RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Wednesday, August 9, 2017/Shravana 18, 1939 (Saka)

(Ministries : Commerce and Industry; Culture; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Home Affairs; Labour and Employment; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Petroleum and Natural Gas; Steel; Tourism; Tribal Affairs)

Total number of questions — 160

Clearance of FDI proposals

2561. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to clear FDI proposals in eleven sectors:
- (b) if so, the details of the pending FDI proposals, sector/Ministry-wise;
- (c) the timeline fixed by Government to clear an FDI proposal; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that Government cannot reject a proposal or add conditions other than those prescribed in the FDI policy without consulting Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP)?

Bringing industrial growth rate back on track

2562. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) what are reasons for decline in industrial growth rate as was reported during the last six months; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government to bring the industrial growth rate back on track?

Licenses granted to EOUs in SEZs

2563. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) how many licenses have so far been granted to Export Oriented Units (EOUs) in the Special Economic Zones (SEZs);
- (b) how many of the EOUs are functional out of the total licenses granted since the SEZ Act came into force;
- (c) whether the land allotted to EOUs, which have since become non-functional has been recovered;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Rise/fall in balance of trade

2564. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) what was the total amount in Indian Rupees of India's exports and imports in 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17;
- (b) what was the total amount in Indian Rupees of India's trade balance in 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17; and
- (c) what are the factors responsible for the rise/fall in exports, imports and trade balance?

Representations to support small and medium enterprises

2565. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), All India Manufacturers' Organisation (AIMO) and other export promotion councils have made representations to Government to support small and medium enterprises by directing banks to lend the tax component as interest free loans, along with working capital loans:
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government; and
- (c) what steps Government is taking to address the issue of deemed exports at the earliest, failing which SMEs will be the worst sufferers?

Negative growth in industrial production

2566. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that industrial production has registered negative growth in 2016-17 for the first time in the last two years:
- (b) whether it means that 'Ease of Doing Business' reforms are not working well for increasing the industrial production;
- (c) in view of (a) above, what special emphasis Government is making to promote manufacturing in the country; and
- (d) how Ministry thinks that GST would help in bringing positive growth in manufacturing?

Steps for revival of salt farming industry

2567. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has devised any scientific methods of salt farming;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government for welfare of Agarias, salt farmers of Kutch as well as for revival of dying salt farming industry?

Change in FDI Policy

- 2568. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is planning to change the Foreign Direct Investment policy in order to further attract more investment in the country in different sectors as a part of 'Ease of Doing Business';

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any foreign investor has objected to any criteria or clause of FDI policy so far; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Approval of industrial parks in Andhra Pradesh

2569. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has approved two industrial parks, one in Ananatapur and one in Vizianagaram districts of Andhra Pradesh recently;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what are the aims and objectives of these parks and by when they are likely to become functional; and
- (d) what would be the employment potential that is likely to be generated by these parks?

Fall in export of agricultural commodities

2570. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India's export of agricultural commodities has dipped from 43.2 billion dollars to 33.8 billion dollars and imports have climbed from 15.5 billion dollars during the period between 2013-14 to 2016-17:
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor especially in view of the fact that India has always been a net exporter in farm products; and
 - (c) what steps Government proposes to

take to increase the export of agricultural products and reduce the imports?

Incentive programmes for exports

†2571. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the countries implementing incentive programmes for exports and the details of incentive packages given by each of such countries; and
- (b) how Government has urged to effect the devaluation of Indian Rupee in order to take advantage of such incentives and to promote export of the country and the reasons for Reserve Bank of India refusing to implement any kind of currency devaluation?

TTRI on verge of closure due to nonrelease of funds

- 2572. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Asia's largest and oldest tea research institute *i.e.* Tocklai Tea Research Institute (TTRI) is on the verge of closure due to the non-release of funds by the Central Government for the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor:
- (c) whether the Central Government has taken any step to revive the Tocklai Tea Research Institute, if so, the details thereof; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Promotion of industries in Chhattisgarh

†2573. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by Government to promote commerce and industries in Chhattisgarh;
- (b) whether Government is aware that Chhattisgarh is a land-locked State having no port which causes additional costs and time in import and export, if so, the steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard; and
- (c) whether Government of Chhattisgarh has sent any proposal to the Central Government in this regard, if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

Review of goods for imports and exports

2574. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is contemplating a fresh review of the goods that are imported or exported;
- (b) the number of times the goods for imports and exports were reviewed during the last three years;
- (c) whether Government is contemplating putting a break on the import of processed items, sesame seeds, edible oil, pulses, fresh fruits, etc.; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the details of its likely impact on the condition of employment and foreign exchange?

Economic reforms and 'Ease of doing business'

2575. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of economic reforms undertaken by Government in pursuance of the initiative of 'ease of doing business';
- (b) what new opportunities have been offered to the MNCs in furtherance thereof;
- (c) whether there is any mechanism by which Government plans to keep a track of each such single reform, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has undertaken advanced planning to reach a certain milestone by the end of 2030, if so, the details thereof?

Reduction in share of agricultural exports

2576. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the share of agricultural exports in total exports of the country has reduced over the years;
- (b) if so, the steps taken/considered to be taken by Government to increase the share of agricultural exports in total exports; and
- (c) the major agricultural commodities exported by India during 2016-17, quantity-wise and price- wise?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Increase/decrease in buffalo meat exports

2577. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the year-wise details of the total amount, quantity-wise and cost/sale-wise, of buffalo meat or buffalo meat products exported during the last three years; and
- (b) the reasons for the increase or decrease in the export of buffalo meat during the last three years?

Wine exports from Maharashtra

2578. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the present status of wine exports from Maharashtra and other parts of the country, country-wise details of exports;
- (b) whether Indian wine meets the global standards required for its popularity and demand: and
- (c) if not, what action Government proposes to take to ensure global standards of Indian wine and to promote its export in a big way?

Construction of Visakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor

2579. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 2nd meeting of Council of Trade Development and Promotion has recently taken place in New Delhi, if so, the details thereof;

- (b) whether it is also a fact that a reference about the construction of industrial corridors between Visakhapatnam-Chennai and Chennai-Bengaluru have come for discussion;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to commence construction work of these industrial corridors at the earliest?

Units in Uttar Pradesh established under 'Make in India' programme

2580. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has information of number of units established in Uttar Pradesh under 'Make in India' programme;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of employment generated through 'Make in India' programme?

Sanctioning of IIFT and IIP in Andhra Pradesh

2581. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has sanctioned Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) and Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP) in Andhra Pradesh;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether land has been identified for the purpose, if so, by when the institutes will commence functioning?

