road will strengthen the coastal security of the country as these coastal roads become more vibrant, active and are under observation round the clock; and

(b) if so, the number of coastal road proposals which are under active consideration of Government and the expected time-frame for implementation and details thereof?

Promotion of maritime industry through Sagarmala

1568. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether by virtue of numerous initiative undertaken for the promotion of maritime industry, such as Sagarmala programme and other plans for coastal economic zones, Government legitimately expects its International Maritime Organisation (IMO) membership to be upgraded to 'A' Category;

(b) whether India is putting forward its candidature for a re-election to the Council of IMO in category 'B', representing the developing countries and those with the larger interests in global sea-borne trade; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Performance of ports

1569. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any reports about the performance of ports in public sector are available;

(b) if so, the turnover and profit earned or loss incurred by the ports in public sector during the last three years thereof;

(c) if so, the details regarding capacity utilization during the said period thereof; and

(d) the details about steps taken by Government in improving the performance of ports in public sector, if any?

Environment concern over setting up CEZ in Maharashtra

1570. SHRI D. P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate measures pertaining to environment and ocean waters are taken into consideration for setting up the Coastal Economic Zone (CEZ) in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Proposal for Marine Engineering University in Gujarat

1571. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up a Marine Engineering University in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the fund provided for the proposed university?

Development of waterways on rivers

1572. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to develop waterways on rivers in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the programme prepared and timeline fixed for its completion; and

(c) the steps being taken for timely completion of these projects?

Representation against HHEC

1573. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister Office (PMO) have received representations urging for mandatory direction to Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation of India Limited (HHEC) for release of margin money of small traders blocked by HHEC without any reasons;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps PMO have taken to give directions to clear the dues of small traders engaged with HHEC for import of bullion during the last three years?

Purchase of jute at MSP by JCI in West Bengal

1574. MS. DOLA SEN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) why Jute Corporation of India (JCI) has been unable to buy raw jute in West Bengal at Minimum Support Price (MSP); and

(b) what are the future plans of the

Central Government to overcome this and to make it upto the mark, in this respect?

Improvement of economic condition of weavers

†1575. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme to improve the economic conditions of weavers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantum of export of handlooms textiles during the last three years, the details thereof?

Status of PSU Textile Units

1576. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Textile Units under public undertaking including their places, names and number of employees; and

(b) the status of profit, number of temporary employees who are working for more than ten years?

Reduction in budget for yarn supply scheme

†1577. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a constant reduction in allocated budget under

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

different items related to yarn supply scheme/Mill Gate Price Scheme during the years 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18;

(b) the year-wise details of various budget heads and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the said reduction has led to the development of handlooms and has facilitated the handloom weavers or whether their problems have increased; and

(d) whether the Ministry is set to do away with the facilities being extended to handloom weavers under the schemes during the next few years in view of above trend of allotment?

Suicides by weavers

†1578. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the various issues pointed out by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in March, 2011 in its report regarding the suicides committed by the weavers and the steps taken by the Ministry so far to resolve them;

(b) whether it is a fact that the levying of Goods and Service Tax (GST) on the handloom Industry has increased its problems; and

(c) the rate of GST being charged from the weavers for their products, at present and the levels thereof?

Implementation of PMKSY

1579. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing Pradhan Mantri krishi Sinchayee Yojana in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme along with the targets fixed/achieved and progress made so far;

(c) whether the scheme aims to provide a permanent solution from drought in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this direction through this scheme?

Pollution in surface water

1580. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an international organization Water Aid has stated in its report that 80 per cent of the surface water in India is polluted and is dangerous for health of its consumers; and

(b) what remedial action does the Ministry proposes to take to get over the situation and at the same time take remedial action in order to ensure that the purity of the surface water is preserved?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Implementation of PMKSY

†1581. DR. CHANDRAPAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana with an objective to reduce the dependency of farming over monsoon and to provide water to every field;

(b) names of district in Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, covered under this scheme;

(c) whether Jhansi, Lalitpur and Jalaun districts have also been covered under this scheme, if so, the details of works done so far at sub-district/district level, district-wise; and

(d) by when the fixed target of linking the identified districts with modern irrigation system by implementing drip and sprinkler irrigation programme would be completed?

Implementation of PMKSY in Maharashtra

1582. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of benefits farmers are likely to derive from Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY);

(b) the nature of projects launched under the Yojana in Maharashtra in general and district Kolhapur in particular; and

(c) the amount of funds allocated by the Central Government under each project and the targeted date for their completion?

Financial liability of Central Government for Polavaram project

1583. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to fix its financial liability on the Polavaram project, as per rates prevailing as on 1st April, 2014 only, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has decided to limit its financial liability, though AP Reorganization mandates that the execution of project is the responsibility of the Central Government; and

(c) on what basis Government has taken such a decision and details thereof?

Adverse effect of river linking projects

1584. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various river linking projects planned by Government;

(b) whether it is a fact, as claimed by environmentalists, that if all the river linking projects were implemented, it would adversely affect the lives of at least three million Indians and a landmass of 8000 square miles would be flooded; and

(c) what is the regulatory clearance status of the Ken-Betwa river linking

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

project and what will be its likely effect on Panna National Park, a Tiger Reserve?

