

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Tuesday, January 2, 2018/Pausha 12, 1939 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH); Civil Aviation; Corporate Affairs; Finance; Health and Family Welfare; Minority Affairs; New and Renewable Energy; Power)

Total number of questions — 160

Need to strengthen regulatory mechanism of Ayurvedic medicines

†1601. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the regulatory mechanism with respect to the Ayurvedic medicines is not so robust as a result of which Ayurvedic medicines are far behind allopathic medicines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is going to make clinical trial of Ayurvedic medicines compulsory; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Misleading claims and advertisements on herbal medicines

1602. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that categorical definition regarding 'herbal medicines/products' has not been mentioned in Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940;

(b) whether Government is also aware of the fact that due to this legislative lacuna misleading claims/misleading advertisements regarding herbal medicines/products are being made in electronic/print media without any let and hindrance; and

(c) the remedial measures proposed by Government in this regard?

MoU between India and Sri Lanka

1603. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to ink a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Sri Lanka for cooperation in areas of traditional systems of medicine and Homoeopathy;

(b) if so, a detailed note thereon; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) how Government is planning to resource the finances necessary to conduct research, training courses, conferences and meetings and the details thereof?

2nd Ayurveda Day

1604. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government observed 2nd Ayurveda Day on 17th October, 2017;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main theme of the Ayurveda Day;

(d) the number of delegates that participated in the event;

(e) the issues discussed on the occasion of 2nd Ayurveda Day and the outcome therefor; and

(f) the other steps taken by Government for promotion of Ayurveda in the country?

Use of Homoeopathy in agriculture

1605. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government during the last three years in the traditional treatment methods in Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani and Siddha and details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is aware of Homoeopathy medicines being used in agriculture, if so, the details thereof?

Complaints pending with insurance Ombudsmen

1606. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of complaints are lying pending with various insurance Ombudsmen in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such cases pending with each Ombudsmen centre;

(c) the reasons for delay in taking decisions on such complaints;

(d) whether any mandatory time-frame is there to take decision on such complaints as per relevant laws; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Skidding off from runway by Air India Express planes

1607. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 102 passengers and six crew members of the Air India Express from Abu Dhabi had a lucky escape after the plane skidded off the taxiway recently at Kochi Airport;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it was because of poor visibility due to heavy rain that caused the accident;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in July this year, an Air India Express aircraft from Dubai went off the runway at Mangaluru airport at the time of landing but no injuries were reported; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Status of Shraddhanjali Sthal near
IGI Terminal-3**

1608. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the Shraddhanjali Sthal constructed near the cargo terminal of Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Terminal-3;

(b) whether the mortal remains of Armed Forces martyrs are being received and homage ceremonies are being conducted at the Shraddhanjali Sthal;

(c) if so, the reasons for the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), for barring the Armed Forces from holding homage ceremonies at the Shraddhanjali Sthal;

(d) the steps taken to resolve the issues; and

(e) timeline by when access to the Shraddhanjali Sthal will be given to Armed forces to receive mortal remains of martyrs and conduct homage ceremonies there?

**Growth of air passenger load at
Rajasthan airports**

†1609. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the statistics of growth in passenger load at the airports at different cities in the State of Rajasthan in the last one year;

(b) the details of steps taken by Government to enhance facilities for passengers travelling by air in the major cities of Rajasthan; and

(c) the steps taken to reduce boarding time for passengers at the Jaipur airport?

**International airport at Mohali in
Punjab**

1610. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the status of completion and execution of international airport at Mohali in Punjab?

**Compliance of Air Transport Circular
by private airlines**

1611. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any mechanism has been in existence with Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to check whether private airlines are adhering to the Air Transport Circular 05 of 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of complaint received by DGCA against each private airline for charging of exorbitant airfares; and

(d) the outcome of those complaints?

Abolition of Boarding Pass System

1612. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on doing away with the system of issuing boarding passes to the air travellers and introduce express check-in system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the timeline by when this new system will come into force?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Emergency landing of aircrafts

1613. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the incidents of emergency/rough landing of aircraft of public and private airlines reported during 2016 and 2017, airline-wise and incident-wise;

(b) the reasons for such emergency/rough landings;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted into all these incidents;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof, incident-wise; and

(e) the corrective steps taken/being taken in this regard?

Upgradation of airports in Chhattisgarh

†1614. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Chhattisgarh has requested the Ministry to take steps to improve, renovate and upgrade the airports located in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any decision in this regard and has formulated any action plan for development of airports in the State of Chhattisgarh and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of amount earmarked for development of the airports and the funds released so far as well as the amount spent out of it?

Privatisation of Air India

1615. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recommendation to privatise Air India has come at a time, when Air India is showing all-round progress, profitability and over 33 per cent increase in the numbers of passengers;

(b) whether it is a fact that in 2015-16, the Air India posted operational profit of ₹ 105 crore on account of low fuel prices and increased passenger numbers; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof to disinvest and would it not lead to nationalize losses and privatise profits?

Air services from airstrips in Uttarakhand

†1616. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no other airstrip in Uttarakhand besides Dehradun and Pantnagar, wherefrom smaller aircrafts can be operated;

(b) if not, the details of difficulties being faced in operation of aeroplanes from these airstrips;

(c) whether private planes are being operated from these airstrips; and

(d) if so, the reasons for which Government is not starting operation of aeroplanes from these airstrips?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Funds for development of airports

1617. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that airports need ₹ 2.4 lakh crore in ten years to meet demand;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India invested ₹ 52,000 crore over the last decade at various airports;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 57 per cent growth was recorded in passenger traffic during the period between 2014-17;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Airports Authority of India (AAI) has finalized a capital expenditure of ₹ 65,000 crore of which ₹ 17,500 crore is for the next five years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Disinvestment of Air India

1618. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India's ground handling subsidiary, Air India Air Transport Services, is getting a lot of interest from prospective bidders;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a budget airline has shown interest in the international airline operations of Air India and Air India Express and alternatively it is equally interested in acquiring all airline operations of Air India and Air India Express; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

New routes/flights in North East region under UDAN Scheme

1619. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced new routes/flights in the North-eastern States to boost air-connectivity in the North-east under the 'UDAN' Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when these new flights will be operational in the new routes?

