

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, February 5, 2021/ 16 Magha, 1942 (Saka)

(Ministries : Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Commerce and Industry; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; Food Processing Industries; Panchayati Raj; Railways; Rural Development; Skill Development and Entrepreneurship)

Total number of questions -- 160

Protection of agriculture zone

481 Shri M. Shanmugam:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that Cauvery delta in Tamil Nadu is declared as protected agriculture zone by the State Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the existing permission given to ONGC and Vedanta for extraction of petroleum products in the State would be withdrawn, in view of the protected security zone; and
- (d) the other measures taken to protect the fertile land in the Cauvery Delta?

Farmers' death due to protest

482 Shri Sanjay Singh:

Shri K.C. Venugopal:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any data on the total number of farmers' deaths and cases of suicide at the farmers' protest against the three farm bills from November 2020-January 2021;
- (b) whether it is a fact that expired tear gas shells were used on the farmers who were marching towards Delhi to protest against the three farm laws;
- (c) if so, whether Government has provided or would provide any compensation or economic assistance to the farmers' families who lost their lives during the protest; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Denial of crop Insurance

483 Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the farmers of different States were denied crop insurance claims by different insurance companies;
- (b) if so, the details of cases reported from different States for denial of crop insurance in

2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20; and
(c) the steps Government is taking in this regard?

Problems in testing of specimen by institutes for seed and fertilizer.

484 Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of institutes for testing of seeds and fertilizers in the country along with the details thereof;
- (b) the total amount spent on the said institutes during last three years along with the total testing work carried out by them;
- (c) whether several problems are being faced in testing of specimen in the said institutes due to the shortage of sufficient staff and equipments; and
- (d) if so, the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard and the target fixed for specimen testing by the said institutes during last three years and the current year?

Implementation of PM-KISAN Yojana in West Bengal.

485 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of beneficiaries along with the amount paid to them and the number of instalments given under PM-KISAN scheme in West Bengal since its inception, year-wise and district-wise;
- (b) the number of eligible farmers who remain deprived of availing benefits under PM-KISAN Yojana in West Bengal, district-wise;
- (c) the number of farmers targeted and benefited under the PM-KISAN scheme in West Bengal;
- (d) the details of fund allocation for the same; and
- (e) whether the target has not been achieved and if so, the reasons therefor?

Repeal of three farm laws

486 Shri P. Wilson:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey on the death/suicide of the farmers during the protest/agitation since the farm bills were passed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the discussion/meetings/consultations held between the Central Government and farmers during last four months, and the reasons for their failure;
- (d) whether Government has any plan to repeal the three farm laws as per the demands of the farmers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time likely to be taken to amend or repeal these farm laws?

Incentive to farmers to shift away from paddy production

487 Shri Shamsher Singh Dullo:

Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:

Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are currently any schemes in force to incentivise farmers not to burn

paddy residue;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including rate of uptake, and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government intends to accelerate crop-shifting away from paddy production;

(d) if so, the details thereof, including targets fixed for 2020, and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether there are currently any schemes in force to incentivise farmers to shift away from paddy production; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, including rate of uptake, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Insurance awareness programmes for farmers

488 Shri Prashanta Nanda:

Shri Dinesh Trivedi:

Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has increased funds for publicity of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) after CAG's 2017 report specified lack of awareness on ground;

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

(c) whether Government has taken a serious note of cases of fraudulent 'agents' who dupe farmers in the name of PMFBY;

(d) if so, steps Government has taken to curb the same;

(e) steps Government has undertaken to increase awareness of PMFBY for farmers and gram panchayats;

(f) whether Government has started providing written acknowledgements to farmers to avoid fraud; and

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

R&D in agriculture sector

489 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to strengthen the role of agricultural research and development (R&D) in supporting the farming systems;

(b) whether it is a fact that agricultural research has neither provided alternative equally remunerative crops nor farming systems that would reduce natural resource inputs like water which has resulted in groundwater depletion in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps that have been taken so far in this regard in the last three years along with the percentage of GDP spent on R&D in agriculture sector in the country?

Ensuring employment for farm labour

490 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has not been able to recognize the importance of maintaining the quality of soil, traditional farming techniques and the social and economic fragility of communities operating on the margins of society;

(b) whether it is also a fact that mechanised farming would receive enhanced importance in contract farming, resulting in a decrease in the numbers of farm labourers; and

(c) if so, the steps that are being taken to ensure that farm labour does not become unemployed?

Procurement of foodgrains by private companies

491 # **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Shri Chh. Udayanraje Bhonsle:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the private companies are free to procure foodgrains without registration and without Minimum Support Price (MSP) directly from farmers under the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the manner in which Government would ensure that private companies procure foodgrains directly from farmers at least at MSP; and
- (d) the likely impact of this Act on the mandis?

Minimizing loss of crops due to pests and diseases

492 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than ₹ 90 plus crores value of crops is lost annually due to pests and diseases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the measures taken to prevent it;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps Ministry is planning to take to minimize loss of crops by judicious use of crop protection products like agrochemicals/pesticides and provide it to farmers at a reasonable rate for which it is necessary for Government to charge a minimum tax rate on pesticides;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Consultation on Farm Laws and Ordinances of 2020

493 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the process of consultation, if any, done before the passage of the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020, the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020, and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 and their corresponding Acts;
- (b) the number of individuals/organisations/unions who were consulted for the three ordinances/bills;
- (c) the recommendations received during this consultation; and
- (d) the measures the Ministry adopted to proactively disclose the drafts of the aforesaid three Ordinances and corresponding Acts of 2020?

Claims under PMFBY

494 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of pending claims under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and the total value of such claims;
- (b) the total number of beneficiaries enrolled in the PMFBY in the last three years, year-

wise and State-wise; and

(c) the total number of claims filed and disbursed from March 2020 to January 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Payment of claims under PMFBY

495 Shri Derek O' Brien:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total number of applicants, premium paid and claims received in the last four years under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY); and

(b) the details of the total number of beneficiaries and amount paid under PMFBY during the same period?

Overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in farming

496 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken serious cognizance of the overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides by the farmers, which is hazardous to human and animal lives;

(b) if so, the concrete measures that are being taken by Government to convince the farmers to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides and instead go for organic farming, since the organic produce fetches better price in the market; and

(c) whether Government has any plan to simplify the procedure for obtaining the certificate for organic farming, keeping illiterate or moderately literate farmers in mind?