Financial assistance for development of museums

- †2582. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that museums are depositories of the country which exhibit distinct evidences and examples of cultural and heritage development of a country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government was running some schemes for providing financial assistance for the development of museums before Twelfth Five Year Plan; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Mechanism for protection of historical manuscripts

- 2583. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any mechanism for protection of historical manuscripts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details regarding financial allocations made for this purpose during the last three years;
- (d) whether any such case has come to notice of Government where any Indian historical manuscript has been sent abroad surreptitiously; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with steps taken to bring back such historical valuables?

Proposal to open regional branches of NSD

2584. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to open regional branches of National School of Drama(NSD) to tap the regional talents;
- (b) if so, by when such regional centres of NSD are proposed to be set up; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Declaring Paika rebellion of Odisha as first war of Independence

- 2585. SHRI A.V. SWAMY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has taken note of the comment of the President of India in his inaugural address of the Bi-Centenary Celebration of Paika rebellion of Odisha, that "Paika rebellion enjoys cult status in Odisha with children growing up with stories of brave fight against the British, it unfortunately received less attention at the national level that it should have got", obviously referring to the demand of Odisha for declaring Paika rebellion as the first war of India's Independence; and
- (b) whether Government is contemplating to give attention and declare the Paika rebellion as the first war of Independence?

Providing network connectivity to libraries under NML in West Bengal

- 2586. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of district libraries provided with network connectivity under National Mission on Libraries (NML) in West Bengal;
 - (b) the details thereof, State-wise;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) the number of public libraries modernised under the mission, the details thereof, State-wise:
- (d) what is the current status of qualitative and quantitative survey of 5000 libraries;
- (e) the total number of libraries from West Bengal surveyed under the scheme;
- (f) the details of new initiatives taken under the programme to increase the youth engagement; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Inventory of surplus land of CPSEs

- 2587. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is large amount of surplus land lying unused with Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs):
- (b) if so, how did these enterprises come to acquire such large amount of land and why is it lying unused;
- (c) whether Government has proposed to make an inventory of such land, if so, what is the current status and if the exercise is complete, the State-wise details thereof;
- (d) if not, what is the deadline for completing it and what steps are being taken to expedite the process?

Facilities for manufacturing of lithiumion batteries

2588. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up facilities for making lithium-ion batteries in the country to lower the cost of electric vehicles;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to develop low-cost lithium-ion batteries in the country?

Equal pay for equal work in CPSUs

- 2589. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any status report on implementation of Supreme Court verdict on equal pay for equal work with reference to the contractual and temporary employees in CPSUs is available;
- (b) if so, the detailed report of action taken by each CPSU in this regard; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Illegal squatters at HEC, Ranchi

- 2590. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a large tract of land belonging to Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) at Ranchi has been illegally occupied;
- (b) if so, the details of total amount of such illegal occupation;
- (c) what steps are being taken to evict the illegal squatters; and
- (d) by when the HEC is expected to be able to evict the illegal squatters?

Profit earned by industries

2591. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that various industries are being run by Government, if so, their numbers as on June, 2017 from the beginning of NDA Government;
- (b) the investment made by Government during the aforesaid period, industry-wise; and
- (c) the percentage of annual profit earned by Government from these industries at the end of each year during the aforesaid period out of the total investment made?

Terrorist incidents in J&K

†2592. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV: SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of incidents of targeting schools and residential areas by Pakistan with heavy weapons in Jammu and Kashmir in the last three years;
- (b) whether schools had to be shut down in July month of last year due to such incidents;
- (c) the details of terrorist incidents occurred in Jammu and Kashmir in the last three years; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that the graph of terrorist incidents in the valley has gone up in the last three years?

Increase in terrorist incidents

†2593. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV: SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that terrorist incidents have gone up by 16 per cent in 2016 as compared to 2015;
- (b) the details of increase in terrorist incidents in the last three years;
- (c) the States witnessing increase and decrease in terrorist incidents in the last three years in the country; and
- (d) whether the system put in place to collect information regarding terrorists and naxalites has shown laxity as a result of which the anti-social elements succeed in carrying out such incidents?

Human trafficking cases

2594. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of human trafficking cases is increasing across the country over the years;
- (b) how many cases have been registered in the years 2015, 2016 and up to 1st July, 2017 under Indian Penal Code (IPC) and other Acts, in the country, Statewise and year-wise; and
- (c) the details of steps taken by Government to reduce the incidents of

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

human trafficking, especially of children and women?

Increase in terrorist and naxal attacks

2595. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the recent US State Department report, India ranks 3rd after Iraq and Afghanistan in the world with respect to the number of terror attacks and it has witnessed terrorist attacks more than that of Syria and Pakistan in 2016;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
 - (c) the response of Government thereto;
- (d) whether as per the above report, terrorist and naxal attacks in India have increased by 16 per cent in 2016; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Modernisation of police force in MP

- †2596. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the item-wise and year-wise details of funds provided to Madhya Pradesh for modernisation of police force from the year 2014-15 till now; and
- (b) the details of action plan and contingency measures formulated for disaster management in States, the details of implementation of emergency law and order measures in Mandsaur district of Madhya Pradesh in 2017, assessment of huge loss of life and property and review of immediate control over situation?

Illegal kidney transplant racket

2597. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to control the rackets running illegal kidney transplant activities in private hospitals across the country;
- (b) the details of such cases in the current year; and
- (c) what measures have been taken by Government to stop such crimes in the private hospitals?

Strict rules to control organised crime

2598. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to frame strict rules to control the organised crime in the country; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Investigation into terror attacks

2599. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the State/UT-wise details of the terror attacks since 2014 till date;
- (b) the details regarding the status of investigations conducted along with their outcome;
- (c) the details regarding action taken by Government to curb these increasing terror attacks; and
- (d) compensation that was given to those killed and injured during these terror attacks?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Foreign nationals seeking asylum

2600. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of foreign nationals officially seeking asylum in India during the period between 2001 to 2014;
- (b) what are the details about the countries they belong to and the reasons they might have assigned;
- (c) what has been the policy of Government while dealing with such requests; and
- (d) the conditions, if any, that an asylum seeker has to accept and what are the measures taken when such conditions are violated by the respective person?

Vacancies of IPS officers

- 2601. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any proposal for comprehensive police reform;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of vacancies of IPS officers at present in the State and UT cadres, State/UT-wise details thereof; and
- (d) what is the action plan for filling up these vacancies, the details in this regard?

