

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, March 18, 2021/ 27 Phalgun, 1942 (Saka)

(Ministries : Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Communications; Development of North Eastern Region; Education; Electronics and Information Technology; External Affairs; Law and Justice; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Textiles; Tribal Affairs; Women and Child Development)

Total number of questions -- 160

Tata Memorial hospital in Bihar

2561 # **Shri Vivek Thakur:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any step has been taken to open a Tata Memorial hospital in Muzaffarpur, Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Agreements for uninterrupted supply of Uranium

2562 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the countries from which India is currently getting help to meet the country's nuclear energy needs;
- (b) whether Government has entered into agreements with some other countries of the world for an uninterrupted supply of Uranium; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Uranium mines in the country

2563 **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Uranium mines in the country, State-wise;
- (b) total Uranium extracted from these mines since last five years, till date; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that the extraction and processing cost of Uranium in India is very high as compared to other countries, if so, the details thereof?

Ban on open dumping of Monazite minerals

2564 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that large deposits of Monazite are found in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the deposits of Monazite minerals are kept in open space, causing radiation problems in the country, especially in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) if so, the action taken to impose ban on open dumping/ deposits of Monazite, especially in Tamil Nadu?

Funds for completion of Bharat Net-II project in Maharashtra

2565 **Shri Sanjay Raut:**

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

- (a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested additional fund for the completion of Bharat Net-II (Maha Net-I) project ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Central Government's response thereto; and
- (c) the reasons for the delay and by when the required fund to the State Government of Maharashtra will be granted?

Introduction of PM-Wani Wi-Fi Centres

2566 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to introduce Public Wi-Fi Centres with a view to bring broadband Wi-Fi services for the use of people;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when these PM-Wani Wi-Fi Centres will be set up?

Implementation of digital technology solutions in rural areas

2567 **Dr. Amee Yajnik:**

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government to implement digital technology solutions in accessible rural areas/villages in the country;
- (b) whether Government has drawn any action plan to connect all villages across the country with optic fiber cables within stipulated days; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Linking of Aadhaar database with Central Monitoring System

2568 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

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

- (a) whether the Aadhaar database has been linked to the Central Monitoring System (CMS) project;
- (b) if so, whether CMS would have access to biometric information of common citizens; and
- (c) if so, whether that access would be on demand/request basis or on a real time basis?

Mobile network in remote villages of Madhya Pradesh

2569 # **Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:**

Shri Kailash Soni:

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

- (a) the number of inhabited villages of Rewa-Shahdol division of the State of Madhya Pradesh still devoid of mobile network, district-wise;
- (b) whether any action plan has been formulated by the Central Government to bring those villages under the mobile network coverage and if so, by when it would be completed, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the efforts being made by Government to provide mobile towers in such remote villages of Madhya Pradesh where mobile towers are still not available; and
- (d) by when the objective of a communication revolution will come true in remote villages, the details thereof?

Wage revision for BSNL employees

2570 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

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

- (a) when was wage revision last made in BSNL for its employees and since when it is due;
- (b) the reason for not giving effect to wage revision despite many employees having taken VRS;
- (c) by when the wage revision will be given effect to;
- (d) whether the pension of retired employees would also be revised in view of persistent demand from them; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Measures adopted to prevent cases of frauds

2571 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

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

- (a) whether despite many measures adopted by Government to prevent the cases of frauds through email and SMS, there has been an increase in such cases across the country during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the State-wise number of such cases notified during above period, and details of loss incurred by the mobile phone/internet users; and
- (c) whether any remedial mechanism has been prepared by Government to ascertain such type of frauds, if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

Operation and management of Central Monitoring System (CMS)

2572 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

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

- (a) the minimum designation level in the police or other Central Law Enforcement Authority, which is required for accessing the data on the Central Monitoring System (CMS);
- (b) the legal procedure for obtaining a Call Detail Record (CDR) through the CMS database;
- (c) the status of operationalization of the CMS project; and
- (d) the Government organizations or agencies which are involved in the operation and management of CMS and the extent of their past and current involvement?

Internet shutdowns

2573 Shri Anand Sharma:

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

- (a) the number of forced internet shutdowns due to security reasons introduced in India between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020, State-wise;
- (b) the reasons for these shutdowns and their duration;
- (c) whether Government is aware of reports that India is among the most frequent implementors of internet shutdowns in the world and the largest democracy to frequently do so; and
- (d) if so, whether Government is formulating a consistent policy to regulate these shutdowns and allow bona fide persons/ businesses to access internet for professional/ education reasons?

Damage to infrastructure of telecom operators

2574 Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:

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

- (a) whether Government has received representations from some telecom operators regarding damage to their infrastructure, towers and electronic antennas being destroyed causing loss of revenue to these operators;
- (b) if so, the details thereof with estimated loss of revenue of telecom operators;
- (c) whether Government has taken up the matter of this outrage with State Governments and if so, the response thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by TRAI to provide protection and safety to infrastructure sites of telecom operators in future?