Educating farmers on benefits of organic farming

497 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to promote organic farming and develop effective manures, fungicides and pesticides through Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Certificate in Organic Farming (COF) and other institutions to minimize the use of hazardous chemical fertilizers and pesticides;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and extension centres have been given the proper mandate to educate the farmers on the benefits of organic farming and ways and means to use waste decomposer, mycorrhiza, Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium fixing bacteria, etc.; and

(d) whether a lot more still needs to be done to educate the farmers to adopt organic farming?

Consultation on Farm Laws

498 Shri K.C. Venugopal:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put in place the pre-legislative Consultation Policy (PLCP) before introducing and passing the three farm laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government had put the draft of these legislations in the public domain during the process of their formulation and before finalization;

- (e) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether Government has made any discussions with the stakeholders or State Governments during the process of the formulation and before finalization of these laws; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Cultivation of high-end crops

499 # Shri Ram Shakal:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any policy to provide remunerative prices for agricultural produces, to encourage cultivation of high-end crops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount allocated for the same in the current financial year?

Procurement of oilseeds and pulses under MSP

500 # Shri Ram Shakal:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether pulses and oilseeds have been covered in the Minimum Support Price (MSP) list by Government; and
- (b) if so, the quantity of agricultural produces including pulses and oilseeds procured under MSP in the current financial year?

Deaths of farmers during agitation

501 # Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the death of farmers agitating in different States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details of farmers who died so far, State-wise; and
- (c) whether Government would provide financial assistance from the Kisan Kalyan Fund to the families of the deceased farmers?

Adjudicating disputes under Farm Laws

502 Shri Kumar Ketkar:

Shri Neeraj Dangi:

Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:

Shri Anand Sharma:

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Dr. Amee Yajnik:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons due to which Government has barred civil courts from adjudicating disputes under the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020 and the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020 and transferred the same to executive officers;
- (b) whether the aforementioned executive officers including Sub-Divisional Magistrates and Collectors are equipped to adjudicate on contentious legal and contractual disputes emanating from these legislations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof including the justification of the same?

Production and procurement of top ten crops of the country

503 **Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

Shri Neeraj Dangi:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of top ten crops produced in the country (in kg) since 2016, year-wise;
- (b) the quantity of top 10 crops in the country (in kg) that arrived in agricultural markets since 2016, year-wise;
- (c) whether the persons involved with selling these crops outside designated markets since 2016 till August, 2020 have been prosecuted; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Implementation of Soil Health Card scheme in Madhya Pradesh

504 # **Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers provided with Soil Health Cards in the State of Madhya Pradesh, district-wise;
- (b) whether financial assistance is also provided by the Central Government for this programme;
- (c) if so, the quantum of funds provided/to be provided to the Government of Madhya Pradesh so far and by when the remaining amount would be released; and
- (d) if not, whether there is any plan to provide assistance to the States in future?

Achievements under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana in Punjab

505 **Shri Shwait Malik:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers who have been benefited till date under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) in Punjab, district-wise; and
- (b) the amount of funds which have been sanctioned and utilized in Punjab till date, district wise and the plans for 2021-2022?

MSP for Kharif crops

506 **Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:

Smt. Ambika Soni:

Shri Kumar Ketkar:

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any representations from States stating that the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for kharif crops in 2020-21 set by the Central Government are not high enough to meet production costs in their States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the names of such States and the redressal sought;
- (c) the remedial steps taken by Government to ensure remunerative prices to farmers as recommended by Swaminathan Commission;
- (d) whether Government intends to announce State-specific MSP interventions; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Quitting of agriculture by farmers

507 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted a review to assess the number of farmers who have quit agriculture during each of the last five years in each State/ UT;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof, State/UT-wise and year-wise;
- (c) the main reasons identified in the review for quitting of agriculture by farmers; and
- (d) the details of all the schemes and initiatives introduced by Government to promote agriculture and safeguard the farmers since 2016, along with their aims, objectives, budgetary allocations, number of beneficiaries and the review - impact analysis of each of the schemes individually?

Funds for women farmers

508 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry kept 30 per cent of funds under various schemes of agriculture for the benefit of women farmers;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Ministry is releasing funds to States for women farmers under Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Yojana;
- (c) if so, the reasons for not providing funds to the State of Andhra Pradesh during 2017-18 and 2019-20; and
- (d) the efforts being made by the Ministry to increase the number of women farmers in the country?

Plan to bring MSP on crops under purview of law

509 # **Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Shri Chh. Udayanraje Bhonsle:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to bring the Minimum Support Price (MSP) on various foodgrains produced by the farmers under the purview of law;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the percentage of farmers who are getting the benefit of MSP at present; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that maximum farmers are able to take benefit of MSP?

Setting up a Central Research Institute in Kalahandi for soyabean

510 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Kalahandi in Odisha produces soyabean on a large scale; and
- (b) if so, the steps being taken to set up a Central Research Institute in Kalahandi district and boost soyabean production as the entire Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi (KBK) region has a great potential to become the soyabean hub of Eastern India?

Increase in MSP for agricultural crops

511 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:

Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of increase made by Government in the Minimum Support Price (MSP) to buy farmers' crops during the last five years, year-wise; and
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to ensure high MSP in agriculture sector?

Agricultural trade in GrAMs

512 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of village hats have that been converted into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs) since 2018;
- (b) the steps/initiatives that the Ministry has taken in a bid to modernise these GrAMs;
- (c) the number of GrAMs that have been connected to the e-NAM portal;
- (d) whether the Ministry has any records or estimates of the total volume of agricultural trade being transacted at GrAMs;
- (e) the number of village hats operated under APMC regulations that have been converted to GrAMs; and
- (f) the number of privately operated village hats that have been converted to GrAMs?

Payment of claims under PMFBY

513 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding average turn-around time for claim payment under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), State-wise;
- (b) the total amount of claims paid since 2017, till date;
- (c) the names of empanelled insurance companies and the total amount of admissible claims paid out along with a list of arrears since 2016-17, year-wise;
- (d) whether any empanelled insurance companies are facing court cases brought by farmers, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether any premiums have been returned by insurance companies to banks, and if so, the details thereof?

Agrarian reforms in the country

514 Shri Ripun Bora:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made agrarian reforms in the country during the last five years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the average agricultural growth of the country has come down from 4.3 per cent during 2009-14 to 2.7 per cent during 2014-2020;
- (c) if so, whether Government has promised to double farmers' incomes by 2022;
- (d) if so, whether it is also a fact that low farm produce prices has led to widespread rural distress and debt of farmers are fuelling farmers' protests across the country since 2017; and
- (e) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

Price realisation and farmers' income

515 **Shri Rajmani Patel:**

Smt. Vandana Chavan:

Shri Neeraj Dangi:

Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

Shri Kumar Ketkar:

Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the average market prices realised by farmers since last three years for main agricultural and horticultural crops, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the difference between price realised and MSPs since last three years, State/UT-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of performance and results of PM-AASHA scheme in case of MSP-price difference realised, its impact in addressing this problem, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether Government has conducted any annual surveys to measure farm and farmers' incomes, if so, details thereof;
- (e) the average monthly farmers' income vis-à-vis monthly expenditure, State/UT-wise; and
- (f) manner in which Government intends to monitor progress on its commitment on doubling farmers' income?