Plan to revisit MPF scheme

- 2602. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has carried out a study in 2014 to identify

- State-wise and component-wise deficiencies being faced by State Police Force;
- (b) if so, the details of such deficiencies identified, State-wise with a particular reference to Karnataka;
- (c) what efforts Government is making to address the deficiencies so identified;
- (d) whether there are any plans to revisit the Modernisation of Police Force (MPF) scheme; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Steps to prevent infiltration

- †2603. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan always tends to push in infiltrators to India;
- (b) if so, whether Government proposes to take any concrete and effective steps to prevent the same; and
- (c) if so, by when and the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Coastal Security Scheme

- 2604. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any Coastal Security Scheme;
- (b) if so, the status of its implementation in various parts of the country;
- (c) the target fixed for implementing the scheme and the achievement made so far;
 - (d) the details of proposals received

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

from the State Governments during the last two years and the current year, State-wise;

- (e) whether Government proposes to improve upon the scheme; and
 - (f) if so, the details thereof?

Prevention of Destruction of Public Property Amendment Bill

2605. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is reworking the proposed Prevention of Destruction of Public Property Amendment Bill to exclude proviso that hold leaders of political parties responsible for such damage;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the move runs contrary to Government's stand earlier when it had agreed for severe measures to hold leaders of political parties accountable for damage to public property caused during bandhs, protests and demonstrations called by them; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Providing more powers to NHRC

2606. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to provide more powers to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC);
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has received many

suggestions in this regard, including that of the Supreme Court of India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Prevention of terrorist attacks on J&K border

†2607. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken the toughest possible decision for the prevention of terrorist attacks taking place at Jammu and Kashmir border;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that efforts have been made to prevent terrorist attacks for several years, however the situation remains unresolved till date, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the number of terrorists neutralized by our security personnel and the number of security personnel martyred during last two years, the details thereof?

Human trafficking of children and women

- 2608. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) how many children and women were victims of human trafficking in India in 2016 and in 2017 till date;
- (b) whether the percentage of human trafficking of children and women are on the rise during the last three years;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) Government's action in this regard to control and also end the child and women trafficking in the country?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Insurgent related activities in North-Eastern Region

- 2609. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of insurgent related incidents in 2017 in the North-Eastern Region;
- (b) the number of civilian killings in 2017 in the North-Eastern Region;
- (c) the casualties among security forces in the North-Eastern Region in 2017; and
- (d) the number of kidnapping/abduction incidents in the North-Eastern Region in 2017?

Hate crimes against North-Eastern people

- 2610. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the recommendations of the MP Bezbaruah Committee;
- (b) the action taken report on the recommendations of the MP Bezbaruah Committee: and
- (c) the number of registered cases of hate crimes against the North-Eastern people in Delhi, Karnataka and Haryana in 2017?

Action taken to curb expansion plan of Maoists

- 2611. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware that left wing extremists in Chhattisgarh have been attempting to create an entirely new zone along the western border, according

- to a Maoist document retrieved by State Police;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and action so far taken to curb expansion plan of Maoists; and
- (c) how many extremists have been killed/arrested during the last four months by security forces?

Assistance for modernisation of jails

- 2612. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether presently there are a number of jails in the country which are overcrowded and the inmates are living in a pitiable condition and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government provides any assistance for modernisation, decongestion and completion of various projects relating to jails in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the names of States which have not been able to utilize all the funds along with the reasons therefor, State-wise?

Recruitment drive by insurgent groups of North-East

- 2613. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that during the last one year the insurgent groups of North-East have made massive force recruitment drive in rural States of North-East, particularly from Assam;
- (b) if so, whether the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has prepared and submitted a report on the same; and

(c) if so, the proposal of Government to tackle and/or stop the activities of North-East insurgent groups thereof?

MoU with UK

- 2614. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that India and the United Kingdom have agreed to finalise a Memorandum of Understanding on criminal matters, organised crime and illegal migrants;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that both the countries laid emphasis on cooperation on anti-terrorism mechanism and to strengthen mutual support to check cyber crime;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that India has also raised the issue of Khalistani militants based in the UK; and
 - (e) if so, their response thereon?

Illegally staying Rohingyas in the country

- 2615. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is working on identifying Rohingya Muslims who have entered the country from Myanmar over the past five to seven years;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Rohingyas have been staying illegally in various pockets in the country;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that there are over 40,000 Rohingyas who had fled their homes in Rakhine State of Myanmar and crossed to India to take refuge here; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Illegal activities running in States

2616. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether satta, gambling, matka and other illegal activities have been running in Delhi, NCR and Northern India including various towns of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab and Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years including persons arrested, persons convicted, pending trial;
- (c) whether a matka king who was active since 1977 arrested by Chandni Mahal police station of old Delhi, but was released later and started operating illegal betting again;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the stringent action taken by Government to control these activities so that future of affected families are not destroyed?

Non-official visitors to prisons

2617. SHRI SANJAY SETH: SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to implement MHA's 2011 advisory that requires appointment of concerned citizens as non-official visitors (NOVs) to prison;
- (b) the names of the States that have Board of Visitors (BOVs) constituted in all their jails;
- (c) the number of jail visits by NOVs, State-wise since January, 2016;

- (d) whether Government provides or proposes to provide any assistance to the States for training the NOVs;
 - (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the details of mechanism put in place by Government to monitor the working of BOVs and NOVs?

Displaced rural farmers of Kashmiri Pandit community

- 2618. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Union Government has initiated packages which include specific compensation for the displaced rural farmers of Kashmiri Pandit community who have lost their land due to the 1990s' exodus, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) if not, whether Government intends to provide any compensation to the displaced rural farmers of Kashmiri Pandit community who have lost their land due to the 1990s' exodus, the details thereof?

Creation of model villages in border areas

- 2619. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has undertaken scheme to promote creation of model villages in border areas;
- (b) if so, the objectives and details of the scheme thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to overcome the difficulties in the implementation of the scheme;
 - (d) whether there is any improvement

- in the related indices after the implementation of the scheme;
- (e) if so, the State-wise distribution of the related indices; and
- (f) whether Government is undertaking any other policies for promoting the development of villages in border regions and the details thereof, if any?

Drug menace in Hyderabad

2620. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: SHRI C.M. RAMESH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that drug peddlers are now targeting school children and college students, besides techies in Hyderabad and this has become rampant in the last few months:
- (b) whether it is a fact that LSD and MDMA are mostly imported from Chicago to supply students and children of premier institutions in Hyderabad; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor and how Government is going to help Hyderabad Police to control this menace?