Usage of Wi-Fi technology in rural areas through Bharat Net Project

2575 Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

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

- (a) whether Wi-Fi technology is used to provide the services in rural areas under Bharat Net Project;
- (b) if so, the plan for development of Wi-Fi technology in Rural areas in the State of Odisha;
- (c) whether phase-I Bharat Net Project will cover 3870 Gram Panchayats (GPs) belonging to 181 blocks of 18 districts, whether Government intends to implement broadband facilities in rural areas, even though it's utilization is very low; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and the initiatives taken by Government to overcome it, and the reaction of Government thereon?

North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS)

2576 Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:

Will the Minister of **Development of North Eastern Region** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken up infrastructure development in North Eastern Region (NER);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the list of incomplete sanctioned projects under the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) since its inception;

(d) whether after releasing project funds from the Central Government, the State Governments are taking too much time for release of funds to contractors and it is the main reason for delay in implementation of many schemes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by Government for speedy release of funds to its contractors?

Economic Development of North-Eastern States under AatmaNirbhar Abhiyan

2577 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

Will the Minister of **Development of North Eastern Region** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn an ambitious plan under AatmaNirbhar Abhiyan for the economic development of North-Eastern States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the areas identified for giving a substantial push;

(c) whether Government proposes to earmark dedicated funds for the economic development of the region; and

(d) if so, the details of funds to be earmarked?

Promotion of North-Eastern States as preferred tourist destination

2578 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

Will the Minister of **Development of North Eastern Region** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prioritized development of the tourism infrastructure of North-Eastern States to attract domestic and foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has identified locations in different States for development keeping in view the tourism potential; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and also the tentative time-limit fixed to initiate efforts?

Vacancies in posts of teachers in KVS and NVS

2579 Dr. Sasmit Patra:

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

(a) the details of vacancies of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) and Navodaya Vidyalaya Sangathan (NVS), State-wise;

(b) the reasons for these vacancies; and

(c) by when it is expected that these vacancies would be filled up?

Reduction in budget for education

2580 Shri Sanjay Singh:

Shri Sujeet Kumar:

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

(a) whether the allocations for the Department of School Education and Literacy of the Ministry of Education has dropped to Rs 53,603.16 crore (2021-22 BE) from Rs 59,368 crore (2020-21 BE), a decline of nearly 10 per cent; and

(b) the details thereof and reasons for the budgetary cut?

Development of Women Studies Centres

2581 Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:

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

- (a) whether the Indian universities under UGC have planned for development of Women Studies Centres in Indian universities and colleges for promoting equality and empowerment of women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the National Education Policy 2020 mentions anything about the Centres for Women Studies which have significant contribution for empowering women in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Exams conducted in English medium

2582 # Dr. Anil Jain:

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

- (a) the details of examinations conducted exclusively in English language across the country so far;
- (b) whether all the competitive examinations by NDA, UPSC, SSC and Railway Recruitment Board etc. are conducted in English language;
- (c) whether Government has any action plan to conduct competitive examinations in regional languages, including Hindi, across the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Digital modes for higher education in regional language

2583 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

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

- (a) steps taken by Ministry, in coordination with Ministry of Electronics & IT, to penetrate higher education through digital mode;
- (b) whether the unavailability of digital content in local languages is also one of the problems that the Ministry is facing;
- (c) if so, manner in which Ministry is coordinating with States in preparing content in local languages;
- (d) whether the 15th Finance Commission has asked to impart professional courses in regional languages;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Ministry so far; and
- (f) whether any road map has been prepared in this regard and, if so, details thereof?

Artificial Intelligence in higher education

2584 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

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

- (a) the manner in which the Ministry is taking the help of Artificial Intelligence to penetrate higher education;
- (b) to what extent creating a separate wing for Indian Knowledge System helps in achieving penetration of higher education in the country;
- (c) in what manner conversion of more and more universities into Central universities or Central institutions help in giving more and more access of higher education to inaccessible areas of country when there are 40 per cent vacancies in the existing institutions;
- (d) whether any special thrust has been given for infrastructure in higher education in 2021-22 Budget; and
- (e) if so, details thereof?

GIS mapping of schools

2585 **Shri Prashanta Nanda:**

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

- (a) the State-wise status of GIS mapping of schools under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan at present; and
- (b) the number of schools mapped over the past three years?

Plan of CBSE for Board examination

2586 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Shri Rajeev Satav:

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

- (a) whether the CBSE is planning to change the learning and assessment environment for the students appearing for Board examination and if so, the details thereof and the aims and objective behind the move;
- (b) whether Government has consulted students and other stake holders before bringing the change and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government is also planning to introduce standard and basic levels for Science stream and if so, the details thereof?