Use of technology for sustainable farming practices

516 **Shri Dinesh Trivedi:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any steps to promote sustainable farming practices via use of technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has commissioned research and/or undertaken steps for development of seed varieties that are resistant to diseases and extreme weather conditions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the estimated time-frame of its availability in the market and if not, the reasons therefor?

Areca nut farming in the country

517 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of major States producing areca nut and production during last five years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether India is the leader in areca nut exports in the world with more than 50 per cent share;
- (c) if so, manner in which the Ministry is helping areca nut farmers financially and otherwise to deal with yellow leaf disease, stem bleeding, fruit rotting, etc.;
- (d) details of institutional mechanism to address problems of areca nut growers; and
- (e) the constraints faced by the Ministry in constituting Areca nut Board on the lines of Coffee Board, Rubber Board, Tea Board, Tobacco Board, etc.?

Promoting FPOs

518 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had launched "Formation and Promotion of Farmers Produce Organizations (FPOs)" during last year to increase income of farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of FPOs set up/operational in the country as on date, State-wise along with their achievements thereof?

Farmers' agitation around Delhi

519 **Shri Rajeev Satav:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention is drawn to hundreds of farmers agitating in Delhi against the farm laws enacted by Government and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for non-ending of the farmer agitation;
- (c) whether Government has consulted the farmers' unions before enacting these farm laws and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the farmers are facing extreme cold and rain during their agitations resulting in a number of dead farmers; and
- (e) if so, the steps Government has initiated to end the farmers agitation?

Remunerative prices to farmers for horticulture crops

520 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive scheme to provide remunerative prices to farmers for horticulture crops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Suicide by women farmers

521 **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Dr. Ameer Jainik:

Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the "Housewife" category of suicides recorded in the country includes the suicides of women farmers, as per the definition of farmer given in National Policy for Farmers, 2007;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken to correctly identify suicides by persons engaged in agriculture; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Impact of new farm laws on farmers' income

522 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the three new farm laws can lead to private players buying from farmers at cost below the Minimum Support Price (MSP);

- (b) if so, the estimated decline in farmers' income thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons for not including a clause in the law itself specifying that price of procurement by private players can not go below the MSP; and
- (d) whether there are any plans to add that to the law?

Strawberry farming and its export

523 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of strawberry farming and its export from the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Ministry is aware that Manyam areas of Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh with crop in more than 150 acres are rapidly becoming hub for strawberry; and
- (c) if so, the details of incentives, technology support, help in marketing, etc., that the Ministry is giving for promotion of strawberry farming, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

Situation of farmers in Agriculture Land Agreement

524 # Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Shri Chh. Udayanraje Bhonsle:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the options farmers are left with for growing crops in the event of getting back an infertile land after entering into a direct contract with the private companies under the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020;
- (b) the details thereof;
- (c) whether the situation of farmers would become precarious if the doors of the courts are shut in Agriculture Land Agreement; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Agitation by farmers

525 Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the efforts made by Government to reach out to the agitating farmers at Delhi border for the last seven weeks;
- (b) the reasons for the continuation of the sit in by the farmers for so long;
- (c) the offer extended to farmers by Government to withdraw the agitation; and
- (d) whether Government is willing to concede some of the demands to solve the crisis?

Shortage of urea in Tamil Nadu

526 Shri P. Wilson:

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that many farmers have faced shortage of urea across the country, especially tea growers in Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has any plan to provide subsidized fertilizers to the farmers keeping in view the floods in Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken by Government to ensure timely availability of fertilizers to

farmers across the country?

Safe operation of Janaushadhi Kendras during lockdown

527 **Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps that have been undertaken during the lockdown to ensure the safe working of Janaushadhi Kendras, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps that were taken to ensure maintenance of health and hygiene standards in the production units of the generic medicines during the lockdown, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the sale of medicines from the Janaushadhi Kendras increased or decreased during the nation wide lockdown, the details thereof?

R&D to reduce dependence on China in pharma sector

528 **Shri Vaiko:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of total imports and quantity of basic formulations and ingredients imported from China in the pharmaceutical sector in the last three years and the current year, up to 31st December, 2020;
- (b) whether any efforts have been made in research and development (R&D) field to manufacture basic formulations within the country to reduce dependence on China in pharma sector;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including amount being spent on R & D in the country; and
- (d) whether any other source of supply was explored as an alternative to China?

Making pharmaceutical companies atmanirbhar

529 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to make pharmaceutical companies atmanirbhar in the country;
- (b) whether the raw materials for pharma sector are mainly imported; and
- (c) the steps taken to increase indigenous resources in pharma sector?

Urea shortage in UP

530 # **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the farmers in the country, especially in Uttar Pradesh, are bearing heavy losses due to shortage of urea;
- (b) if so, the details of fertilizer shortage in Uttar Pradesh, district-wise;
- (c) the reasons due to which the farmers have to face shortage of urea every year; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to resolve this issue?

Reduction in fertilizer subsidy

531 **Shri Ripun Bora:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the Budget 2020-21, the subsidy on fertilisers has been reduced by ₹ 9,534 crore as against the Budget 2019-20;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;

- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has allotted only ₹ 12.5 crore to promote the use of organic and biological sources of nutrients; and
 (d) the reasons for the meagre allocation of funds to promote and/or support organic farming?

Shortage of medicine in Janaushadhi Kendras of Jharkhand

532 # **Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that except some medicines, there remains an acute shortage of medicines in Janaushadhi Kendras of most of the States, especially Jharkhand, if so, the details thereof; and
 (b) whether Government has any such system which can reflect centre-wise and medicine-wise shortage?

Production linked incentive scheme for API production

533 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of production-linked incentive scheme being implemented for manufacture of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) in the country;
 (b) whether the Ministry has made any request to the Ministry of Finance or GST Council to bring down 18 per cent GST on the manufacture of APIs to 5 per cent as requested by the pharma industry; and
 (c) if so, the details thereof?