Manufacturing of drone in India

1620. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether manufacture of drone is allowed in India;

(b) whether there is any regulatory mechanism to control manufacturing, sales and operation of drones in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

UDAN Scheme

1621. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Udey Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) Scheme as envisaged by Government;

(b) the details of flights inaugurated under the scheme alongwith the sectors;

(c) the details of the average air fare including various taxes/levies under this scheme; and

(d) whether it is a fact that in peak season

the air fare in busy sectors is more ₹ 10,000, if so, the details thereof?

Financial restructuring of Air India

1622. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has got a loan of ₹ 6,000 crore to meet its expenses;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the loans were procured on the basis of guarantee from the Government;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Air India has so far received about ₹ 26,000 crore as equity infusion out of the total ₹ 31,200 odd crore promised by Government as part of its financial restructuring and turnaround plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Technological management at airports

1623. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps/proposes to take steps in the area of improving technology management at airports with respect to air traffic, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government is aiming at improved technological management at existing airports in the next two years, if so, the details thereof?

Proposed projects in SGRDJ airport in Amritsar

1624. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the details of the proposed projects sanctioned projects and on-going projects for the upliftment of Shree Guru Ram Dass Jee (SGRDJ) International Airport at Amritsar in Punjab?

Sale of Air India's properties

1625. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to sell Air India's real estate properties;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the list of the properties identified for sale?

Need for alternative airport at Pune

1626. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pune airport is basically meant for the use by the Indian Airforce;

(b) if so, whether the airforce imposes restrictions on civilian flights from time to time;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether in view of increased air traffic both National and International need for alternative airport in Pune is strongly felt; and

(e) if so, the progress made in this regard?

**Air connectivity with Raigarh Airport
in Chhattisgarh**

1627. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Raigarh Airport in Chhattisgarh is one of the airstrip/airport which was under the list of small route connectivity by air; and

(b) which are the places which will be connected with Raigarh Airport?

Potential of tidal energy

1628. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has the potential capacity of 8,000 MW of tidal energy;

(b) if so, the details and the research report thereof; and

(c) the plan proposal of Government to develop Green Energy along the coastal line and the Gangetic delta of Eastern India therefor?

Status of Jewar Airport in UP

1629. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status report of the proposed Jewar airport in UP, which is to be developed as International Greenfield Airport;

(b) whether required land area has been earmarked and handed over by State

Government;

(c) the details of total investment required for developing the airport and the pattern of financing; and

(d) by what time, the airport would be operational, phase-wise?

**Violation of our safety norms by
airlines**

1630. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is increasing number of violation of air safety norms by Air India and private operators, in the country;

(b) the number of violations of air safety norms by various airlines during the last three years and in the current year and action taken thereon; and

(c) if so, whether Government has taken note of this and issued any guidelines regarding strict compliance of air safety norms by all the airlines?

**Misbehaviour with the air
passengers**

†1631. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV: SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken note of incidents in which staff of various airlines

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

including Air India have misbehaved with the air passengers;

(b) the details of such incidents which have occurred in the last three years and the steps taken by the Ministry to check misbehaviour with the passengers to prevent the recurrence of such incidents;

(c) the details of incidents of molestation/misbehaviour against women in the aeroplanes or airport premises during this period; and

(d) the steps taken after such incidents?

Investor's grievances redressal

1632. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the companies' independent mechanism to redress investors' grievances has yielded the desired results;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the action initiated against the companies on the grounds of non-redressal of investors grievances during the last two years and the current year, year-wise; and

(d) the list of companies that are in default of payment of dues to the small investors and are still actively trading in the stock exchanges?

Committee on Corporate governance

1633. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has set up Uday Kotak Committee on corporate governance;

(b) whether the Committee has submitted its recommendations after having examined the best practices prevalent globally, especially in top companies of the U.S., Germany and France where Board of Directors are all powerful;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations; and

(d) by when Government would implement the recommendations, if not, the reasons therefor?

CSR contribution for sports

1634. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how much money has been contributed by the companies under their CSR funds for the development and promotion of sports in the last three financial years; and

(b) out of this, the money spent in North-East India?

CSR spending on different sectors

1635. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) total fund distributed as CSR during last three years;

(b) the details of funds spent in sectors like education, health during these years; and

(c) the number of firms which failed to spend any amount on CSR and spent less than 20 per cent of CSR in these years respectively?

CSR spending in various States

1636. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has developed any strategy for implementation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policy to make it more effective and result-oriented, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of expenditure/contribution by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and private companies/corporate houses, along with details of works/activities undertaken by them, during the last three years including the current year, under CSR in various States including Maharashtra, year/company/State/UT-wise?

CESTAT cases in CAT

1637. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that due to administrative arbitrariness of CESTAT president, many employees are approaching CAT;

(b) the number of cases where employees and members of CESTAT approached CAT in the last three years, the details thereof, year-wise;

(c) the details of each such cases including the name of employees; and

(d) the reasons for approaching CAT and outcome of each such case?

Inventory of surplus land of CPSEs

1638. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a

large amount of surplus land lying unused with Central Public Sector Enterprises;

(b) if so, how did these enterprises come to acquire such large amount of land and why it is lying unused;

(c) whether Ministry has proposed to make an inventory of such land, if so, what is the current status and if the exercise is complete, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) if not, what is the deadline for completing it and what steps are being taken to expedite the process?

EAP proposals from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

1639. SHRI MOHD ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several proposals for Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) received from the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are pending with Government; and

(b) the details of EAP proposals received and cleared by Government from these two States, State-wise?

Unearthing of black money post demonetisation

1640. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Income Tax Department has taken pro-active role to unearth black money particularly after demonetisation;

(b) if so, the number of raids conducted State-wise; and

(c) the value of money and assets unearthed during these raids?

Merger of PSUBs

1641. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going for further merger and taking over of Public Sector Undertaking Banks;

(b) if so whether it is also a fact that in India and World over there have been innumerable cases, where merger and take over of Banks have been unsuccessful; and

(c) if so, then how we are going ahead with further merger of PSUBs in spite of the fact that the merger of Air India, Indian Airlines and State Bank of India's Group have given no better results?