Policy of UGC for higher education sector

2587 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

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

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

- (a) the existing mechanism put in place by the University Grants Commission (UGC) for maintaining the standards of teaching, research and qualities in higher education in the universities/colleges including private universities;
- (b) whether Government/UGC proposes to review the existing regulatory mechanism in the field of higher education; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps taken by Government/UGC to meet the emerging challenges of higher education sector?

Specified category schools

2588 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

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

- (a) the intention or reason behind Government classifying certain schools run by them as belonging to 'specified category' of schools defined under Sec 2(n)(iii) of the Right to Education Act, 2009;
- (b) the reasons for extending only 25 per cent of seats to children belonging to the EWS/DG category covered under the RTE Act, 2009; and
- (c) the reasons for classifying 'specified category' schools even though Centrally sponsored as neighbourhood schools?

Establishment of National Research Foundation

2589 # **Shri Ram Shakal:**

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

- (a) whether Government has established the National Research Foundation (NRF) under the new National Education Policy to promote research work; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education

2590 # **Shri Ram Shakal:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aiming to achieve the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of 50 per cent by 2035 in higher education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of progress made so far; and
- (d) the funds allocated for the same during the current financial year?

Impact of online classes on students during COVID-19 pandemic

2591 **Shri Hishey Lachungpa:**

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

- (a) whether the appropriate steps have been taken by Government in this Novel COVID-19 pandemic to ensure students' physical and emotional well-being while attending continuous online classes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Vacancies in Central Educational Institutions

2592 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

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

- (a) whether there are more than 14,000 vacancies in Central Educational Institutions in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, institution-wise, and State/UT in which such institution is located;
- (c) whether India's digital penetration in higher education can be compared with other developing, G-20 and BRICS countries; and
- (d) the details of efforts being made to address these problems and whether any physical targets are set and, if so, the details of plans that the Ministry have to achieve them?

Extension of Special Scholarship Scheme

2593 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

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

- (a) whether there is any plan to extend Special Scholarship Scheme, as is being proposed for J&K and Ladakh, for students in Andhra Pradesh which is being denied special category status;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Details about Institutions of Eminence Scheme

2594 **Shri Rajeev Satav:**

Shri Sanjay Seth:

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

- (a) the salient feature of Institutions of Eminence Scheme alongwith the aims and objectives and its achievement since its inception;
- (b) the details of name of institutes which are included under the said scheme;
- (c) whether the Ministry has assured to extend maximum support to the institutions for high-quality teaching and research and for the advancement of knowledge and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has reviewed the progress of the Public and Private Institutions which were given the status of Institutions of Eminence (IoE) recently, if so, the details thereof?

Infrastructural norms under RTE Act

2595 **Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

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

- (a) district/State/UT-wise details of schools that provide all 10 infrastructural norms under Section 19 of the RTE Act;
- (b) district/State/UT-wise details of schools that are not in compliance with the RTE norms for infrastructure, and details of actions taken to make these schools norm compliant;
- (c) the details of timeline and roadmap for making all schools compliant with RTE infrastructure norms;
- (d) whether the infrastructure norms compliance will be eased under the National Education Policy; and
- (e) if so, details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Vacancies in Central Universities

2596 # **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

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

- (a) the category-wise number of Assistant Professors, Associate Professors and Professors in Central Universities;
- (b) the category-wise number of backlog vacancies of Assistant Professors, Associate Professors and Professors in Central Universities;
- (c) the post and category-wise details of teacher candidates found 'not found suitable' by selection committees of all Central Universities and colleges of the country;
- (d) whether reservation roster is being displayed on the websites of Universities; and
- (e) whether irregularities have been found in various colleges of University of Delhi including Central Universities of the country in roster register related to reservation?

Drinking water and sanitation facilities at schools

2597 **Dr. Bhagwat Karad:**

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

- (a) the total number of schools in the country that do not have adequate drinking water and sanitation facilities as on December 2020;

- (b) whether Government has set any time bound targets to provide drinking water and sanitation facilities in all the schools; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the funds earmarked for the purpose and the target of completion?

Psychological counselling of school going children

2598 **Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that due to year-long closure of schools, many school going students have been found to be suffering from increased stress level and unusual changes in behaviour, if so, the kind of Governmental intervention being planned to help these suffering children; and
- (b) whether the Ministry has any scheme for psychological counselling of school going children, if so, the details thereof?

Norms for affiliation to a university

2599 **Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia:**

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

- (a) whether the Supreme Court has recently given its ruling that universities across the country are not bound only by the All India Council for Technical Education norms and can specify additional conditions for colleges seeking their affiliation;
- (b) if so, the details of the colleges which sought affiliations from various universities in the country and the actual affiliation provided;
- (c) whether several fake universities or colleges are functioning in the country and duping the innocent children; and
- (d) if so, the role played by Government in this regard?