Funds requirement for Polavaram project

1585. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is committed to completion of National Irrigation Project at Polavaram by end of 2018;

(b) if so, the details of various components of the work already done and work to be completed at present;

(c) the amount of total funds required to complete the project in full shape and how Government is funding the project; and

(d) the expenditure already incurred in the project since inception and expenditure likely to be incurred in future?

Status of cleaning of Ganga river

1586. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of cleaning of Ganga river;

(b) whether it is a fact that in spite of spending crores of rupees, the pollution level in Ganga river has not come down; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to overcome the same?

Relaxation of standards for sewage treatment plants

1587. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Pollution Control Board has relaxed the standards for upcoming sewage treatment plants on extremely polluted stretches of the Ganga;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for doing so; and

(c) if not, what are the number of sewage treatment plants that have come up during the last three years near the river Ganga?

Adoption of villages along river Ganga

1588. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to engage religious institutions and other similar bodies to adopt villages along the river Ganga and develop them as model villages;

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

(c) if not, whether Government is thinking of working on such an idea?

Flood forecasting centres

†1589. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the forecasting of flood is

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

considered as one of the most reliable and cost effective non-infrastructure measures towards flood management;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a number of flood forecasting centres are being run by the Central Water Commission (CWC) in various States of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the flood forecasting centres being run by the CWC are working effectively; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Rehabilitation of persons displaced due to Pancheshwar dam

†1590. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the persons to be displaced due to construction of dam at Pancheshwar in Uttarakhand or the public representatives of the State have requested for relocating the displaced persons and to provide them with jobs and compensate them on the lines of persons displaced by Tehri dam;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government reckons the people displaced from Pancheshwar dam region, under some other category; and

(d) if not, the reasons for denying facilities to the persons displaced by Pancheshwar dam on the lines of persons displaced by Tehri dam?

Issues of PMKSY

1591. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:
SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) is contradicting the National Water Policy 2012, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the scheme is lacking accountability on the event of failure in meeting the targets, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to make the scheme more qualitative and in overcoming the drawbacks?

Achievement under the Clean Ganga Mission

1592. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the river Ganga water cleaned under the Clean Ganga Mission during the last three years and amount of fund that has been utilised so far;

(b) whether the achievement of the Mission is upto the expectation level;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and Government's future course of action to achieve the goal of cleaning Ganga river?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Feasibility report on rivers interlinking project

1593. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has so far, shared any feasibility report of interlinking project to transfer water from Himalayan rivers to Mahanadi river;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantity of water proposed to be transferred from Himalayan rivers to Mahanadi?

Interlinking of rivers

1594. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is set to begin work on the interlinking of 60 of India's largest rivers, if so, the details of rivers to be linked and connecting rivers for each river;

(b) whether Government has developed a mechanism to resolve potential disputes between States with regard to sharing water, if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has assessed the probable impact of the project on changing monsoon patterns and ecological upheavals, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Floods in Mumbai

1595. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Meethi river is one of the major causes of floods in Mumbai which overflows during rains due to heavy silt and garbage in it;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a proposal was submitted in the recent past by the Maharashtra Government to the Ministry for central assistance to deal with the situation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and what is the present status of the proposal of the State Government?

Delay in execution of Polavaram project in Andhra Pradesh

1596. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of Polavaram project in river Godavari;

(b) whether any representation has been received from Andhra Pradesh Government about tardy progress in execution of project and delay in releasing funds/grants to the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Ministry; and

(d) what is the original schedule of completion of the project and by what time the project is expected to be completed?

Fund for water resource development in Adarsh Gram Yojana

1597. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans for more fund to water resource development facilities in Adarsh Gram Yojana (AGY);

(b) whether Government plans for more fund to drainage water recycle system in AGY; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Embankment of Bhutahi-Balan rivers

†1598. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had proposed a dam along both the banks of the river Bhutahi-Balan in Bihar to take its water upto the Kosi river;

(b) if so, the progress made so far;

(c) whether the construction of the western embankment of the river, which is nearly 60 kilometres in length, was completed in 1972, while the construction of the eastern embankment is still incomplete as a result of which nearly 50 villages of Phulparas block have to face tragedy of severe floods, every year; and

(d) if so, by when Government would complete the construction of the eastern embankment?

Implementation of Irrigation and Livelihood Improvement Project in Andhra Pradesh

1599. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh is implementing Andhra Pradesh Irrigation and Livelihood Improvement Project with the help of Japan;

(b) if so, the details of the project, the financial assistance that Japan is giving and when did the project commence and by when it is likely to be completed; and

(c) the number of farmers benefited from this project?

Release of funds to Telangana under PMKSY

1600. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to release funds under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) to the Telangana and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the quantum of funds being released for each project and by when these funds will be released;

(c) the details of the proposals made by Telangana Government in this regard and the proposals accepted by the Central Government; and

(d) whether there are any differences and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

NEW DELHI;
The 26th December, 2017
Pausha 5, 1939 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

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