Insurance to depositors on bank failure

1642. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total insurance provided to a depositor by Scheduled Commercial Banks (including PSUs)?

NPA's of PSBs

1643. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of NPA's of all banks as of 30th September 2017;

(b) what percentage of these are NPA's of PSU Banks; and

(c) would the recent announcement of Hon'ble Finance Minister regarding recapitalisation of banks enable PSUBs to meet the Basel III norms?

Replacement of Statement 21 (SCSP) with Statement 10a in the Union Budget

1644. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA:
SHRI P.L. PUNIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reason behind replacing Statement 21 (SCSP) of Union Budget with Statement 10a in the financial year 2017-18;

(b) whether the reporting format of "Statement 10a" released along with Union Budget 2017-18 are similar to its erstwhile "SCSP" (Statement 21), if not, the details of basic similarities and differences between these two;

(c) the number of schemes that were earlier not reported under SCSP which have been added to Statement 10a and not reported earlier under SCSP as they were non-Plan schemes; and

(d) the number of Ministries that were not reporting under SCSP which have been added to Statement 10a?

Subscriber base of Atal Pension Yojana

1645. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, due to lack of awareness and proper promotion, the subscriber base of Atal Pension Yojana is far insignificant in comparison to the population of workers in un-organised sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has any plan to expand the subscriber base to provide

insurance cover to the workers in unorganised sector by taking fresh initiatives?

Charges on deposit of cash in savings bank accounts

†1646. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued a notification to impose fine by the banks in the country for not maintaining minimum balance in savings bank accounts;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the banks will impose charges on depositing cash in savings bank accounts, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the accounts opened under Jan-Dhan Yojana are the most affected under the condition of maintaining minimum balance, if so, the details thereof?

Benefit of Jan Dhan accounts to common man

†1647. DR. CHANDRAPAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Jan Dhan accounts opened in the country so far and the number of accounts active and the number of accounts closed so far, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has provided any fiscal help through these accounts, if so, details thereof; and

(c) the benefit to common man out of it?

Acceptance of coins by banks

1648. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after more than a year after demonetisation, public sector banks are still refusing to accept coins which is causing hardship to traders in eastern India;

(b) whether Government has taken any measures to direct public sector banks to accept coins from traders, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has clarified on the legal validity of these coins, if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government is considering redistribution of coins from surplus to deficit areas, if so, the details thereof?

Study on impact of demonetisation and GST on unorganised sector

1649. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken a study/survey to assess the impact of demonetisation and GST on unorganised sector;

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

(c) the estimate of loss of jobs of daily wage labourers in unorganised sector since November, 2016 month-wise, State-wise;

(d) the estimate of the loss of sales/revenue to the unorganised sector since November, 2016 month-wise, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to redress the loss to this sector?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Tax evaders under Panama Papers

1650. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has access to the list of Indian tax evaders under the Panama Papers;

(b) if not, the initiatives taken by Government to gain access, if so, the initiatives taken to verify the claims of tax evasion;

(c) whether Government will put to trial those who are accused, and the details thereof; and

(d) the initiatives taken by Government to curb the illicit flow of wealth abroad and the details thereof?

scrapping or reducing export tax on medium-grade iron ore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Surrender of Budgetary allocations by Ministries

1653. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many ministries have surrendered the budgetary allocations made to them during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, Ministry-wise and Financial year-wise and the reasons therefor?

Benefits accrued from demonetisation

†1651. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the value of currency notes of ₹ 500 and ₹ 1000 deposited with Reserve Bank of India is higher than that of those demonetised;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the benefits accrued to Government from demonetisation and the expenditure incurred by Government on printing and distributing new currency notes of ₹ 500 and ₹ 1000?

Scrapping export tax on medium-grade iron ore

1652. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for

Facilities and funds for new capital of Andhra Pradesh

1654. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per Section 94(3) of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, Government of India has to provide special financial support for creating facilities in the new capital of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of facilities provided and funds approved, sanctioned, released and utilized for the new capital of AP since implementation of the Act, year-wise and facility-wise;

(c) whether utilisation Certificates have been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh for (b) above; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and whether there are any instances of diverting funds meant for capital of the State?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Committee on GST irregularities

1655. SHRI DHARMAPURI

SRINIVAS:

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to constitute a committee to look into the complaints and irregularities on the implementation of GST; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Visits by banks to senior citizens for banking needs

1656. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI had notified banks that they should go to the extent of visiting senior citizens for their banking needs;

(b) whether this notification has failed to make any impression;

(c) whether many of the pensioners are old, feeble and unable to take the strain of making repeated trips to the banks to claim their inalienable rights; and

(d) if so, whether the RBI would make it mandatory on the part of banks to implement its notification in letter and spirit?

Rise of crypto currency

1657. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how RBI is looking at the meteoric rise of world's best known crypto currency (Bitcoin) in the last few months;

(b) how RBI looks at the proposed launch of Bitcoin futures by Chicago Options Board Exchange;

(c) whether there are any plans to recognize Bitcoin by RBI; and

(d) how RBI is cautioning Indians about trading in Bitcoin?

Zero per cent GST on pooja items

1658. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to include pooja items such as agarbathi, dhoop, camphor etc. under zero per cent list of GST and if not, the reasons therefor?

Legislation to regulate real estate sector

1659. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the assessment of revenue intelligence agencies, funds and unaccounted/black money are flowing into the real estate, mining and manufacturing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of real estate companies, mining/manufacturing companies found involved in investment of money flowing from organizations and companies from tax havens and other foreign countries;

(d) the action taken against the erring builders and companies having nexus with such foreign organisations and companies, company-wise;

(e) whether Government proposes to bring out a legislation with relevant provisions to regulate real estate sector included therein; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Exemption to small traders from filing returns under GST

1660. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is in receipt of any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh seeking exemption to the small traders from filing returns under new GST system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is considering the request of the A.P. Government positively and if not, the reasons therefor?

Bringing real estate under purview of GST

1661. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR
BALMUCHU:
SHRI HARIVANSH:
SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the real estate is a sector where the maximum amount of tax evasion and cash generation take place;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to ensure that real estate comes under GST; and

(c) the names of the States which have requested in this regard?