Restructuring of school education under new NEP

2600 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the present new National Education Policy (NEP-2020) has intended to restructure the whole school education; and
- (b) whether Government is of view that the existing educational institutes may be strengthened by providing more financial resources to develop infrastructure and quality teachers, etc., and such institutes are more important and viable solution to transform present educational system to reach the global standards, and if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Implementation of NEP

2601 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

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

- (a) the details of the task list and timelines for implementation of National Education Policy (NEP) being finalized by the Ministry;
- (b) the details of national committee(s) setup along with the list of members for implementation of National Education Policy in school education;
- (c) whether there is a timeline and roadmap for achieving 6 per cent of GDP allocation for

education; and

(d) the timeline with regard to setting up of Gender and Social Inclusion Funds, the role States will have in defining their priorities to access these funds?

National Framework Document for the project STARS

2602 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

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

(a) the final National Framework Document for the project Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS);

(b) the status, time-line and frame-work for partnership with ADB to roll out STARS-like project in 5 new States;

(c) the details of actions being undertaken for development of the National PPP framework;

(d) whether PPPs under the scheme will be solely permitted with non-profit entities; and

(e) the regulations and rules in relation to the proposed Multi Donor Trust Fund (MDTF), the details thereof along with the details of organizations that have inquired about, contributing or have announced contributions?

Social science research in the country

2603 **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

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

(a) whether in spite of the efforts made by Government to empower research and development, there is no significant improvement in social science research in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the measures taken/being taken by Government to tackle this crisis in social science research;

(d) the fund allocated for social science research as compared to science and technology research since last 5 years; and

(e) whether Government intends to establish more social science institutions in the country, if so, the details thereof?

Literacy gap between general and tribal girls

2604 **Dr. Banda Prakash:**

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

(a) the schemes being implemented to bridge the gap in literacy levels between the general female population and tribal girls along with the funds released and utilised under such schemes during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and

(b) the steps taken for 100 per cent enrolment of tribal girls and reducing dropouts at the elementary level by creating the required ambience for education?

Share of GDP in education

2605 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

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

(a) the reason for the NEP recommended spending of 6 per cent of GDP on education not been implemented in the budget for 2021-22;

(b) whether Government propose to implement the 6 per cent of GDP spending as envisaged in the NEP;

(c) if so, by which year can the target spending of 6 per cent will be achieved; and

(d) the impact of reduced budget allocation for education as compared to BE 2020-21 on the efforts to get students back into the education system after the pandemic and the ways in which Government plans to work with the reduced budget this year?

Self-defence training under SSA

2606 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that self-defence training under Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is being imparted to girls of classes VI to XII only in Government schools;
- (b) the efforts being made by the Ministry to make it mandatory to implement self-defence training in all Government-aided and private schools; and
- (c) the details of money sanctioned for this scheme in Government schools during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise?

Piracy in NCERT books

2607 Shri K.P. Munusamy:

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

- (a) whether a large number of textbooks published by the National Council of Educational Research and Training are pirated; and
- (b) if so, the details of action taken/being taken in this regard?

Equal Opportunity Cells in IITs

2608 Shri K. Somaprasad:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has issued any direction/guidelines for constituting SC/ST/OBC Cells or Equal Opportunity Cells in the IITs, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any IITs have set up SC/ST/OBC Cells or Equal Opportunity Cells in their campus, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether any of the IITs have set up the Special Academic Support Programs to help with the academic deficiencies of their students especially those belonging to SC, ST and OBC categories, if so, the details thereof?

Incentivizing philanthropic activity in education

2609 Shri Sujeet Kumar:

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

- (a) the details of incentives provided to private schools as part of the AatmaNirbhar Bharat package and the list of principal entities receiving the same;
- (b) the list of EdTech companies and other organization with whom MOUs were signed by the Ministry to support education delivery during the pandemic ;
- (c) a detailed list and details of initiatives taken by the Ministry to prevent overcharging and fee hikes by private schools during the lockdown; and
- (d) whether the Ministry is considering relaxing the not-for profit status of education?

Financial assistance for the development of AMU Centre at Malappuram

2610 Shri Abdul Wahab:

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

- (a) whether Government is committed to the development of the Aligarh Muslim University Centre at Malappuram;
- (b) if so, the efforts made by Government for the development of AMU Centre at Malappuram during the last six years;
- (c) the details of funds allocated for the development; and
- (d) whether Government is ready to allocate an amount of ₹300 crore as immediate help for the capital asset development of the Centre?

Imparting IT education from primary level

2611 # Shri Kailash Soni:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering to teach the course of IT skill development from the first class itself so that children can be made promising right from their childhood;
- (b) if so, by when; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Opening of new KVs

2612 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering increasing the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of new schools to be opened in the States of Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Jharkhand; and
- (c) the details thereof?