Authorising private fertilizer importers

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

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has authorized any private companies to import fertilizers from abroad;
 (b) if so, the details thereof;
 (c) whether Government has put in place any mechanism to monitor the activities of private fertilizer importers to ensure timely supply of fertilizers to farmers;
 (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Availability and affordability of fertilizers

535 **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps Government has taken to improve the availability and affordability of fertilizers for farmers in view of the increased area being cultivated after COVID-19;
 (b) the steps Government has taken to check the prices of fertilizers to farmers;
 (c) the details of subsidized prices at which fertilizers were sold;
 (d) whether these procedures vary from State to State; and
 (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Regulating cost of cancer medicines

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

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the number of cancer patients in the country is increasing steadily and it is expected to increase in future;
- (b) whether Government is also aware that the medicines for cancer are still very expensive, if so, what steps are being taken by Government in the interest of cancer patients; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Export of jaggery

537 # **Shri Kailash Soni:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to export jaggery at international level so that farmers at the grassroot level get direct benefit out of it and their financial status improves, as local Indian jaggery proves to be quite hygienic for human health; and
- (b) if so, by when the said scheme would be introduced, especially with reference to Narsinghpur in Madhya Pradesh, the details thereof?

Impact of rejection of RCEP

538 **Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

Shri Rajmani Patel:

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has estimated the impact of rejecting the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) on India's GDP;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether India's rejection of the RCEP would strengthen the Chinese economy by not providing a regional counter-balance?

FDI equity inflow

539 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) equity inflows into India registered growth in the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof in the last three years and the current year, sector-wise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Efforts to increase exports

540 # **Shri Narayan Rane:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the exports of the country are lesser than the imports, thereby adversely impacting foreign exchange reserve of the country;
- (b) if so, the response of Government in this regard; and
- (c) the efforts being made by Government at the central level to make exports of the

country greater than the imports?

Export of fruits

541 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantity and value of fruits and its products exported during each of the last five years and the current year, fruit-wise and year-wise from 2015-16 till date;
- (b) whether Government is taking any effective steps to increase the export of fruits from the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government is considering any schemes for effective logistics of perishable agriculture produce from villages to the end users, if so, the details thereof?

Development of industrial nodes in Andhra Pradesh

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

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the places identified for development as industrial nodes or cities in Andhra Pradesh under different Industrial Corridors;
- (b) the status of proposed industrial nodes in (a) above, their investment and employment potential;
- (c) the present status of Visakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC) and its planned implementation schedule;
- (d) the potential of VCIC in industrial development of Andhra Pradesh;
- (e) the potential for employment generation when VCIC is fully developed;
- (f) the reasons for delay in sanctioning Yerpedu-Srikalahasti industrial node under VCIC; and
- (g) the fate of National Investment Manufacturing Zone at Chittoor?

Impact of European Union's splitting trade agreement with China

543 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which India looks at European Union (EU) splitting trading agreement with China and signing only trade and investment agreement, and leaving aside investment protection part;
- (b) whether it means that if there is a dispute between Chinese investment in EU, weightage be given to domestic laws rather than international arbitration process; and
- (c) if so, whether the Ministry sees advantage in this for India while negotiating with EU, UK or US?

National Logistics Policy

544 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Logistics Policy has been finalised;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, by when this policy would be finalised;
- (d) whether a single window e-logistics market would be set up and attention would be paid to employment generation and skill development under this policy; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Boost to export of pharmaceutical products

545 Shri Rajeev Satav:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether majority of small and medium pharmaceutical manufacturers in the country are working for bigger pharmaceutical units, which export pharmaceutical products under their brand names;
- (b) if so, whether there is any proposal to boost the exports of pharmaceutical products by small and medium pharmaceutical manufacturers under their own brands under Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative;
- (c) whether export of pharmaceutical items from India have declined drastically and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to overcome it?

Policy to boost agricultural exports

546 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any policy to promote agricultural exports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has identified agricultural produces to increase exports;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether State-wise targets have been fixed for agricultural export?

"Startup India Seed Fund" scheme

547 Shri Venkataramana Rao Mopidevi:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has spent any funds from the ₹ 945 crore corpus fund under the 'Startup India Seed Fund' scheme till date;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government had allocated any other benefits to startups apart from this scheme under the Atmanirbhar Bharat package; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Alliance with countries for creation of alternative supply chains

548 Shri Sanjay Raut:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has proposed any alliance with foreign countries to curtail over-dependence on China, the largest exporter of manufactured goods to the world;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to create alternative supply chains in various manufacturing sectors by making global-friendly alliance?

Decline in FDI

549 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that total Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flow into the country, as a percentage of GDP, has actually declined since the 'Make In India' campaign was started,

as compared to that of 2009-2014 period;

(b) if so, whether the 'Make in India' campaign has been successful enough in bringing FDI flows;

(c) post-covid, with global flows of FDI falling by 49 per cent in first half of 2020 as per UNCTAD, whether Government plans to discontinue the campaign given that it has failed to bring in more FDI; and

(d) if not, the reasons for continuing it?

Industrial Parks and Industries in the country

550 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Industrial Parks and Industries that have been established and functional in different States of the country during the last three years, the State-wise details thereof; and

(b) whether Government proposes to set up more such Parks and Industries in different States in the near future, the details thereof and the funds allocated for the purpose?

Review of Foreign Trade Policy

551 **Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has taken any steps to review the Foreign Trade Policy;

(b) if so, the details of the changes Central Government proposes to make in the Foreign Trade Policy;

(c) whether Government has sought discussions with the stakeholders in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Private investment in manufacturing sector

552 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise data of the total amount of private investment in manufacturing sector of the country in the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the private investment in manufacturing sector has seen a negative growth in the last two years; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Single window approval system for Industries

553 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to give all approvals and clearances to the Industries at one go by introducing single window approval system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Direct Cash Transfer under PDS

554 **Dr. Bhagwat Karad:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to provide Direct Cash Transfer into the account of beneficiaries of PDS instead of providing foodgrains; and
 (b) if so, the details thereof?

Availability of foodgrains for EWS

555 Shri Bikash Ranjan:

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

the steps which have been taken by Government to ensure the benefits under food and public distribution to each and every citizen particularly the families having income less than ₹ 20,000 per month?

Storage capacity in the country

556 Shri Anil Desai:

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total warehousing capacity in the country and the food items stored in these warehouses;
 (b) the foodgrain production in the country (wheat, rice, etc.) during the last five years; and
 (c) whether the storage capacity in the country is sufficient to keep all the produces?

Storage of foodgrains

557 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

Dr. Ameet Yajnik:

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of foodgrains get rotten due to lack of storage facilities in the country;
 (b) the details of provision of funds to curb the rotting of foodgrains during the last three years and out of this, the amount spent by December, 2020, State-wise; and
 (c) the provision of funds made by Government for warehouses during this period and the steps taken for suitable storage of foodgrains in Government Sector as well as in Private Sectors?