Measures taken for reversal of slow growth rate of economy

1662. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether Government will explain which industrial, FDI, trade and tech policy framework it is working on for reversal of

slow growth in view of the fact that contrary to its promises the GDP growth, FDI, manufacturing and employment rate has fallen, the details thereof?

Remedial measures to control NPAs

1663. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN:
SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of the public and private sector banks (PSBs) are on the rise, if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of the NPAs recovered and written off by PSBs during said period; and

(c) the other remedial measures taken/ being taken by Government/Reserve Bank of India to control NPAs and boost the struggling banking sector?

Circulation of fake currency

1664. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of fake currency seized after the demonetisation, State-wise;

(b) the total amount robbed in various places especially in Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) whether Government have identified the spot where the fake currency is printed;

(d) the steps Government intends to take to stop distribution and circulation of fake currency in public; and

(e) whether it is a fact that some of the instances of fake currency from ATMs have also been reported, if so, the details thereof?

Wholesale price index rate of June 2017 and 2016

1665. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state wholesale price index inflation rate in June 2017 and that in corresponding period of 2016?

Sale of PSUs

1666. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided for strategic sale of seven Public Sector Undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Creation of jobs

1667. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to identify sectors where it can step up investment to create more jobs; and

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

RBI's caution against farm loans waiver

1668. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Monetary Policy Committee headed by the Governor of RBI has cautioned Government against large farm loan waivers stating that the risk of fiscal slippages has risen with such waivers;

(b) whether the said Committee had observed that the loan waiver undermines an honest credit culture and also impacts credit discipline besides plugging incentives for future borrowers to repay; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction in regard thereto especially when several State Governments have waived off huge loans during the last two years?

Non applying NPA classification rules by PSBs

1669. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some public sector banks are not applying NPA classification rules correctly, if so, list out the name of the banks; and

(b) the time by which Government will be able to recover its money which has been written off, the details thereof?

Shift in RBI's mandate

1670. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that if the Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance (FRDI) Bill comes into effect as law then the RBI's mandate would shift from supervision, regulation and monetary policy to ensuring financial stability in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Widening of India's Current Account Deficit

1671. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's Current Account

Deficit (CAD) has widened in recent months;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details regarding the reasons for such trends in CAD;
- (d) whether Government is taking any steps to contain CAD; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Non acceptance of coins and small currency notes by banks

1672. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the banks, both public and private are not accepting deposit of coins and small currency notes by depositors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the names of banks against whom complaints have been received in this regard;
- (d) the action taken by Government against such banks;
- (e) whether Government has issued or proposes to issue any instructions for deposit of coins and small notes in banks and other financial institutions; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Reinstating old agency codes by LIC

1673. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the agency codes of

Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) terminated due to non-fulfilment of Minimum Business Guarantee (MBG) quota for agency during 2005-06, zone-wise;

- (b) the details of the above cases wherein agents could not fulfil MBG due to health reason, zone-wise;

(c) the details of the cases where Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDA) has condoned non-fulfilment of MBG quota in 2011 and has directed LIC to reinstate the old agency codes along with details of old agency codes reinstated case-wise; and

- (d) the reasons for not reinstating some old agency codes inspite of condonation by IRDA, case-wise?

Inclusion of institutions of higher learning under GST

1674. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether consultations, inter-ministerial or otherwise, have been undertaken regarding Government's decision to include certain institutions of higher learning under the Goods and Services Tax (GST);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has estimated the impact of GST on the cost incurred by students pursuing professional courses, non-conventional courses, certificate courses and training programmes; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof including estimated costs?

Violation of Pensionary Rules

1675. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Chairperson and members of regulatory bodies such as IRDA, TRAI, CERC, SEBI, CCI, etc. are receiving pension in addition to salaries in violation of relevant financial rules;

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

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

Restoration of BSRB for banks

1676. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is need to restore the Banking Service Recruitment Board (BSRB) or set up a Regional Recruitment Board for banks; and

(b) if so, Government's response to this need?

Conversion of bank accounts of pensioners into PM Jan Dhan accounts

1677. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has converted the bank accounts of all the pensioners into PM Jan Dhan accounts; and

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

Registration of NE & EC REPCBL, Gorakhpur

†1678. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1869 given in the Rajya Sabha on 1st August, 2017 and state:

(a) whether it should be assumed that the NE & EC Railway Employees Primary Co-operative Bank Ltd. Gorakhpur is not registered with Central registrar of Cooperative Societies, Government of India as registration certificate is not available according to the records available;

(b) whether the said cooperative societies/banks registered under the Multi State Cooperative Society Act, 2002 have complied with the due procedures to get themselves registered, as specified in the said Act; and

(c) the details of registration certificate on the basis of which, Reserve Bank of India has included the said bank in the list of Multi State Cooperative banks?

Types of accounts operated by NE & EC RE PCBL, Gorakhpur

†1679. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1869 given in the Rajya Sabha on 1st August, 2017 and state:

(a) the types of Accounts being

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

operated in the NE & EC Railways Employees Primary Co-operative Bank Ltd. Gorakhpur; and

(b) whether the existing Primary Co-operative Banks/Societies can operate current accounts and accounts belonging to firms?

Online Rail Accident Insurance Scheme

†1680. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected by the companies providing accidental insurance to railway passengers under online Rail Accidents Insurance Scheme;

(b) the details of accidents related claims during this period and the amount paid to passengers or families of passengers by online Rail Accident Insurance Companies and amount of claims pending; and

(c) whether it is a fact that while Railway is going in losses but Rail Accident Insurance Companies are earning hefty profits due to the wrong policies and the profit which should have gone to Railways is going in hands of private companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Reforms in regulatory framework for clinical establishments

1681. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to reform the regulation of clinical establishments, professional and technical education, food safety, medical technologies, medical products and clinical trials given that the National Health Policy 2017 advocates a larger role for the private sector; and

(b) the measures taken by Government for better protection of consumers from private medical establishments given the recent allegations of overcharging, negligence and malfeasance?