Basic facilities in schools

2613 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:

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

- (a) percentage of girls who could not complete their studies due to lack of basic facilities, like toilets in the schools before 2014; and
- (b) the details of positive changes brought about by Government in this direction during the last five years and the decrease registered in the number of girls leaving schools in the middle of their studies?

Shortage of upper primary schools

2614 Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:

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

- (a) the total number of upper primary schools State-wise throughout the country;
- (b) whether there is a shortage of upper primary schools across the country;
- (c) if so, whether there is a plan to build more upper primary schools; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Adulteration in Mid-Day Meals

2615 Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:

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

- (a) whether a mechanism has been developed under the new National Education Policy for

monitoring adulteration in the meals prepared for the Mid-Day Meals which also includes breakfast;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Reduction in allocation of funds for Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan

2616 **Shri K.K. Ragesh:**

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

(a) whether there is a severe reduction in allocation of funds for Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any concrete proposals are under consideration for successful conduct of the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Adequate facilities for online classes in rural areas

2617 **Shri K.K. Ragesh:**

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

(a) whether any concrete proposals are under consideration to address the hardships being faced by students from the rural areas due to lack of adequate facilities for online classes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds released by UGC to universities

2618 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

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

(a) the quantum of funds released by UGC to various universities in the country;

(b) whether Government has a proposal to increase the funds to universities based on increased number of enrolment; and

(c) whether there is any proposal for funding to rebuild dilapidated buildings in various universities?

Faulty implementation of the 6th Pay Commission

2619 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

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

the steps taken by the Ministry to step-up the salaries of senior university and college teachers viz-a-viz their junior teacher counterparts as the senior teachers of Central Universities are forced to take less salary due to faulty implementation of the 6th Pay Commission since last 10-12 years and this has resulted in wrong fixation of their salaries during the 7th Pay Commission?

Reservation norms in IITs

2620 **Shri Elamaram Kareem:**

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

(a) the details of the applicability of existing reservation norms in Ph.D. and Post Graduate programme admissions in IITs through seats which are not funded by Government sources, like research project staff, sponsored, self-financed, external and part-time researchers;

- (b) whether cut-off marks for SC/ST/OBC/EWS categories, decided by the various departments of IITs, for selections to their research programmes are regulated by any directives issued by Government/courts; and
- (c) the details on how cut-offs are decided for each social category?

Fixation of cost of food items under Mid-Day Meal Scheme

2621 **Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

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

- (a) whether Government has fixed the quantity of pulses, edible oil and vegetables to be included in food under Mid-Day Meal per day per child basis and Government has also decided the cost of these items at national level;
- (b) whether the cost norms fixed by Government to meet the quantitative obligations are low as compared to the prevailing market price in various States; and
- (c) whether Government propose to let the States decide the cost of various items as per prevailing rates in various States at various times and meet 75 per cent of the actual expenditure?

Tamil language in Kendriya Vidyalayas

2622 **Shri P. Wilson:**

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

- (a) whether the Central Government has received complaints for non teaching of Tamil language from Grade 1 in Kendriya Vidyalayas in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the reasons for non teaching of Tamil language from Grade 1;
- (c) whether Government has failed to appoint permanent Tamil teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas in Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reasons for the appointment of temporary Tamil teachers in KVs and reasons for suspension of classes in the month of February 2021?

Suicide cases of students at national institutes

2623 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

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

the total number of students who have died by suicide during their study at the national institutes including IIT, IIM, AIIMS, NIT, NID, National Law School before completing the courses in the last 5 years in the chronological order of year of exit wise(I Semester, II Semester, III Semester. etc.)?

Reimbursement of expenditure under RTE Act

2624 # **Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

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

- (a) whether funds have been released to the States for reimbursement of cost expenditure in respect of admissions done under the Right to Education Act;
- (b) if so, the details of the funds released to the State of Chhattisgarh during the last two years;
- (c) whether Chhattisgarh has notified about its per pupil cost for the reimbursement under the Right to Education Act; and
- (d) the State-wise/area-wise details of the proposed claims submitted for reimbursement of cost incurred in respect of admissions under the Act by Chhattisgarh in its Annual Work

Plan and Budget (AWP and B) during the last two years?

Implementation of new National Education Policy

2625 **Shri K.J. Alphons:**

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

- (a) whether there would be a delay in rolling out new National Education Policy (NEP) due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) by when basic institutional structures of NEP are going to be in position; and
- (c) whether the State Governments are on board for the smooth implementation of NEP?

Opening of new KVs in Jharkhand

2626 # **Shri Deepak Prakash:**

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

- (a) whether any request has been received by Ministry from the State Government of Jharkhand for opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas across the State; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Functioning of UIDAI

2627 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- (a) whether Government has achieved the task of providing UIDAI cards to the citizens across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) details of the challenges being faced by Government in enrolment of people;
- (d) whether there is little awareness about Aadhaar Enrolment Centres among the people;
- (e) remedial measures being taken by Government to increase awareness;
- (f) whether Government has taken note that Aadhaar Card is still treated as only an additional document as compared to ration card and driving license for authentication; and
- (g) the reasons therefor and the measures taken to make it an equally important document?