Coverage under AAY

558 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of landless agricultural labourers, marginal farmers, rural artisans, urban slum dwellers, informal sector workers and households headed by elderly, disabled or widows and particularly vulnerable tribal groups that are covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), State/UT-wise;
 (b) whether sex workers, disabled, homeless and transgender people are provided ration cards without documentary proof;
 (c) if so, the details of procedure for automatic inclusion, State/UT-wise and if not, the reasons therefor; and
 (d) the details of number of suspected starvation deaths, and compensation provided to the

deceased families in the last five years, State/UT-wise particularly from March, 2020 to December, 2020?

Cancellation of ration card due to non-seeding with Aadhaar

559 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of ration cards cancelled due to non-seeding with Aadhaar since 2017, State/UT/year-wise;
- (b) whether the Ministry has ensured that cancelled ration cards do not belong to genuine beneficiaries, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;
- (c) the remedy available to genuine beneficiaries whose ration cards were cancelled due to non-seeding with Aadhaar;
- (d) the details of cancelled ration cards reinstated after rectification since 2017, State/UT/year-wise; and
- (e) whether ration distribution has been delinked from Aadhaar to ensure maximum coverage of vulnerable groups such as sex workers, transgender persons etc., and if so, details thereof, and if not, reasons therefor?

Procurement of foodgrains

560 Shri Neeraj Shekhar:

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of paddy, wheat and other foodgrains procured by Government during the last three years, grain-wise, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the details of increase/decrease in procurement of foodgrains during 2020 in comparison to 2019, grain-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has procured 25 per cent more paddy during the current year in comparison to last year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Storage of foodgrains by private companies

561 # Shri Chh. Udayanraje Bhonsle:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) the permissible limit of storage of foodgrains by private companies as per the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020;
- (b) whether Government is considering to put a stock control on this limit;
- (c) the legal options before Government in case certain companies buy out the foodgrains in the country on the basis of this Act and not releasing it at the time of necessity; and
- (d) the details thereof?

Irregularities in PDS

562 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of complaints received by Government in connection with irregularities in Public Distribution System (PDS) in different States during the last three years, the details thereof; and
- (b) the number of persons found guilty and the action taken by Government against them, including cancellation of license, during the last three years, the details thereof?

Vaccination to cure bird flu

563 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware about the fact that according to the poultry experts, vaccination to cure bird flu caused by some strains of viruses is available in many countries and will be a better option than culling the birds;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any measures to allow the use of these vaccines in the country, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the vaccines are being smuggled from other countries into India; and
- (d) if so, details thereof?

Training in the use of modern technology in animal husbandry and dairying sector

564 # **Shri Brijlal:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether entrepreneurs involved in animal husbandry and dairying are being trained to use any kind of modern technology or equipment to run animal husbandry and dairying business in a modern way;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether any such provision is under consideration in future?

Exports and losses in dairy industry

565 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) the figures for import of dairy products from India by other countries in the year 2019-20 and 2020-21; and
- (b) the details of losses, if any, faced by the dairy industry and whether the Ministry has devised any plan to help recover from the same, the details of such plans?

Pending cases regarding cruelty to animals

566 # **Shri Narayan Rane:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any cases regarding cruelty to animals are pending with the courts;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) the number of cases among them which are five years older; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government for early disposal of such cases?

Animals/birds affected by COVID-19

567 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any survey has been conducted regarding animals/birds affected by COVID-19;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the recent bird flu has been declared State disaster in some States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the resources provided by the Central Government to the States that declared bird flu a State disaster?

Spread of Avian Influenza

568 **Shri Anand Sharma:**

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has identified cases and spread of various strains of viruses causing Avian Influenza among commercially reared and wild birds of various species in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether measures have been taken to treat, prevent and reduce spread of the disease and curb contamination of foodstuffs made from poultry and associated threat to human;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) whether steps have been taken to compensate poultry farmers facing loss of revenue due to culling of stocks?

Financial problems of farmers due to Corona pandemic

569 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that farmers have to face financial problems due to Coronavirus pandemic in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to increase the income of farmers in dairy sector across the country, including Uttar Pradesh; and
- (c) the details of assistance and facilities being provided by Government to livestock rearing farmers in order to establish dairies?

Schemes for food processing sector

570 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of value addition in agriculture sector during 2016-20;
- (b) the data of top 100 processing enterprises;
- (c) the schemes and projects initiated by Government to boost the food processing industries;
- (d) the funds allocated and sanctioned as on date, State-wise;
- (e) the number of meat, eggs and dairy related food processing industries in 2020; and
- (f) whether any action has been taken or proposed to be taken by the Ministry to encourage plant-based products by supporting and subsidizing innovation in plant-based industries (eg. plant-based meat and milk) and if so, the details thereof?

Value addition of cereals

571 **Shri K.J. Alphons:**

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of cereals produced in the country that are processed for value addition;
- (b) whether the percentage has gone up during the last five years; and
- (c) the blueprint for increasing the percentage over the next five years?

Building food processing industries in Nabarangpur district

572 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether majority of areas in Nabarangpur district produces high-quality maize; and
- (b) the steps that are being taken by Government under the Atmanirbhar Bharat package to build more food processing industries in the region related to maize products such as corn flour, sweet corn, cornflakes, popcorn, etc. and boost the exports as well as employment potential?

Boosting food processing sector

573 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the size of the Indian food processing sector compared to that of the agricultural sector;
- (b) the percentage of agricultural output being processed for sale as processed food; and
- (c) the steps being taken to boost processing levels and attract investments in this sector?

Mega Food Park scheme

574 **Dr. Banda Prakash:**

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has sanctioned 42 Mega Food Parks (MFPs) to set up Food Processing Industries (FPIs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the salient features of the MFP scheme and the current status of its implementation in the country;
- (d) whether Government has any proposal to implement MFP scheme in Telangana State; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Cold storage facilities in the country

575 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Dr. Amee Yajnik:

Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has enough cold storage facilities to cater to the demand in the country;
- (b) the details of new food parks and cold storage units announced by the Ministry, region-wise;
- (c) whether foreign companies have shown an increased interest in investing in cold storage units in the country;

- (d) if so, the details of inflow of FDI over the past three years; and
- (e) the details of funds allocated and disbursed for building of cold storage units in various States of the country?

Expansion of food processing industries

576 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

Will the Minister of **Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state:

- (a) the overall processing of agricultural produce, fruits, vegetables, milk, meat and poultry products in the country;
- (b) the comparative share of the States in overall food processing;
- (c) the comparative share of the country in food processing in Asia and the world; and
- (d) the planning to expand the food processing industry in the country?

Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan

577 Shri Prashanta Nanda:

Will the Minister of **Panchayati Raj** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Government is planning to re-implement the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Assessment of performance of PRIs

578 Dr. Vikas Mahatme:

Will the Minister of **Panchayati Raj** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed/ assessed the performance of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof including various loopholes or deficiencies noticed in the functioning of Panchayats as institutions of local Self-Government;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any study of best practices in the strengthening and development of PRIs;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has instructed States/UTs to adopt these best practices, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by Government to overcome the major problems in strengthening and development of PRIs among poorly performing States/UTs?

Surge pricing on premium high speed trains

579 Dr. Amee Yajnik:

Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

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

- (a) whether Railways have introduced surge pricing on some of its premium high speed train services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the experience gained since introduction of this pricing mechanism; and
- (c) whether this price mechanism would divert traffic from Railways to airways, if not, the details thereof?

Demands of TTEs in Railways

580 Shri M. Shanmugam:

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

- (a) whether the demands of Train Ticket Examiners (TTEs) are pending in the Ministry for consideration;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for not considering TTEs as "running staff" when they are working for more than ten hours, against ILO Convention; and
- (d) whether any meeting is being held with trade unions for resolving the genuine problems and fulfilling the demands of TTEs and if so, the details thereof?

Construction of Pit Line at Aurangabad or Chikalthana

581 Dr. Bhagwat Karad:

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

- (a) whether Railways have received any proposal regarding construction of the Pit Line and Sit line at Aurangabad or Chikalthana, Maharashtra; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Operation of trains during lockdown

582 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:

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

- (a) the number of goods trains/ parcel trains/ mail carriers operated during the lockdown and COVID-19, the details thereof; and
- (b) the number of Kisan special trains operated during the lockdown, the details thereof?

Innovations in trains for improving passenger comfort

583 Shri Vaiko:

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

- (a) whether Railways have made some innovations to make train journey safer and improve passenger comfort;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether innovative things like air quality monitoring equipment, bell system to alert passengers before the starting of train, CCTV surveillance and natural water cooler would be introduced in all the long distance trains; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and by when it would be implemented?

Conduct of secret ballot for recognition of trade unions

584 # Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

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

- (a) whether a secret ballot is conducted by Railway administration to recognise railway trade unions registered with it;
- (b) whether the last secret ballot was held in April 2013 whose term ended in April 2019;
- (c) the reason behind not holding secret ballot after expiry of term; and
- (d) whether Railway administration is planning to end the secret ballot process forever?

Vacancy position in Railways

585 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

- (a) the details of total positions vacant in Railways, Zone-wise, from 2016 to 2020, year-wise;
- (b) the details of total new jobs given in Railways, Zone-wise, from 2016 to 2020, year-wise; and
- (c) by when Government is planning to fill-up various vacant positions in Railways, year-wise details for the next three years?

Alleged death of migrants in trains and railway stations amid lockdown

586 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that, as reported by various media houses, many migrants died in trains and railway stations amid lockdown due to non-availability of food, water and other basic medical facilities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether such stories are false and Government is planning to take some action in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Steps taken by Government for travel of migrant labours

587 **Shri Bikash Ranjan:**

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

- (a) the amount of train fare charged from the migrant labours; and
- (b) whether Government took the responsibility to ferry them to their villages at the cost of the Government?

Operation of various trains in the country

588 # **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

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

- (a) the details of Railway Zones which are presently operating passenger, MEMU local and EMU local trains having designated halt at each and every station on respective routes;
- (b) the reasons for non-operation of passenger/ local trains in some other Zones;
- (c) whether permission has been granted to operate passenger/ local trains in West Bengal, if so, the reasons for not granting such permission to other States;
- (d) whether a higher fare is being charged than the earlier notified fare for special trains; and
- (e) if so, the reasons for charging higher fare, special train-wise details thereof?

Samastipur-Darbhanga railway track doubling project

589 # **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the doubling of railway track from Samastipur to Darbhanga has been going on for many years;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that this doubling work is being done at a very slow pace;

- (c) whether this work could be completed within the time-frame set by Government; and
- (d) if not, the details of the initial time-frame of this project and by when it is likely to be completed?

Increase in revenue by passenger ticket sales and freight operations

590 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

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

- (a) the passenger ticket sales during 2018-19 to 2019-2020 and the percentage increase;
- (b) the revenue generated by freight operations during 2018-19 to 2019-2020 and the percentage increase; and
- (c) if there is no increase in revenue, the reasons therefor?

Pending railway projects in Odisha

591 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government for the re-development of Bhubaneswar railway station, which has been pending since 2017;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to construct the Puri-Konark railway line which has been pending since 2016;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to construct the Gunupur-Therubali line pending since 2017-18; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to construct the wagon factory at Sitalapalli in Ganjam where land has already been earmarked?

Rajdhani and Tejas Express trains in Western Odisha

592 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any plan to introduce Rajdhani and Tejas Express trains in Western Odisha with an aim to intensify passenger rail services in that area;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Restrictions on movement of passengers

593 **Shri Anil Desai:**

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

- (a) whether there are some restrictions on movement of passengers travelling by trains;
- (b) for how long such restrictions would be in force for train journey; and
- (c) whether train services are restored to normal in all regions?

Privatisation of areas of operation in Railways

594 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

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

- (a) the areas of operation of Railways which have been privatised, and the list and the share owned/operated by the private sector;
- (b) whether Government would provide reservation/subsidy/concession to eligible customers in the areas of operation which have been privatised;

- (c) whether Government would ensure and regulate the prices charged by the private operators in the Railways; and
- (d) how Government would ensure affordability of prices to the common person?

Ratlam-Dungarpur via Banswara new rail line project

595 Shri K.C. Venugopal:

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

- (a) whether Government intends to complete the “Ratlam-Dungarpur via Banswara new rail line project” in Rajasthan through its own resources in a time-bound manner;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken note of the increase in the cost of the proposed project and land acquisition; and
- (d) if so, the actions that were taken or intended to fast track the execution of the above project at the financial resources of the Railways itself, the details thereof?

Non-operation of daily shuttle trains

596 # Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that common people of the country are facing a lot of difficulties due to non-operation of daily shuttle trains;
- (b) if so, the time-line by which they are going to be started; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Train from Singrauli to Nagpur

597 # Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:

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

- (a) whether there is a proposal to start a passenger train from Singrauli to Nagpur via Katni and Shahdol;
- (b) if so, by when; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Patti-Makhu rail link

598 Shri Shwait Malik:

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

- (a) the time by which the project of Patti-Makhu rail link, which was sanctioned under NITI Aayog to connect Amritsar with Firozpur and reduce the distance between Amritsar and Mumbai by upto 240 kilometers, would start; and
- (b) the main reasons for continuous delay in implementing this project?