Prescribing generic drugs in regional languages

†1682. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the special steps taken by Government to ensure that doctors prescribe cheap medicine and the immediate implementation of "one medicine, one price, one company" policy and to ensure that medicines are not sold above their Maximum Retail Price anywhere; and

(b) the status of guidelines and the implementation thereof stipulating that doctors prescribe "generic drugs" and write medicines in regional languages at local level?

Improving facilities in Government hospitals

1683. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government hospitals in the country are turning killer hospitals for children and other patients particularly in Uttar Pradesh due to lack of medicines, oxygen and other facilities;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial measures Government proposes to take to improve the image as well as facilities of Government hospitals in the country?

Children affected with TB

1684. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of children are dying due to TB in Maharashtra and other parts of the country every year;

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

(c) what effective measures Government has taken or proposes to take to minimise the deaths of children due to TB?

National Health Policy, 2017

1685. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government along with the States have worked out the financial modalities and operational guidelines for the implementation of the National Health Policy, 2017;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government in the last three years to provide better medical services and treatment facility to the people?

Reducing MMR

1686. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) maternal mortality rates during the years 2015 to 2017; and

(b) the steps taken to reduce Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR)?

Children born with low birth weight

1687. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of children born with low birth weight;

(b) whether it is related with malnutrition of pregnant mothers; and

(c) the Centrally-funded schemes to reduce malnutrition in pregnant mothers?

Fund allocation for Yashoda scheme in Rajasthan

†1688. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of district hospitals and community health centres in the State of Rajasthan where 'Yashoda' scheme has been implemented under the National Health Mission;

(b) the amount allocated under the said scheme in the last three years; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the outstanding amount for the year 2014-15 under the said scheme has not been allocated to the State Government so far, if so, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Funds for awareness campaign on mental health

1689. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how much funds are allocated for Information, Education and Communication (IEC) under the National Mental Health Programme;

(b) the activities undertaken under IEC for the awareness for mental health care; and

(c) whether Government has mandated schools to have a mental health care counsellor to conduct periodical counselling for students?

Remuneration given to ASHA workers

1690. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many ASHA workers are currently employed in the country;

(b) the remuneration given to the ASHA workers; and

(c) how much funds have been allocated by Government for activities done by ASHA workers?

ICMR study on deaths through Aanganwadi and Aasha Bahu workers

1691. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to study and find out exact cause of death in each case through Aanganwadi and Aasha Bahu workers;

(b) if so, the details of scheme and mode of implementation; and

(c) the time by when it shall be implemented country-wide?

High number of TB cases

1692. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India continues to have the highest number of Tuberculosis (TB) cases in the world;

(b) if so, number of Tuberculosis (TB) and Multidrug-Resistant (MDR) TB patients in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to eliminate Tuberculosis and details thereof?

Steps taken for reducing financial load on poor diabetic patients

1693. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of a recent study by Lady Harding Medical College points out that an under privileged spends around ₹ 8,598 annually towards diabetics treatment in a Government facility; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to reduce the financial burden among poor diabetic patients in India in view of the fact that WHO stated that a family with an adult diabetic patient spends almost 25 per cent of the family's income towards diabetics treatment?

Speeding up diagnostics and treatment of TB

1694. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government during last three years to reduce the TB related deaths since it is a fact that one third of world's deaths due to TB is from India; and

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to increase the speed of diagnostics and treatment, as many deaths are attributed to delay in treatment?

Manufacture and supply of substandard drugs in India

1695. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organization (WHO) in a study has identified India also as one of the countries which manufactures and supplies substandard and falsified drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any plan to take a serious call on the outcome of the study; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Making warning labels on fast food compulsory

1696. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Government's plan to put warning labels on fast food in the country;

(b) which are the countries making warning labels on fast food compulsory and having legal support;

(c) whether the Ministry has advised all the stakeholders to introduce warning labels on fast food like tobacco products; and

(d) if so, the response of the stakeholders and further steps taken/being taken by Government?

Guidelines/protocols for diagnostic tests

1697. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any guidelines/protocols for various diagnostic tests conducted in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, whether Government intends to bring guidelines or rules for such tests across the country;

(c) whether there is any monitoring mechanism to check prices for such tests; and

(d) if not, whether Government proposes to devise any mechanism for monitoring rates of various services in private hospitals/facilities and the details thereof?

Target to reduce TFR

1698. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set a target to reduce Total Fertility Rate (TFR) to 2.1 by the end of the Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the progress made during the first two years of the Twelfth Five Year Plan *i.e.* 2017-18 towards achieving this goal; and

(c) the details of challenges being faced by Government in realising the goal?

Basic infrastructure for organ transplantation

†1699. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an extreme shortage of hospitals having good basic infrastructure for organ transplantation in the whole country whereas in India almost eighty lakh people suffer from corneal blindness *i.e.* the people whose eyesight can be restored through corneal transplantation and around sixty thousand people need liver transplantation, two lakh people need kidney transplantation and five thousand people need heart transplantation; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to fix this?

Cancer hospital in Odisha

1700. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cancer patients in the country and whether the cancer disease has an increasing or declining trend, State-wise and district-wise figures of last three years;

(b) the reasons contributing to the increase of cancer patients in particular areas of the country including the district of Bargarh in Odisha; and

(c) whether Government has any proposal to set up a cancer hospital in western part of Odisha in view of the increasing number of cancer patients in that region?

Overbilling and negligence by hospitals

†1701. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether in view of the overbilling and incidents of negligence in some major hospitals recently in the country, Government proposes to bring any legislation to curb arbitrariness of these hospitals, if so, the details thereof?

Unlawful nexus between doctors and diagnostic centres

1702. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards raid by the Income Tax Department on a few Bengaluru-based doctors and diagnostic centres which seems to have blown the lid off a doctors-diagnostic centre commission nexus as the raid on five medical diagnostic centre chains in Bengaluru shows that doctors are paid for referring medical tests;

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

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken against such unlawful nexus between doctors and diagnostic centres in the country?

Rise in caesarean deliveries

1703. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a sharp rise in the caesarean deliveries in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government is taking in this regard?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Capacity development in trauma life support

1704. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government is taking to develop the Capacity Development in Trauma Life Support;

(b) how much budget has been allocated to develop Capacity Development in Trauma Life Support in Jharkhand; and

(c) the details of the plan and deadline for the said project?