Impediments faced by electronic hardware manufacturing sector

2628 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has identified major impediments faced by the electronics hardware manufacturing sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to remove those impediments;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Hate messages on Facebook

2629 **Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the controversy over alleged hate messages on Facebook and the inquiry report published in the Wall Street Journal in this

regard;

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

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

Common Service Centres in Uttar Pradesh

2630 Shri Syed Zafar Islam:

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

(a) whether Government has started Common Service Centres (CSCs) to provide cyber services in Gram Panchayats;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of CSCs established in Uttar Pradesh till date; and

(d) the time by when all Gram Panchayats will have dedicated CSCs across the country, including Uttar Pradesh?

Protection of data privacy and complaints

2631 Shri Syed Zafar Islam:

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

(a) whether selling of private information of users by social networking sites has come to the notice of Government ;

(b) if so, the details of total number of complaints State-wise, including Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether Government has made any rule to prevent the misuse of sharing of private information of users without their consent;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government has taken any action to deal with the said issue and if so, the details thereof?

Land for construction of STPI

2632 # Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Bihar has provided two acres each of land for the construction of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) in Darbhanga and Bhagalpur in Bihar;

(b) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Bihar has made available an amount of ₹ 13 crore 27 lakh for the expansion of STPI, Patna; and

(c) if so, the time line by which the construction of the same would begun and the timeline targeted for its completion, the details thereof?

Encouragement of digital transactions

2633 Shri Hishey Lachungpa:

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

(a) the details of initiatives taken by Government for encouraging digital transactions in the country;

(b) whether the digital transactions in the country post de-monetization has increased or decreased; and

(c) the details thereof?

Hacking incidents from foreign countries

2634 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

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

- (a) whether hackers from other countries have targeted Indian Government organisation and private reputed companies;
- (b) if so, the number of major hacking incidents which occurred in India during the last three years; and
- (c) the steps taken to curb hacking, especially from Chinese hackers?

Job losses in IT sector

2635 **Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

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

- (a) whether Government has prepared any action plan to balance the arrival of Artificial Intelligence replacing human jobs, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has undertaken effective measures to stop the job-losses in IT sector, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Regulations to make social media accountable

2636 # **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is trying to minimise the influence of social media through a regulator to make social media accountable;
- (b) the action taken against social media operating companies, so far;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any study of the effect on the freedom of expression enshrined in the constitution through its control on the social media; and
- (d) the number of citizen accounts that were suspended on social media during the last one year?

Regulation of non-personal data

2637 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government will introduce a separate Bill for regulation of non-personal data, as recommended by the Committee of Experts on Non-Personal Data Governance Framework;
- (b) whether Government will cover non-personal data under the proposed Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019; and
- (c) whether Government is planning to institute a separate regulator for 'non-personal data' regulation, as recommended by the aforementioned Committee?

Regulation of digital platforms

2638 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

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

- (a) whether Government has considered regulating the digital platforms specially tech giants like Facebook, Twitter, etc.;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken cognizance of the widening debate around the relationship of the tech platforms with the news publishers, i.e publisher vs platform, as Facebook banned news publishers in Australia whereas France's competition regulator ruled that Google must pay for reusing their content;
- (d) if so, the details of the policy change suggested, if any; and
- (e) whether Indian Copyright Act has provisions governing the newly evolving relationship, if so, the details thereof?

Digital literacy rate in the country

2639 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

- (a) the digital literacy rate in the country;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any survey to estimate the digital literacy level in the country and if so, the details and the outcomes thereof;
- (c) if not, the time by when such survey is likely to be done; and
- (d) whether Government has undertaken any measures to educate the public about the benefits of digital literacy and if so, the details thereof?

Self reliance in the field of electronics

2640 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

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

- (a) whether the electronic products require a Printed Circuit Board (PCB) which are green coloured electronic boards inside the products from phones to electric vehicles, if so, how much demand of PCBs is met by local manufacturers;
- (b) the demand met by imports and the countries exporting to India;
- (c) whether it is a fact that its market size in India is of US 2.5 billion dollar and what is the expected market size by 2025; and
- (d) the plans to achieve self reliance in the field of electronics?

ITIHAS system for COVID-19 surveillance

2641 **Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

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

- (a) whether the ITIHAS system is or has been deployed for COVID-19 surveillance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the States in which it has been deployed and the dates of such deployment;
- (c) the details of personal data collected by the ITIHAS system; and
- (d) the data sharing and access protocol of the ITIHAS system?