Redevelopment of Tirupati railway station

599 Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:

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

- (a) the total number of railway stations in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the sanctioned expenditure and incurred expenses for improvement of railway passenger amenities, services and infrastructure in Andhra Pradesh over the past five years;

- (c) the railway stations in Andhra Pradesh which have been taken up for redevelopment under Indian Railway Stations Development project;
- (d) the present status and proposed completion schedule for redevelopment of Tirupati railway station;
- (e) the estimated budget for redevelopment of Tirupati railway station; and
- (f) the nature of redevelopment, infrastructure, amenities and services proposed for redeveloped Tirupati railway station, the details thereof?

Introduction of new trains

600 Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

- (a) whether Railways have introduced new trains from various cities/States during the last two years along with the details of the action taken for modernisation of the existing trains in the country in view of the situation faced by the passengers; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Rail link between Jogbani and Biratnagar

601 # Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a rail link of 18.6 kilometer stretch between Jogbari (Bihar) and Biratnagar (Nepal) is being laid with the cost of ₹400 crores;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that said rail link was to be ready in the year 2019 itself; and
- (c) if so, the reasons for its delay and by when the train service would get operationalised?

Broad gauge link between Jayanagar and Kurtha

602 # Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a broad gauge link of 34 kilometer stretch between Jayanagar of Bihar and Kurtha (Dhanusa) district of Nepal is ready since 2018 at a cost of ₹550 crores;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that due to absence of railway coaches, rail service is not operational; and
- (c) if so, by when the said train operation is proposed to get started?

Facilities to returning labourers

603 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:

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

- (a) the special plan made by Railways to ensure safe return of labourers to their destinations during the Corona pandemic; and
- (b) the details of the facilities provided to those passengers during their journey?

Introduction of private trains

604 # Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering to permit introduction of private trains, as per the

- declaration made in the Rail Budget 2020-21;
- (b) if so, the routes where these trains would be operated;
- (c) the number of passenger and goods trains proposed to be introduced as private trains; and
- (d) the probable dates of introduction along with originating and terminating stations of these private trains?

Railway projects in Andhra Pradesh

605 Shri Y. S. Chowdary:

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

- (a) the details of new railway doubling works/projects sanctioned in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;
- (b) the details of new railway doubling works/projects completed during the last three years in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) the details of new railway doubling works/projects yet to start;
- (d) the details of new railway doubling works/projects under construction;
- (e) whether Government has fixed any target during the last three years; and
- (f) if so, whether Government has achieved the target fixed?

Procurement of items

606 Shri K.P. Munusamy:

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

- (a) whether items are procured by Railway Board at their level and which goods are directly procured by the Southern Railway Zone;
- (b) if so, whether the Southern Railway Zone has been consulted by the Railway Board for procurement of the centralised items, as per the Zones' requirement;
- (c) if not, the mechanism to assess the Zone-specific requirement; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Budgetary allocation to Railways

607 Shri K.P. Munusamy:

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

- (a) whether budgetary allocation of Government to Ministry of Railways is adequate to meet their requirement for expansion of infrastructure and achievement of projects;
- (b) if so, the details of budgetary allocations to Southern Railway Zone thereof;
- (c) if not, the manner in which the Southern Zone manages timely completion of targets/projects; and
- (d) the extent of shortfalls in the actual allocation and annual requirement during the last three years and the proposals/suggestions to bridge the gap?

Full-fledged operations of Railways

608 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:

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

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to start full-fledged train operations across the country, in view of the relaxation of various lockdown norms and massive vaccination drive undertaken for COVID-19;

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

Manufacture of stainless steel railway coaches

609 # Shri Mahesh Poddar:

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

- (a) whether Railways are considering to manufacture stainless steel railway coaches and a suitable location is required to set up a plant for manufacturing these type of coaches and other equipments; and
- (b) whether Government would consider setting up a plant for manufacturing stainless steel rail coaches and other equipments in the Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited (HEC) premises at Ranchi, the Capital of Jharakhand, as an independent or joint venture, since it has availability of vacant land, skilled manpower, railway siding, etc., if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Utilisation of budgetary allocation in Railways

610 Dr. Sasmit Patra:

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

- (a) the total utilisation of budgetary allocation in Railways for the last five years in a State-wise manner; and
- (b) the steps that Railways are undertaking to improve the utilisation of budgetary allocation?

Capital expenditure incurred by Railways in Odisha

611 Dr. Sasmit Patra:

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

- (a) the total capital expenditure incurred by Railways through its various Divisions in Odisha; and
- (b) the details of assets generated by such capital expenditure?

Cumbum-Prodattur railway line

612 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have taken up construction of a new line from Cumbum-Prodattur in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) when was the MoU entered into between Railways and Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) the status of construction of the new line and by when it is likely to be completed; and
- (d) the construction cost of the State and the Railways?

Modernization of trains

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

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any action to modernise trains in the country by providing latest technology therein;
- (b) whether any new modern and highly equipped trains have been introduced in the country to attract the passengers and making travel in trains more easy and comfortable;

and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Conversion of railway coaches into COVID isolation wards

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

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

- (a) the number of railway coaches converted into COVID isolation wards to facilitate COVID patients;
- (b) the number of those isolation coaches that were used in the country;
- (c) the total expenses incurred by Railways for the conversion of the coaches into COVID isolation wards; and
- (d) the manner in which Railways are going to make use of the unused COVID isolation coaches?

Reservation for Persons with Disabilities in Railways

615 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

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

- (a) the number of Persons with Disabilities appointed in Railways during last three years and the current year, Zone-wise;
- (b) whether cases of violation of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 in Railways have come to the notice of Government during the said period, if so, the details thereof, Zone-wise;
- (c) whether Railways have implemented Supreme Court's order for extending three per cent reservation to Persons with Disabilities and if so, the details thereof, Zone-wise; and
- (d) the other steps taken by Government to ensure adequate representation of Persons with Disabilities in Railways?

Modernization of Darjeeling railway heritage stations

616 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

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

- (a) whether Railways have any proposal to restore, modernize and beautify the Darjeeling railway heritage stations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the amount allocated for the purpose, station-wise and Division-wise; and
- (c) the estimated timeline for the start as well as the completion of the said project?