Co-operation of Chhattisgarh police to Central security forces

- †2621. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards statement of Central Advisor for Naxal Cases that, Chhattisgarh police is not co-operating, which he gave in the meeting of unified command in Chhattisgarh;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the steps taken by Central Government to ensure full co-operation of Chhattisgarh police to Central security forces: and
- (c) whether Government is now satisfied with the co-operation of local police?

Refugee camps in the country

- 2622. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of refugee camps that were established in the country to accommodate various refugees *viz*. Bangladeshis, Rohingyas, etc.;
- (b) the details of the precautions taken by Government before giving refugee status to them;
- (c) whether Government has made any fresh assessment after accepting refugees in the country;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Increase in compensation to victims of naxal violence

- †2623. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the number of common people killed and jawans martyred from State police forces and Central armed forces on account of naxal violence prevalent in naxal affected States, including the State of Chhattisgarh during the last three years and current year;
- (b) the State-wise details of compensation approved for family

- members/next of kin of persons killed or injured in these incidents; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to enhance the amount of compensation for the persons becoming victims of naxal violence, if so, the details thereof and details of other welfare measures being adopted for these people?

Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board

- 2624. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has received any proposal from Andhra Pradesh for the establishment of Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what is the present status of proposal and whether Government has given inprinciple approval for establishment of the Maritime Board?

Safety from fire hazards

- 2625. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is a huge shortage of fire fighting equiptments, personnel and fire tenders/vehicles in the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof, for last three years;
- (c) the State-wise total number of fire stations, in working condition according to national standards; and
- (d) the details of various steps which Government has taken/intends to take to ensure safety from fire hazards in the country?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Armed rebellion of Paikas in Odisha

2626. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that before 40 years of Sepoy Mutiny, there was a great Armed rebellion of the Paikas (soldiers) in Odisha against the Britishers in the year 1817;
- (b) will Government as mark of respect to the soldiers and participants of that rebellion, sanction monthly allowance to the living progeny of those martyrs of the Paika Vidroh; and
- (c) whether Government is considering decision of Odisha Cabinet requesting Union Government to recognize Paika Vidroh as the first war of independence as it took place in an organized and intensive way spreading in large part of Odisha before Sepoy Mutiny?

Atrocities on tribals

- 2627. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the year-wise and State-wise number of cases filed related to atrocities on tribals in last three years;
- (b) the year-wise and State-wise number of cases filed related to atrocities on tribal women in last three years;
- (c) the year-wise and State-wise number of cases filed related to atrocities on tribals in last three years in which arrests have been made; and
- (d) the year-wise and State-wise number of cases filed related to atrocities on tribals in last three years in which arrests have not been made and reasons for the same?

Measures to improve security of jails

2628. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that notorious criminals and undertrials who are serving sentences in various jails of the country have escaped due to poor security system in place and inefficient administration;
- (b) how many prisoners of various categories have escaped from custody in past three years ending 31 May, 2017, yearwise and prison-wise list may be provided; and
- (c) what measures Government proposes to improve the security and administration of the jails in the country in order to minimise such lapses?

Disaster management authority in States

- 2629. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Disaster Management Authority has been set up at the State level, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the State-wise details of the Authority;
- (c) how often do these Authorities meet in order to strengthen pre-disaster preparedness; and
- (d) do these Authorities plan to hold workshops for students and citizens to prepare them at individual level?

Delhi emerging as a hub of child trafficking

2630. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Delhi is fastest emerging as a hub of child trafficking and worst at finding missing children from the National Capital;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what remedial measures Government has taken or proposes to take in the matter?

Taskforce to deport illegal Bangladeshi settlers from Assam

- 2631. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government will set up a task force to identify and deport illegal Bangladeshi settlers from Assam:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has also initiated a discussion with Bangladesh for a bilateral pact to deport illegal migrants; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Rohingya refugees

2632. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has framed a policy with regard to Rohingya refugees in India;
 - (b) if so, whether it involves other

stakeholders, such as our neighbouring countries:

- (c) whether reports stating that Government plans to deport the 40,000 Rohingya refugees are true; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons for such plans?

Shortage of officers in paramilitary forces

- 2633. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that almost 60 pet cent of officers selected for posting in the Border Security Force have refused to join:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that paramilitary forces are facing a shortage of gazetted officers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to fill the vacancies?

Establishment of National Institute of Disaster Management in AP

- 2634. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is keen on establishing the National Institute of Disaster Management in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for the delay in the matter;
- (d) the quantum of funds allocated and released so far; and
 - (e) the details thereof?

Family pension for freedom fighters

- †2635. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government is providing family pension to freedom fighters;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that several freedom fighters are still struggling with Government for getting Swatantrata Samman pension even after 68 years of independence and the decision taken/likely to be taken by Government in this regard;
- (d) whether Government is considering to revise and increase the family pension; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Plan to review policy of women security

- 2636. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has any plan to review policy for women security after seeing increasing trend of rape and murder of women in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the year-wise and State-wise cases reported about rape and murder of women during last three years?

Report on countries facing terror attacks

2637. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to a recent analysis of data compiled by the US Department of State on countries facing terror attacks, India has emerged as the third largest terror target after Iraq and Afganistan;
- (b) whether Pakistan is ranked fourth with lower number of terror attacks in 2016; and
- (c) whether according to the report, more than half the attacks in India in 2016, took place in four States with Jammu and Kashmir and Chhattisgarh leading the list?

Payment pending under SRE Scheme

- 2638. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the payment of ₹314 crore is pending for Jharkhand Government under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of all pending payments under SRE scheme, State-wise for the last three years?

Death of undertrials and convicts in lock-ups

- 2639. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether on July 8, 2017, the post mortem report of a prisoner who died after being assaulted by jail officials in Mumbai's byculla jail, confirmed that she had been beaten to death;
- (b) whether in similar incidents across the country, thousands of undertrials and

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

convicts in lock-ups and prisons have been killed over the past decade; and

(c) whether apart from the National Human Rights Commission, international human rights organisations like Amnesty International have come out strongly on this issue?

Cases related to terrorist activities

2640. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of cases related to terrorist activities have been registered in various States of the country;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases registered during the last three years, Statewise/Union Territory-wise;
- (c) the number of innocent people and police officials who lost their life, injured and loss of property in such attacks during this period; and
- (d) the details of assistance given and steps taken to improve technology management skills and coordination amongst the States to face the above menace?