Vandalism of Holy places in Pakistan

2642 # **Dr. Anil Jain:**

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

- (a) whether Government has identified holy places and temples in other countries including Pakistan;
- (b) whether Government had identified holy places of Pakistan for pilgrimage under the Protocol on visits to Religious Shrines, 1974 signed between India and Pakistan, if so, the

current status of holy places and temples in this regard; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Mata Rani Bhatiyani Mandir situated in Sindh, the holy Shri Nankana Sahib Gurudwara and Gandhara style Buddha statue in Mardan of Pakistan had been vandalised and desecrated on 26th January, 2020, 3rd March, 2020 and 18th July, 2020 respectively?

Indians evacuated during COVID-19 pandemic

2643 Dr. C.M. Ramesh:

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

- (a) the number of Indians, in the light of COVID-19 pandemic, evacuated from different countries of the world, country-wise, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether any assessment has been done about the expenditure incurred by Government in this connection, the details thereof?

Indo-Uzbekistan virtual summit

2644 Shri Sanjay Seth:

Shri Rajeew Satav:

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

- (a) whether the India and Uzbekistan virtual Summit 2020 was concluded recently and if so, the details thereof alongwith issues discussed;
- (b) whether a declaration for mutual cooperation in various fields between India and Uzbekistan was signed during the Summit;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the details of the objectives to be achieved thereby; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government in pursuance thereto?

Request for evacuation from Indian citizens

2645 Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

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

- (a) whether Government has received any requests to evacuate Indian citizens trapped in other countries;
- (b) if so, the number of request received from different age groups such as students, tourists etc. country-wise, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has provided any special assistance to Indian citizens trapped in other countries due to COVID-19;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of assistance provided to Indians in other countries; and
- (f) the details of the funds spent on missions for assistance?

Streamlining of passport procedures

2646 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

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

- (a) whether Government is taking any steps to streamline the process of getting the passports made and to reduce the time taken in it;
- (b) whether Government is taking any measures to increase the number of countries which give visa-on-arrival or visa-free travel to Indian passport holders; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Visit to Sri Lanka

2647 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

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

- (a) the details of the Minister's visit to Sri Lanka;
- (b) whether MOUs have been signed;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the benefits to India from such MoUs so far in different fields?

Discussion on trade investment and economic issues with neighbouring countries

2648 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

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

- (b) whether India is discussing some fresh trade investments and economic issues individually with each of its neighbouring countries i.e. China, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Myanmar;
- (b) if so, the details of projects and programmes on which discussions have been held so far in the last four years; and
- (c) the outcomes thereof?

Indian cargo ship stranded in Chinese Waters

2649 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

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

- (a) the reasons that China stopped Indian ship Jag Anand from Port Jingtang since June, 2020;
- (b) the reasons that Chinese Government is not relieving/change over of 23 Indian crew members who are languishing since June in the port;
- (c) the reasons why Chinese Government is asking the ship to move to Tianjin port close to China as it involves huge costs;
- (d) whether it is a fact that 16 more Indian crew members of a Panamanian Ship Anastasia are also languishing at Caofeidian port; and
- (e) if so, the efforts being made to relieve Indian crew from above ships?

Indian workers held in Saudi Arabia

2650 **Shri K.P. Munusamy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Indian workers in Saudi Arabia were held for begging during the COVID-19 pandemic period;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of total workers, State-wise?

Military rule in Myanmar

2651 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

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

- (a) the stand of India regarding military regime taking over in Myanmar;
- (b) whether discussions were held with other friendly countries through diplomatic channel to restore rule of law and democratic process in Myanmar;
- (c) whether India has advised military junta to ensure that the democratic leaders who are

put on house arrest or in jail are safe and protected; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Dailogue and ceasefire agreement between India and Paksitan

2652 Shri Abdul Wahab:

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any track one or track two dialogues to resolve border issues with Pakistan during the last six years;
- (b) if so, the details of the dialogues that happened with Pakistan during the last six years;
- (c) whether India and Pakistan have recently agreed for a ceasefire pact along the Line of Control; and
- (d) if so, the details of the dialogues conducted and agreements?

Welfare Board for Indian workers abroad

2653 Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:

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

- (a) the number of Indian workers working in the Gulf and Emigration Clearance Required (ECR) countries;
- (b) the remittances sent by these Indian diaspora during the last 3 years;
- (c) whether Government is contemplating to set up Welfare Board for these workers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Distribution of COVID-19 vaccine in foreign countries

2654 Shri Mahesh Poddar:

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

- (a) the number of countries to which India has exported domestically manufactured COVID-19 vaccines;
- (b) the names of these countries, and a country-wise breakup of vaccines distributed;
- (c) the total number of vaccination doses allocated for but not yet distributed;
- (d) whether Government intends to distribute vaccines to more countries than it is already doing; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Scrapping of trilateral agreement by Sri Lanka

2655 Shri Vaiko:

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

- (a) whether Sri Lanka has taken unilateral decision to scrap trilateral agreement for developing a key port terminal and instead hand it over to run by its State authority;
- (b) if so, the response of Government including any protest made;
- (c) the efforts made by the Ministry to retain the agreement;
- (d) whether Sri Lanka offered India the opportunity to develop West Container Terminal at Colombo Port; and
- (e) if so, the response of Government regarding this offer?