Roads built under PMGSY in Chhattisgarh

617 # **Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the roads built under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in Balrampur, Ramanujanj, Surguja and Surajpur districts of Chhattisgarh during the last two years;
- (b) the number of villages in the said districts that are still not covered under PMGSY;
- (c) the number of additional projects that are under consideration for Governments' approval under PMGSY during the current year;
- (d) whether Government has received any complaint regarding widespread corruption in PMGSY in the State of Chhattisgarh; and

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

Irregularities in road construction in Chhattisgarh

618 # Shri Ram Vichar Netam:

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the irregularities in construction of road from Bamlaya to Raikera Tokopara in Surguja district of Chhattisgarh under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, as a result of which this newly constructed road has become dilapidated again;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any action has been taken by Government against the people responsible for such irregularities, if so, the details thereof?

Connecting villages under PMGSY

619 # Shri Ram Nath Thakur:

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken by Government to connect every village having a population of five hundred under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);
- (b) if so, by when this target would be achieved;
- (c) the number of half-built roads in Samastipur district of Bihar which could not be completed within the time limit under the said yojana; and
- (d) the details of action taken against the contractor who could not build the roads within the given time frame?

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

620 Shri K.J. Alphons:

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) how many kilometers of road has been completed under PMGSY during the last five years;
- (b) whether the choice of the roads taken up under PMGSY is left completely at the discretion of the State Governments; and
- (c) whether it is possible to change the guidelines to enable Members of Parliament to have a say in the selection of works?

Job cards issued under MGNREGA

621 Shri Anand Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of job seekers and job cards issued under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) between April 1, 2020 and January 10, 2021;
- (b) the average wage, per capita, paid on monthly basis to job card holders, national and State-wise;
- (c) whether payment to workers was increased during the above period on account of loss of regular income due to COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Provision of rural employment after lockdown

622 **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether action has been taken by Government to provide employment opportunities to the youth of the rural areas of the country, particularly after lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

RSETIs in Uttar Pradesh

623 # **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) the number of people trained by these training institutes;
- (c) the district-wise number of RSETIs running smoothly in Uttar Pradesh at present; and
- (d) the details thereof?

Social Registry for welfare schemes

624 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is working on a Social Registry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the status of progress on updating the Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC), 2011 data into the live Social Registry; and
- (e) the estimated timeline for launching the Social Registry?

Funds transferred to Andhra Pradesh under RGSA

625 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Shri Venkataramana Rao Mopidevi:

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has transferred funds under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) in the year 2020-2021;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any amount due to be paid to the State of Andhra Pradesh under this scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and a State-wise break up of the funds transferred under this scheme?

Release of pending funds under NSAP to Andhra Pradesh

626 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Shri Venkataramana Rao Mopidevi:

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds transferred to the State of Andhra Pradesh in the current financial year under the National Social Assistance Program (NSAP);
- (b) whether there is any amount due to be transferred to the State of Andhra Pradesh in January; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Request for increased road allocation under PMGSY in Andhra Pradesh

627 **Shri Venkataramana Rao Mopidevi:**

Shri Parimal Nathwani:

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received a request from State of Andhra Pradesh for increased allocation of rural roads under PMGSY from 3285 kms to 6135 kms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government plans to accept the request of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

PPP in PMAY-G

628 **Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia:**

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government is considering to encourage Public-Private Partnership (PPP) for affordable housing under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin) (PMAY-G);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of such partnerships made with private companies so far?

Effect of MGNREGS wages on cost of cultivation

629 **Dr. Banda Prakash:**

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the wages under MGNREGS are going to affect the cost of cultivation;
- (b) whether any steps have been taken by Government to make the MGNREGS labour friendly and also cultivator friendly;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Construction of houses under PMAY-G in Odisha

630 **Smt. Mamata Mohanta:**

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of houses targeted to be constructed during the next three years under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin) (PMAY-G) in Odisha;
- (b) the names of the villages identified for construction of the said houses in Mayurbhanj along with the stages in which the said work is likely to be carried out by Government; and
- (c) the details thereof?

Third Phase of PMKVY

631 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether new norms are being drawn up for a ₹948 crore project under the third phase of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) for the current year; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State wise and the progress made?

Number of beneficiaries of SDM

632 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of beneficiaries of the Skill Development Mission (SDM) from 2016-2020, the year-wise data;
- (b) whether the proposed “seven sub-missions” are still in use; and
- (c) the proportion of individuals benefitting from each of these sub-missions since 2016?

Skill development camps

633 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

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

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has any plan to start short-term courses by organising skill development camps with the help of local administration in various districts of the country, including Haryana and Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether the Ministry would consider organising such camps?

Up-skilling of programmes under SSCs

634 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) considered up-skilling of programmes under the Skill India Campaign by approving more Sector Skill Councils (SSCs), if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the present SSCs deliberated on formulating a curriculum framework that is able to absorb the dynamic and up-skilling challenges of the emerging industrial revolution, if so, the details thereof?

Skill development for tribals

635 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any skilling initiatives are being contemplated or implemented specifically for tribals, in particular the tribals of Odisha who constitute 22.13 percent of the State's population;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Vocational training institutes

636 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of vocational training institutes running throughout the country;
- (b) the State-wise number of vocational training institutes; and
- (c) the number of vocation training institutes shut down in 2020-21?

Targets accomplished under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)

637 **Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Shri Rajmani Patel:

Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has successfully trained 1 crore youth, as targeted, on the completion of the second phase of PMKVY in 2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of trained persons;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the number of trainees who have received employment after their training under PMKVY 2.0;
- (e) whether an analysis to understand the reasons for the non-employment of trainees has been done and a review of the existing training programmes conducted; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Skill development fund

638 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether skill development fund is helpful in increasing employment opportunities in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of youths or individuals trained under schemes implemented through this fund, the State/Union Territory-wise details thereof;
- (c) the number of small scale industrial units established as a result of skill development training, the State/Union territory-wise details thereof; and
- (d) the details of financial assistance provided for these start ups?

Achievement under PMKVY

639 **Shri Dinesh Trivedi:**

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people who enrolled under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), State-wise since 2016;
- (b) how many people, out of this number, have been provided with certification, the State-wise details;
- (c) whether the objective of PMKVY to benefit 10 million youth over the period of four years (2016- 2020) has been achieved;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the number and overall percentage of people with certification that were employed/got placement via PMKVY, State-wise?

Skill development centres

640 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons trained in various skill development centres from 2016 to this day, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the number of people provided employment after getting training from skill development and entrepreneurship training centres during the said period, State-wise; and
- (c) the target fixed for providing employment to those who have not been provided employment so far despite being trained; and
- (d) the special steps being taken by Government in order to achieve targets in hilly, backward, inaccessible tribal and remote areas?

New Delhi
The 30th January, 2021
10 Magha, 1942 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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