Amount allotted for MPF to Rajasthan

†2641. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of amount allotted by Government for modernisation of police force (MPF) to Rajasthan during last three years;
- (b) the details of heads under which the above amount has been spent; and

(c) whether Government has got the amount spent for the works under the above heads audited by an independent agency, if so, the details thereof?

Funding of J&K separatist leaders

†2642. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that for years, separatist leaders of Jammu and Kashmir have been funded by Pakistan and terrorist organisations based there;
- (b) if so, the reasons why Government has failed to stop this so far; and
- (c) the main sources of funding to the separatists and whether these sources are being used to foment instability in the valley?

Augmenting drug law enforcement capabilities of States

- 2643. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government proposes to extend Assistance to States and Union Territories Scheme for augmenting the drug law enforcement capabilities of the State/UT agencies to procure necessary infrastructure and equipments for combating drug trafficking;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the financial assistance given to Himachal Pradesh during the last three years and the current year under the scheme?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Cases registered in Geeta Colony Police Station

- 2644. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has observed that many accused indulge in same offences after being acquitted or getting bail in Delhi;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) the details of cases registered in Geeta Colony Police Station, East Delhi district in which accused have been acquitted or granted bail due to lack of evidence, improper chargesheet, negligence of Investigating Officers(IOs) or connivance of IOs during 2017, casewise:
- (d) whether Government proposes to study such cases and the role of IOs; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Assistance to farmers in the wake of flood in Imphal valley

- 2645. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government would provide assistance to farmers, facing widespread crop failure due to flood in Imphal valley, if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether Central Government has received any proposal to compensate the loss to the farmers, if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether any special effort is being made to help farmers grow crops after water recedes, details thereof;

- (d) whether Government would plan to tap excess water during monsoon season so as to prevent flood and get it used for other beneficial purposes in the valley; and
- (e) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

Permanent unit of NDRF in Manipur

- 2646. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of works done by NDRF in connection with the flash floods in the Imphal valley, the development of huge cracks in Kangpokpi, devastation by cyclone Mora and landslides in National Highways in Manipur;
- (b) whether there is any permanent unit of NDRF in the State, if so, the details thereof:
- (c) if not, whether Government would set up a permanent unit in the State in view of frequent disasters and movement bottlenecks, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the precautionary measures, projects and programmes to fight calamities in the State?

Relocating agricultural labourers from agriculture to industries

†2647. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

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

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (a) the success rate achieved by the Ministry towards relocating the agricultural labourers from agriculture to industries during the last three years;
- (b) the details of steps taken by the Ministry to arrest the trend of unemployment and joblessness;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the schemes/ programmes of Government have proved to be a failure on employment front; and
 - (d) the details thereof?

Amount spent under PMRPY in 2016-17

2648. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY

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

- (a) whether the job growth has decreased in the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor:
- (c) the steps taken for generating employment in the country including the private sector and in the core sectors like IT/BPO, handloom/powerloom, textiles, automobiles, etc.; and
- (d) the amount spent in 2016-17 under the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY), for promoting employment generation and the number of job opportunities actually generated, the details thereof?

Enhancement of gratuity limit

2649. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: SHRI T. G. VENKATESH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to increase the gratuity limit from l0 lakhs to 20 lakhs being paid in the organised sector;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any representation has been received from employees' unions, the details thereof; and
- (d) by which time this will come into force?

Incentives to labourers engaged in hazardous works

2650. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

- (a) the details of schemes being implemented by Government for providing incentives to labourers engaged in hazardous works; and
- (b) the number and details of labourers engaged in hazardous works who have been provided incentives under these schemes during the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise and State/UT-wise?

Compensation to workers injured or killed due to industrial accidents

- 2651. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) details of industrial accidents and workers injured or killed since 2014, Statewise, year-wise and industry-wise;
- (b) details of compensation paid out to workers injured or killed due to industrial accidents since 2014, year-wise and Statewise:

- (c) whether industries are mandatorily required to put in place safety mechanisms to prevent industrial accidents, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government conducts checks and audits to ensure that safety mechanisms are in place and operational, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor; and
- (e) details of employers audited, noncompliant and prosecuted since 2014, State-wise and year-wise?

Effect of GST on employment scenario

2652. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) how many jobs have been created in the organized and unorganized sectors during the last three years, the year-wise data thereof:
- (b) the steps taken by Government to improve employability of the youth of the country and to provide them jobs during the last three years; and
- (c) how Goods and Services Tax (GST) will affect the employment scenario of the country in different sectors of the economy, the detailed sector-wise data thereof?

Improving working conditions of labourers through reform in labour laws

†2653. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken several new corrective steps in the field of labour laws during the last three years;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) whether the steps taken in direction of labour reforms have resulted in the expected improvements in the working conditions of labourers and economic benefit to them; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Joka ESI hospital at Kolkata

†2654. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether doctors have been appointed by Government on contractual basis in Joka ESI hospital, Kolkata;
- (b) whether there is no provision of getting treatment in the hospital for those doctors themselves or their family members when they fall sick;
- (c) if so, the reasons for the doctors constrained to go to hospitals other than the hospital where he/she is working for his/her own treatment; and
- (d) whether Government would take such steps in this direction so as to provide treatment facilities to the doctors and their family members in the hospital where he/ she is working, if so, details thereof?

Number of persons employed through employment exchanges

2655. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the number of persons employed through employment exchanges during the last three years, State- wise and year-wise and the details of percentage of persons registered in different categories *viz*. matriculate, graduate, post-graduate and having degree or diploma in technical areas, respectively?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Effect of cash crunch on job market

2656. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether amid global headwinds and cash crunch back home the job market is heading for a hit;
- (b) whether employers are on a wait and watch mode;
- (c) whether the recent demonetisation move has had the drastic impact on the sales and currently they are slow in hiring the staff for the next two years; and
- (d) if so, what remedial measures Government is taking to help job seekers?

Raising of minimum wages of casual labourers in Kerala

2657. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Kerala has announced a draft labour policy seeking to raise the minimum wages of the casual labourers to ₹ 600 per day;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Central Government wants to implement similar type of schemes;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cess collected for benefit of construction labourers lying undistributed

2658. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than ₹ 30,000 crores of cess meant for the benefit of construction labourers are lying undistributed:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) the reasons therefor?

Wages of casual labourers in comparison to MGNREGS labourers

2659. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that casual labourers are paid higher wages in comparison to labourers under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS); and
- (b) if so, the comparative details of wages paid to casual and MGNREGS labourers, State-wise and year-wise during the last three years?