Restricting tobacco sales through authorised vendors

1705. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked all the State Governments to develop a mechanism through the municipal authority to provide permission/authorisation to retail outlets selling tobacco products;

(b) whether shops authorised to sell tobacco products will not be permitted to sell any non-tobacco products such as biscuits, toffees and chips that are essentially meant for non-tobacco users, especially children; and

(c) whether Government contemplates to license the sale of tobacco through authorised vendors only?

Setting up of cancer centres

1706. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to set up 49 cancer centres in the next three years with an estimated cost of ₹ 3495 crores; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and how many such centres have been planned for North East India?

Norms for manufacturing carbonated drinks

1707. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has laid down any norms for the manufacturing of carbonated soft drinks like Pepsi, Coke etc.;

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

(c) whether Government has conducted any study to ascertain the harmful effects of carbonated soft drinks, if so, the details thereof?

Financial assistance for medical colleges in Assam

1708. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to strengthen the Medical Colleges and District General Hospitals in the State of Assam;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government during the last two years;

(c) whether Government proposes to extend financial assistance to existing medical colleges in the State and if so, the details of the financial assistance given during the aforementioned period;

(d) whether Government had received a proposal from Government of Assam for financial assistance to new medical colleges in Assam; and

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

Fatalities from communicable and life-style diseases

1709. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people who died due to life-style diseases and communicable diseases during the last three years;
- (b) the number of patients in these categories in these years;
- (c) the amount allotted for treatment of such diseases during these years; and
- (d) the amount spent for treating TB and cancer patients during these years?

Cases of TB in the country

1710. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise and year-wise details of cases of TB since 2012;
- (b) whether deaths caused due to TB have increased, if so, year-wise and State-wise details since 2012;
- (c) the details of budgetary allocations and utilization of plan to prevent and treat TB since 2012, year-wise and State-wise;
- (d) whether there has been a decline in adherence to TB treatment, if so, steps taken to rectify this situation; and
- (e) what steps Government has taken to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of ending the TB epidemic by 2030?

Malpractices by hospitals

1711. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any complaints have been received against the private corporate

hospitals particularly in respect of fees charged and unethical practices;

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

(c) whether Government intends to check such malpractices?

Fee structure in medical colleges

1712. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the regulatory authority of the fee structure for various courses for private colleges or Deemed-to-be university run medical colleges in a State;
- (b) whether the Central Government/UGC will make it mandatory for the Deemed-to-be universities to follow the fee structure prescribed by Government in view of the fact that at present, the fee structure recommended by the Fee Committee appointed by the State Government is mandatory for all private medical colleges but not for Deemed-to-be universities; and
- (c) if not, the difficulties in doing so?

Regulatory body for medical devices

1713. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of items classified as 'medical device';
- (b) whether it is a fact that the latest National Health Policy mandates to set up a regulatory body for medical devices;
- (c) if so, what are the reasons that no initiative has so far been taken to set up one such body to oversee various aspects of medical devices in the country; and
- (d) by when a national regulator for medical devices would be set up and all medical devices now under Drugs and Cosmetics Act would be brought under the new regulator?

Transparency and accountability in functioning of hospitals

1714. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private hospitals in India are very expensive and beyond the reach of common citizens;

(b) if so, what steps Government proposes to take to regulate private hospitals and bring transparency and accountability into their costing of goods and services and put a cap on their profiteering;

(c) whether it is also a fact that patients with insured policies are charged cheaper rates as compared to non-policy holder patients by private hospitals; and

(d) if so, reasons for such a disparity and what steps Government proposes to take to regulate the same rates for insurers and non-insurer patients?

Rising heart disease in women

†1715. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that danger of heart disease is developing in most of the women in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government is seriously contemplating to take some steps in this regard; and

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

Failing of quality check by a noodles brand

1716. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: SHRI HARIVANSH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a leading brand of noodles manufactured by a multinational company has once again failed laboratory tests conducted by District Administration of Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh and a fine has been imposed both on the manufacturers and distributors;

(b) whether the sample in question was collected by the District administration last year in November and sent for lab test, which had found ash content in the noodles above permissible limits of human consumption; and

(c) whether the same brand of noodle was banned by FSSAI in June, 2015 for allegedly containing lead beyond permissible limits as tested by a District lab in Uttar Pradesh?

Deaths from Beedi smoking

1717. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of deaths due to Beedi consumption in India during the last three years;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to reduce deaths due to Beedi smoking; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Fire safety audit of hospitals

1718. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government has asked all the State Governments to get fire safety audit conducted for all public health facilities beginning with District hospitals and medical colleges by appropriate Government bodies or authorized enlisted agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the State Governments had submitted their safety audit reports, if any, conducted to the Central Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Internship by medical students in rural areas

1719. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government currently proposes to introduce any criteria for those seeking admission in the Government Medical Colleges to serve at least for one year during their internship in the rural and remote areas where there are no medical professionals; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which Government would introduce such criteria in the Government Medical Colleges?

Measures to prevent deaths of children at BRD hospital, Gorakhpur

1720. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the children's deaths in Baba Raghav Das Hospital, Gorakhpur is a regular phenomenon;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken

any measures in the past few years to fight against the occurrence and the details thereof; and

(c) if no measures have been taken, the reasons therefor?

Defining generic drugs in statutes

1721. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether generic drugs are defined in any of the Indian statutes like the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and if so, whether the definition is in conformity with internationally prevalent nomenclature;

(b) what percentage of medical prescriptions constitute generic drugs;

(c) what steps are being taken to promote single salt drugs *vis-a-vis* combination salts; and

(d) what steps are being followed to monitor the quality of imported salts?

Pharma companies supplying CGHS medicines

1722. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) names of the pharma companies supplying medicines to CGHS dispensaries in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that they are not among the reputed and known pharma companies, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has assessed the efficacy of medicines of companies supplying medicines to CGHS *vis-a-vis*

other reputed companies, if so, the details thereof: and

(d) whether Government would ensure quality drugs to CGHS dispensaries through reputed pharma companies for the benefit of CGHS beneficiaries, if so, the details thereof?