Schemes to provide employment to unemployed persons

†2660. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has chalked out a number of schemes to provide employment to unemployed persons;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the number of jobless persons who were provided employment during the last two years and the number of persons who will be provided employment in the next two years, the details thereof?

Labour code to create quality jobs

2661. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) how labour reforms bring in quality jobs at a time when last three years have seen jobless growth in the country; and
- (b) the details of wage code cleared by Group of Ministers and how it will create quality jobs in the country?

Decline in employment

2662. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is 50 to 60 per cent decline in employment during last three years in comparison to previous three years;
 - (b) if so, details and reasons;
- (c) whether only 0.01 per cent of new workforce in the country get jobs at present out of one million new job seekers added every month;
 - (d) if so, details thereof, State-wise;
- (e) the details of total number of employment generation in private sector and public sector, separately, during 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016, year-wise and Statewise; and
- (f) details of difficulties in two crore annual employment generation as promised by Prime Minister?

Data on jobs before demonetisation

2663. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the recent data released by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), jobs in India had shrunk to lowest level even before demonetisation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
 - (c) the response of Government thereto?

Defaults in paying employer's contribution of social welfare schemes

2664. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any list of corporate entities who defaulted on paying employer's contribution of social welfare schemes for labourers to Government; and
- (b) if so, whether Government has initiated any action against such corporates?

Increasing Government share of contribution under EPS, 1995

2665. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will increase Government share of contribution under EPS, 1995 from 1.16 per cent to 8.33 per cent to support minimum pension level of ₹ 3000/- per month along with dearness allowance as recommended by Koshiyari Committee, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

- (b) whether Government will extend ESI facilities to Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) pensioners for comprehensive medical care for them, without deducting pension amount for the same, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government will restore the right to commutation of the pensioners to restore the commuted portion of pension?

EPFO's investment in stock market through ETFs

2666. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the EPFO's investment in stocks through Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) would cross the ₹ 45,000 crore mark by the end of this fiscal:
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the rate of return on this investment for the last year was 13.3 per cent;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that as on April, 2017 the stock investment stood at ₹ 21,559 crore; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Unemployment in leather industry due to ban on slaughter of cattle

- 2667. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that several dependent industries like leather have been severely affected by the ban on slaughter of cattle leading to unemployment, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the State-wise figures/numbers of people rendered unemployed in the leather industry due to the ban;

- (c) the steps taken by Government for rehabilitation of the ones losing their jobs due to the ban;
- (d) whether Government has proposed any plan for the provision of alternate means of income for the affected population; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Minimum daily wage for unskilled non-agricultural workers

2668. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has raised/ proposes to raise the minimum daily wage for unskilled non-agricultural workers for category 'C';
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the methodology adopted for the said revision:
- (c) whether the methodology of determining the minimum wage is according to the recommendations made by the Seventh Pay Commission; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for the divergence between the two methodologies?

Unemployment allowance for disabled persons

2669. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any unemployment allowance is being granted for the disabled persons in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) the number of disabled persons

being given unemployment allowance during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) if not, the steps taken for the welfare of disabled unemployed persons in the country?

Guidelines for revised integrated housing scheme for workers

2670. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has released guidelines for revised integrated housing scheme for workers;
- (b) if so, details thereof and salient features of the revised scheme;
- (c) the category of workers likely to be benefited from the scheme;
- (d) number of workers so far registered for houses under the scheme and number of workers out of them who have been provided houses, State-wise including Odisha: and
- (e) total number of houses Government has constructed so far and proposes to construct for the workers during the current and the next financial year along with the funds likely to be spent in this regard?

Budget allocated by Coir Board

- 2671. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:
- (a) the quantum of budget allocated by Coir Board for the last two years and current year and the actual utilisation of funds under various heads;
- (b) whether Coir Board raised the demand for more Non-Plan allocation to

meet the salary dues, if so, what steps did Government take;

- (c) the budget allocation under Coir Udyami Yojana (CUY) and what were the physical targets and how many units were actually assisted during last two years; and
- (d) how does the Coir Udyami Yojana (CUY) propose to utilise the allocated funds and what are the physical targets for the current financial year?

Demands placed by MSMEs before roll out of GST

- 2672. DR. R LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the demands that were placed before Government by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises sector before the rolling out of GST in the country; and
- (b) the details of the demands that was accepted by Government that were placed by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises sector?

Creation of employment opportunities through MSMEs

2673. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises play an important role in creating employment opportunities in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of targets fixed and achieved by Government regarding creation of employment opportunities during each of the last three years and the

current year in the country especially, in the State of Jharkhand and Gujarat; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for achieving the said targets?

GST on Khadi products

2674. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) what is Government's stand on introduction of GST on Khadi products, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is planning to approach Ministry of Finance with a request to bring all Khadi products under 5 per cent GST slab and not above, if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons for the same?

Steps to widen clean fuel coverage

2675. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to invest nearly ₹ 30,000 crores on creating import and distribution infrastructure for widening the clean fuel coverage in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is considering to add 10,000 new LPG distributors;
- (d) whether India is home to more than 24 crore households, of which about 10 crore still do not have access to LPG as cooking fuel; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Utilising CSR funds for education of street children

2676. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plans to use the CSR fund of oil and gas PSUs for the education purpose of the street children in the country; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Allegations against Chairman elect of ONGC

†2677. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Chairman elect of ONGC had been under suspension for a long time on account of serious allegations levelled against him and an important post like Chairman of ONGC is being offered to him while setting aside his suspension;
- (b) the duration wherefor ONGC's Chairman elect had been under suspension and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the reason responsible to set aside the allegations about his suspension during selection process; and
- (d) whether the parameters like integrity, efficiency and seniority have also been ignored during the course of selection process?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Functioning of ONGC Energy Centre in Delhi

†2678. SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of years since Delhi based ONGC Energy Centre has been functioning;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the pace of expenditure of the above Energy Centre is more than that of its production;
- (c) the details of expenditure, income and the contribution of the above Centre during the last three years;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that the Director of the above Energy Centre is a retired officer and holding the post for a long time; and
- (e) the reasons for not making permanent appointment in such a big Department for a long time?

PNG coverage

2679. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total coverage of PNG pipelines for cooking purposes, domestic and commercial, in the country during the years 2015-16 and 2016-17, State-wise;
- (b) how many lakh PNG household customers have been covered in the current

financial year, up to 1st July, 2017, citywise and town-wise; and

(c) what is the target of coverage of PNG supply for cooking purposes in the country in the next five years, under City Gas Distribution Network, the details thereof?

Guidelines for perks to top level management of oil companies

2680. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has issued any strict norms and guidelines for both public and private sector oil and gas companies for the provision and maximum limit of the salaries and perks accorded to the top level management upto GM level;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some companies are paying more than the prescribed ceiling to its CEOs and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken against such companies?

Reduction in production and distribution by oil PSUs

2681. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is Government's policy to reduce production and distribution by Public Sector Oil companies like ONGC, IOC, etc.;
- (b) if so, why they are not promoted in taking up new projects like KG Basin oil and gas production; and

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) why prices of oil and gas are pegged up in comparison to even less developed countries?

Gas purchase deal with Qatar

2682. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India is ready to sign a long-term gas purchase deal with Qatar subject to Qatar investing in our power plants hit by gas shortage;
- (b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and
- (c) what are the names of power plants which have been forced to cease their operations or to function below capacity due to lack of gas supplies?

Free licences for LPG distributorship to war widows

2683. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has any proposal to distribute free LPG distributorship licences to war widows in the near future;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken in this regard; and
- (d) the details of the legal constraints, if any?

LPG cylinders to poor families in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh

2684. DR. C. P. THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has special provision for providing LPG cylinders to poor families in less developed States like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) what is the status of beneficiaries in Bihar as of now; and
- (c) whether Government would contemplate to provide LPG cylinders in the flood affected districts of Bihar on an urgent basis?

Slow exploration work of ONGC in KG Basin

2685. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the exploration work of ONGC in the Godavari PML block in the Krishna Godavari Basin since 2003 is very tardy;
- (b) whether Justice Ajit Prakash Shah Committee has submitted its report on the ineffective role of the ONGC in exploration; and
- (c) if so, by when it will start the exploratory work and by when the commercial production would start in either of its blocks?

Rehabilitation of kerosene dealers belonging to SC category

2686. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to rehabilitate Scheduled Cast kerosene dealers including dealers from SC category of Delhi and to provide alternative source of income to meet their livelihood in view of Delhi being kerosene free since 2013;

- (b) if so, details thereof along with the proposal, if any, to provide LPG distributorship/5 kg. Free Trade LPG to kerosene dealers in Delhi;
- (c) whether any relaxation has been given to dealers providing land for said purpose, if so, steps taken in this regard; and
- (d) whether Government has fixed any time-frame to provide LPG distributorship to kerosene dealers, if so, details thereof?

Daily fixation of retail prices of petrol and diesel

- †2687. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the matter of keeping the prices of petrol and diesel higher, in connivance with the oil companies of private sector, in daily fixation of retail prices of petrol and diesel has come across;
- (b) the mechanism adopted to avoid such connivance with private oil companies; and
- (c) how is it possible to fix the uniform rate of petro-products on daily basis without any connivance, the reasons for not having different prices thereof, so that consumers cold buy those from the company having lowest rates thereof?

Exploration of oil and gas

†2688. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of regions where the work

- of exploration of crude oil and gas is being conducted in the country at present;
- (b) whether Government is exploring these outside the country also, if so, the names of those countries;
- (c) the places where wells of crude oil and gas have been found in the exploration in the country, and the possibility of quantity of their storage; and
- (d) whether there is any possibility of tapping the reserves of oil and gas found by means of exploration by the private companies, if so, the reasons therefor along with names thereof?

Regulation of fuel prices

- 2689. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the deregulation of the petroleum and natural gas prices has led to sharp and continuous price rise;
- (b) whether Government has promised to control price-rise;
- (c) if so, how is it possible to control prices in the backdrop of deregulated fuel prices; and
- (d) the details of Government's plan for this regulation?

Letter of appreciation for voluntary surrender of LPG subsidy

- †2690. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has formulated a plan to send a letter of appreciation to those giving up LPG subsidy voluntarily; and

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the total number of citizens who have given up LPG subsidy, so far, in the country and how many out of them have been sent a letter of appreciation and by when the letters will be sent to the remaining persons?

Exploration by ONGC in East Coast deep water block

- 2691. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has initiated preliminary activities for development of oil fields in the East Coast deep water block;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the quantum of crude oil and gas expected to be explored in these oil fields, over the next 10 years; and
- (d) the amount each earmarked and spent so far, for the exploration activities and the progress of work, in details?

Greenfield crude oil refinery in Andhra Pradesh

- 2692. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is considering to establish a Greenfield crude oil refinery and petrochemical complex in Andhra Pradesh as mandated in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Andhra Pradesh has signed any MoU with the petrochemical companies;
- (d) whether a feasibility study was carried; and

(e) what is the present position of the project?

Raids against theft/adulteration in petrol pumps

2693. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that nation-wide raids have taken place in connection with theft/adulteration in petrol pumps in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof, including those in Jharkhand;
- (c) what action has been taken against those found guilty; and
- (d) what deterrent measures are being taken to ensure that this does not recur?

Exploratory drilling in KG Basin by ONGC

- 2694. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether ONGC has started exploratory drilling in KG Basin after getting clearances from the concerned agencies;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether results forthcoming from the drillings are encouraging for commercial exploitation; and
- (d) if so, by when commercial drilling may begin in KG Basin?

Dealership to SCs/STs and women

2695. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal for special drive for allotting dealership to SCs/STs and women in the country; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Accidents at oil rigs/offshore drilling/ exploration sites

2696. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of accidents/fatalities that occurred at all oil rigs/offshore drilling and exploration sites during the year 2016-17;
- (b) the relief or compensation package provided to each one of the injured/victims in the aforementioned accidents;
- (c) whether there has been a study on the causes of these accidents and the measures taken/to be taken to prevent their reoccurrence; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Sale of HPCL stake to ONGC

2697. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has been decided to sell stake of HPCL to ONGC;
- (b) if so, the reasons for selecting HPCL out of other public sector OMCs; and
- (c) whether the same will be done in the case of OIL and BPCL as well?

Implementation of guidelines for service provider at COCO ROs

2698. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has issued new guidelines for selection of service provider for providing manpower and services at Company Owned Company Operated Retail Outlets (COCO ROs) during the last year in November, 2016;
- (b) whether it is a fact that these guidelines have so far not been implemented even after eight months; and
 - (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Gap between demand and supply of steel

2699. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a huge gap between demand and supply of steel resulting in dependence on imported steel in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has increased export duty on steel to stop iron ore exports;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government plans to have new National Steel Policy to consider all the aspects; and
 - (f) if so, the details thereof?