MDG target of reducing MMR

1723. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has achieved the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target of reducing maternal mortality rate;

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

(c) the latest figures for maternal mortality rate, category-wise, rural and urban, SC, ST, OBC and others;

(d) the total percentage of birth attended by skilled health workers, category-wise, rural and urban, SC, ST, OBC and others for each State; and

(e) the steps taken by Government in the last two years to reduce maternal mortality rate in the country with special reference to SCs/STs?

Survey on extent of dubious medicines

1724. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that more than 10 per cent of drugs sold in developing countries are dubious, according to a report of WHO;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry

conducted any survey to find out the extent of medicines that are substandard or falsified in various States;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) if not, what efforts are made to see that the drugs being sold in the country are genuine and as per the specifications, in the larger interest of the public?

Establishing medical colleges in remote areas

1725. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up medical colleges, particularly in remote, rural and tribal areas of the country to reduce the scarcity or non-availability of medical practitioners specially in rural area;

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

(c) whether there is any policy to create a course of 2 or 3 years for Ayurvedic practitioners to work as Allopathic medical practitioners; and

(d) the measures taken or proposed by Government to regulate and bring down the cost of medical education in the country?

MDR and XDR-TB cases

†1726. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of tuberculosis (TB) reported in the last three years, till date;

(b) the States where the number of such

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

cases has increased during the last three years and the reasons behind such increase;

(c) the relevant data with respect to Uttar Pradesh;

(d) the steps being taken for early detection and diagnosis of TB;

(e) whether cases of Multi Drug Resistant (MDR) and Extensively Drug Resistant (XDR) TB have risen, if so, the details thereof and the related data for Rajasthan; and

(f) the steps being taken for eradication of TB?

Action against dengue

1727. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH

YADAV:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dengue cases detected during the last two years, State/UT-wise;

(b) the action taken by Government to tackle the serious and life taking disease and the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has put in place any mechanism to detect the cases of dengue and if so, the details thereof?

Pilot project for trauma care on National Highways

1728. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH

YADAV:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched any pilot project for trauma care on National Highways across the country;

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

(c) the status of projects now in existence in co-operation with the State Governments; and

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

Deaths from lack of life-saving oxygen and medicines

†1729. SHRIMATI CHHAYA

VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH

YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR

PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that deaths of children and other patients occurred on large scale in the country including Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh due to lack of life-saving oxygen and medicines;

(b) the details of deaths occurred in the hospitals of the country due to lack of oxygen and life-saving medicines in the last three years; and

(c) the details of action taken after such incidents?

Widespread implementation of Nai Roshni Scheme

1730. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in budgetary allocation in the year 2016-17 as compared to 2015-16 with respect to implementation of schemes on leadership development of minority women;

(b) the reasons for "Nai Roshni" scheme being implemented only in 17 States of the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the details of the steps being taken by the Ministry for further widespread implementation of the "Nai Roshni" scheme; and

(d) whether any initiatives are intended to be taken by the Ministry to increase participation of non-Muslim minorities in the Nai Roshni Scheme, if so, the details thereof?

Corporate debt restructuring cases

1731. SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has studied the corporate debt restructuring process as followed by the Public Sector Banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the corporate debt restructuring cases are on the rise in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

Main stream education in Madrassas

1732. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) details of Madrassas in the country, State-wise, district-wise;

(b) number of students studying in Madrassas and details of Madrassas where only religious teachings are taught and details of Madrassas where mainstream education along with religious teachings are taught;

(c) details of Madrassa Development Programme conceived by Ministry recently;

(d) how above programme helps in promoting mainstream education and also

improves nutritional values in children;

(e) how Ministry ensures that after mainstream education in Madrassas students would get employment; and

(f) why cannot Ministry think of giving some 'preference' in higher education, employment, loans, etc. to poor Muslim children who studied from Madrassas?

Upliftment of BPL minority people

1733. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of minority living below poverty line on the basis of new plan panels' description of poors in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken for the upliftment of those minority people living below poverty line?

Increase in quota for Haj Pilgrimage

1734. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quota for Haj Pilgrimage has been increased for certain States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the States which have requested for increase?

Mid-day meals in Madrassas

1735. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is coming up with a programme to provide mid day meals in Madrassas to promote mainstream education along with religious teachings;

(b) if so, the details of the programme; and

(c) the details of consultations, if any, held with HRD Ministry in this regard?

Power generation from non-conventional energy sources

†1736. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps being taken by Government to promote the production of electricity through non-conventional energy;

(b) whether any target has been fixed for power generation through solar energy and other available resources and the details thereof; and

(c) the details of existing solar and other energy options made available by Government and the ways in which power produced by them is being used and the details thereof?

Solar power generation in Jharkhand

1737. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the targets set for the production of 40 GW power capacity through rooftop solar panels by the year 2022, State-wise;

(b) the targets set for Jharkhand and cities therein for the year 2022; and

(c) the progress achieved corresponding to the targets set for cities of Jharkhand?

Utilisation of funds for renewable energy projects

†1738. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds earmarked for the schemes of new and renewable energy projects in current financial year in the country;

(b) whether Government has utilised the earmarked funds for the development of renewable energy projects in the country during year 2014-15;

(c) if so, the details of the implementation of the schemes completed or being completed and the details of the funds sanctioned and utilised, scheme-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the details of funds sanctioned to States, particularly to Madhya Pradesh for the renewable energy projects and development of infrastructure?

Development of technology to store solar energy

1739. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is developing technology to store 5 MW of solar power and is also in the process of developing a Battery Energy Storage System in Nellore or Vijaynagaram districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether there is any such technology in the world to store electricity, be it solar or wind or conventional; and

(d) if so, details thereof and the countries

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

that are using that technology and whether Government tried to get that technology?

Impact of tariffs on use of rooftop solar systems

1740. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether to boost the use of rooftop solar systems in residences, Government would mandate domestically sourced components which could inspire confidence among potential customers;

(b) whether the biggest issues facing solar power project in India are getting lost in the overt focus on lower tariffs;

(c) whether the installed capacity of rooftop solar systems in India is so far only 1247 MW out of target of 40 GW by 2022; and

(d) whether the reason for poor adoption of rooftop solar in India is that the tariffs in place do not make business sense for residential rooftop solar systems?