Loss incurred by RINL

2700. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) incurred a loss of ₹ 1421 crores in the last fiscal in spite of 39 per cent increase in production and 5 per cent growth;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and what is the impact of fall in prices of steel on the turnover of RINL; and
- (c) what it the present status of expansion of RINL?

Purchase of mines by NMDC in Turkey

†2701. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) is considering any proposal to purchase mines in Turkey and if so, the details thereof:
- (b) the names of foreign countries in which the NMDC and other companies occupy mines and the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government is contemplating to implement any scheme to promote other corporations along with private sector companies in mines business and if so, the details thereof?

Gas supply for stranded gas based steel plants

†2702. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that three sponge iron projects-JSW Steel Salav, JSW Steel Dolvi and Essar Steel were established in the nineties with an assurance of regular supply of gas from Government;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that these projects are being supplied only 30 per cent gas at present due to which they are unable to use their full production potential;

- (c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to supply required gas to the above projects; and
- (d) if no steps have been taken, the reasons therefor?

Setting up of steel plants on PSU land

2703. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to set up steel plants by private parties on the PSU land;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that recently the Cabinet has approved a new Steel Policy and whether (a) above is a part of policy initiative; and
- (d) how the policy helps in taking steel production from the present 126 million tonnes to 300 million tonnes by 2030?

Production of best quality steel at competitive global cost

2704. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the steel manufacturers in the country are capable to produce best quality of steel using the latest technology at globally competitive cost;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of technological improvisation in production of best quality steel in the country and collaborations with leading research institutions of the world, if any?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Accidents in steel plants

2705. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the plant-wise and year-wise number of accidents, both fatal and non-fatal in the integrated steel plants both in public and private sectors during the last three years;
- (b) the plant-wise and year-wise number of workers both regular and under contract died and injured in those accidents; and
- (c) the details of compensation paid to the affected workers/families?

Development of five exclusive tourism zones around beaches

2706. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to develop five exclusive tourism zones around beaches in partnership with private sector;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has already identified islands for development by 2020 for the above purpose; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Tribal and rural circuit under Swadesh Darshan Scheme

†2707. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government for development of tribal and rural circuits

under Swadesh Darshan Scheme and the details of the amount so far utilized for tribal and rural circuits under Swadesh Darshan:

- (b) whether Government has formulated any scheme to promote rural tourism in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details of the proposed schemes and State-wise, UT-wise and yearwise status of rural tourism in country along with details of action plan for enhancement of prospects of tourism in rural-tribal areas?

Proposal to resume the Ramayana Circuit

2708. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to resume "the Ramayana Circuit" in the near future;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details about the financial and legal implications, if any?

Decline in tourists visiting Kashmir

†2709. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of tourists visiting Kashmir has declined this year;
- (b) if so, whether Government proposes to take any steps so that the number of tourists may increase during the next year; and

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

Development of Eco-Tourism in Jharkhand

- 2710. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government proposes to develop Jharkhand State as a major tourism centre:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has drawn a massive plan to develop more tourist destinations and tourism potential in the existing tourism centres in Jharkhand;
- (d) whether any places have been identified for this purpose; and
- (e) the allocation made to execute the plans and the funds released so far, centrewise?

Initiatives taken to enhance tourism in NE States

- 2711. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) what are the initiatives taken by Government to enhance tourism in the North-Eastern States during the past three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the ongoing schemes; and;
- (c) whether there are any schemes or policies to increase tourism under the Act East Policy?

India's position in world tourism ranking

2712. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of India in the world tourism map;
- (b) whether it is a fact that India is ranked at 40th in the recently released world tourism ranking by World Economic Forum:
- (c) if so, the countries that are ahead of India:
- (d) what are the reasons that in spite of having rich cultural heritage and historical sites, we are still languishing at 40th place; and
- (e) the efforts being made on the policy front and at the ground level to achieve 10 million tourists in the coming two to three years?

Restoration/beautification of ancient temples/religious places in the country

- 2713. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) the guidelines issued by Government regarding sanctioning of amount for restoration in the country particularly in rural and hilly areas;
- (b) whether Government will ask the State Government of Himachal Pradesh for sanctioning of required funds for restoration/beautification of ancient temples of God Parshuram in village Nandla under gram panchayat Jangla in Chirgaon tehsil under Shimla district of Himachal Pradesh as the matter is pending with the Department of Language, Art and Culture since long, as the temple committee has produced all required documents to Government; and;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Request for E-Visa facility to promote tourism

2714. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any request from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana to provide E-Visa facility and visa on arrival at immigration counters at the airports to promote tourism;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) in which airports apart from Delhi, facility is available now?

Treatment of tribals by quacks

- 2715. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has received reports about tribal communities being treated by quacks for ailments, especially in States like Odisha, if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether Government is aware that there has been branding being done with hot iron on these tribals by these quacks, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of Government thereon; and
- (d) the steps being taken to address the problem?

Shortfall of health centres in tribal areas

2716. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per the latest Annual Report of the Ministry the provisions of health infrastructure in the tribal areas are found to be wanting at an overall national level;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that as of 31st March, 2015 there is a shortfall of 6796 Sub-Centres, 1267 Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and 309 Community Health Centres (CHCs) in the tribal areas; and:
- (c) how soon will the Ministry establish all the centres stated above in tribal areas in the interest of the health of tribal population?

Ashram schools for stundents belonging to Scheduled Tribes

- †2717. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has opened Ashram schools for students belonging to Scheduled Tribes in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details therof; and
- (c) the details of the funds allocated for Ashram schools for the year 2017-18?

Grants to voluntary organisation in Rajasthan

- †2718. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that voluntary organisations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes are being given grantsin-aid by Government;
 - (b) if so, the grants-in-aid given to such

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

institutes and organisations in Rajasthan during the last three years, organisationwise details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry has conducted any enquiry regarding works done by them, if so, the details thereof?

Assistance to tribal students for pursuing higher education

2719. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is implementing any scheme and also provides any financial assistance thereunder to the tribal students for pursuing higher education in the field of engineering, technology and science in the country;
- (b) the details thereof along with the number of beneficiaries therefrom during each of the last three years and the current year in the country especially in Jharkhand and Gujarat;

New Delhi; *The* 3rd *August*, 2017 *Shravana* 12, 1938 (*Saka*) (c) whether Government provides suitable guidance to tribal students seeking admission to the foreign accredited universities;

- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

Complaints against forgery of Gram Sabha approvals

2720. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any complaints from any tribal community in the country regarding forging of their Gram Sabha approvals for some developmental projects in the area;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,} \\ \textit{Secretary-General.} \end{array}$

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