Efficient solar PV modules

1741. DR. V. MAITREYAN : Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any studies to find out impact of efficient, cost effective Solar PV modules and windstream technologies in generation of renewable energy in the country;

(b) if so, details thereof and list of studies conducted and projects implemented annually in last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) detailed list of Renewable Energy (RE) projects proposed and executed during last three years in installations/buildings of

both Centre and State Governments/Private institutes;

(d) whether Government has any plans to approve such new RE projects to make it mandatory for Government/Private sectors; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

Maximising usage of renewable energy sources

1742. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India still depends primarily on thermal power, if so, State-wise details of planned and installed capacity of energy generation from various sources, viz. Coal, Oil, Natural Gas, Solar, Hydro, Wind and Nuclear;

(b) whether States have installed capacities for using biodegradable waste to produce biogas, if so, details of number of biogas plants with respective capacity State-wise; and

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to maximize the use of renewable energy sources, especially biogas plants, since 2014 and progress of each so far?

Power generation from wastes

1743. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of power generated from wastes in the country and its share in total power generation in the country;

(b) whether the waste-to-energy plants set up in the country are successful in dealing with the garbage problem and in

generating requisite quantum of energy and, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to encourage States/UTs to undertake projects for production of power from waste materials; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the financial assistance/funds provided to the States/UTs during each of the last three years and the current year for the said purpose, State/UT-wise?

Single window clearance for renewable energy projects

1744. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the National and Foreign banks which have expressed their interest to finance the Renewable Energy projects for Solar and Wind etc. for producing 266000 MW of power;

(b) what steps Government has taken to ensure that these companies-cum-Banks do not get entangled into unnecessary delaying procedural hassles; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide single window clearance to these Banks-cum-companies who would contribute in setting up the Renewable Energy projects?

Policy for solar power plants

1745. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any policy for solar power plants in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the solar power system

which can be used for domestic residence and of lowest budget to attract the use of the solar power?

Pumped storage projects

1746. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set a target of achieving 100 GW of electricity generation capacity from renewable sources by 2022 and what will be its effect on the stability of the grid given the known variability of solar and wind power generation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Pumped Storage Projects are the most efficient large-scale method in bridging the gap between variable generation and consumption of electricity and, if not, what other large-scale storage methods can be used; and

(c) what are the pumped storage projects being planned across India in the coming decade?

Funding of power generation through new and renewable energy sources

1747. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to invest funds for power generation through new and renewable energy sources in various parts of the country including Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh for next two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Production of carbon-free power

†1748. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATTIYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the status of power generation and demand supply in the country and the details of the sources and their capacity in total power production in the country at present; and

(b) the sources from which carbon-free power would be generated in the next ten years and the quantum of power production fixed for these sources and the details of measures taken in this regard?

Increase in generation of electricity

†1749. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government in last three years to increase the generation of electricity, the details thereof;

(b) the number of powerhouses established in last three years, the details of the coal, gas, water and nuclear based power plants; and

(c) the details of the consumption and generation of electricity at present and last three years, the details thereof?

Loss free power distribution companies

1750. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to make operation of each power distribution company loss free by the year 2019;

(b) the names of the States which have gone through the Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) process;

(c) the steps being taken to reign in other States under the UDAY; and

(d) the percentage of debt financing by State DISCOMs and its impact on power sector?

Power Projects in Uttar Pradesh under Central Government

†1751. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of power projects in Uttar Pradesh under the Central Government along with their capacity; and

(b) the details of ongoing projects and ensuing projects along with their capacity and cost of production and by when are they likely to be completed?

Free power to farmers

1752. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made provisions to give free power to the farmers in the country;

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

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the farmers in various States including Maharashtra for the land acquired from them for thermal/hydro power projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Revival of Gas based power plants

1753. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that several gas based power plants have been stranded;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon;

(c) whether any subsidies and tax concessions are being offered to those plants and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government is now planning to revive 25GW stranded gas based capacity to push consumption of the fuel and transform the nation into a gas based economy; and

(e) the time by when a decision in the matter will be taken?

Adverse impact of LED bulbs on environment

1754. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 76 per cent of India's LED bulbs fail safety test;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any survey conducted has proved that large scale use of LED bulbs is environmentally hazardous?

Electricity to the households deprived of electricity

†1755. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the target set to provide electricity to the households deprived of electricity;

(b) whether it is a fact that certain States are lagging too much behind in achieving the target of providing electricity to electricity deprived households, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Central Government to achieve the stipulated targets in time; and

(d) by when the target to provide

electricity to electricity deprived household would be achieved?

PAT Scheme of BEE

1756. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the result of first implementation cycle of Perform Achieve and Trade (PAT) Scheme of Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has come out;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it was as per expectation;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action initiated in this regard?

Launching of Saubhagya Yojana

1757. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (Saubhagya) has been launched;

(b) which are the rural and the urban areas that are proposed to be covered under this scheme on priority and otherwise; and

(c) by when does Government proposes to achieve the objective of this scheme?

Supply of LED bulbs on subsidised rates

1758. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Central Government scheme to provide LED bulbs to the consumers on subsidised rates;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) whether online sale facility will also be started for this purpose?

Pay anomalies in Hydro PSUs

1759. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that executives (E1 and E2 grade) in Hydro Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under Ministry of Power namely THDC, SJVN, NHPC and NEEPCO are having lower pay scales than their supervisors and workmen w.e.f. 01/01/1997 resulting in pay scales anomalies;

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

(c) the time by which anomalies in pay scales is likely to be removed?

Power tariff in the country

1760. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power tariff in the country is expected to go up gradually by anything between 50 paise and ₹ 125 per unit;

(b) whether it is also a fact that retrofitting costs range from ₹ 1-2 crore per MW, while for new coal fired plant the cost is pegged at ₹ 5 crore per MW;

(c) whether it is also a fact that with such high cost, power producers have been dragging their feet over retrofitting due to lack of clarity on who will bear the burden; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 27th December, 2017
Pausha 6, 1939 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

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