Funds to Bihar under Sarva Shikha Abhiyan

2656 # **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

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

- (a) the amount of funds allocated to the State of Bihar by the Central Government under Sarva Shikha Abhiyan during the current financial year; and
- (b) whether Government has given priority to Bihar while allocation of funds keeping the educational backwardness of the State in mind?

Setting up of All India Judicial Service

2657 **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to establish All India Judicial Service (AIJS) on the pattern of IAS or IFS drawing best minds via competitive exams;
- (b) whether Government is also considering to give proper reservation to SCs/STs/OBCs in the judiciary; and
- (c) if so, the progress so far and how much time it will take to implement the above proposal?

Infrastructure facilities for judiciary

2658 **Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of court halls constructed from the year 2016 till present;
- (b) the total number of new court halls commissioned/functional since 2016 till present;
- (c) the total number of residential facilities for judicial officers constructed from the year 2016 till present; and
- (d) the total number of residential facilities made functional since the year 2016 till present?

Increasing the number of courts

2659 **Dr. Amee Yajnik:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to increase the existing number of courts for providing affordable and speedy justice to the people in the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise and location-wise details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Promotion of Hindi in courts

2660 **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposed to promote Hindi in the courts;
- (b) the guidelines laid down by Government to promote Hindi as the local language in the functioning of the courts;
- (c) whether Government proposes to make the judgements issued by the High Courts and the Supreme Court mandatorily available, in local and Hindi language; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Rise in pending cases

2661 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Shri P. Bhattacharya:

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

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the problem being faced by common people in getting justice in time due to continuous rise in the number of pending cases in the various courts across the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government is setting up various courts and appointing the judges in huge numbers across the country to ensure quick delivery of judgement to the people; and
- (c) whether Government is likely to set up a separate High Court Bench of Allahabad High Court in western Uttar Pradesh?

Strength of Judges in Supreme Court

2662 **Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of present strength of Judges in the Supreme Court;
- (b) whether there is a practice of reviewing the Judge's strength from time to time and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of times in the past when Judge's strength in the Apex Court has been increased;
- (d) whether Government would strengthen the mechanism for better results in future;
- (e) whether Government recently received a proposal to appropriately increase the Judge's strength in the Supreme Court; and
- (f) if so, whether the proposal is under active consideration of Government?

Functioning of tribunals

2663 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to bring reforms in Tribunals for speedy delivery of justice in the last 6 years and current year as on date, tribunal-wise; and
- (b) the steps being taken for continuing with the reform process and further measures to rationalize the functioning of Tribunals in future along with budgetary support for this purpose?

National Sentencing Policy

2664 **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India does not have any comprehensive set and strict sentencing guidelines in place, despite a clarion call for the same by courts from time to time, recognizing the need for such a policy;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry has formulated a policy on sentencing guidelines according to the recommendations made in the Malimath Committee (2003) and Madhav Menon Committee (2008); and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons for ignoring such a vital aspect of criminal jurisprudence?

Bench of Allahabad High Court in western Uttar Pradesh

2665 # **Shri Hardwar Dubey:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Shri Jaswant Singh Commission was constituted 37 years ago to establish a bench of Allahabad High Court in western Uttar Pradesh, if so, whether any action is being taken in this regard; and
- (b) if so, by when this bench in western Uttar Pradesh would start functioning?

Working of Fast Track Courts

2666 **Shri Anil Desai:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has established Fast Track Courts for speedy trial and expeditious award of punishment to the guilty;
- (b) the people or offence for which such courts have been established;
- (c) the details of such courts, State-wise prosecution and sentencing in Fast Track Courts with the time taken during the last five years; and
- (d) whether Government is satisfied with the success rate of these courts?

Common Seniority List of CSS Cadre

2667 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for non-finalisation of Seniority Quota in Common Seniority List (CSL) 2013 of Assistant Section Officers (ASOs) of Central Secretariat Service (CSS) Cadre and the reasons for its delay;
- (b) the reasons for non publication of the aforesaid CSL in the website and the reasons for its delay;
- (c) the total number of ad-hoc cases of CSS Cadre working; and
- (d) the vacancies of Seniority Quota (SQ) of ASOs of Common Seniority List (CSL), 2013?

Cases pending with CBI

2668 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total numbers of cases pending with CBI;
- (b) the cases which are running for more then seven years but still chargesheet has not been filed; and
- (c) the conviction rate of CBI?

Backlog of vacancies

2669 **Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a backlog of vacancies in Government in different departments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including class-wise sanctioned strength;
- (c) whether Government has any intention of filling up all these vacancies;
- (d) if so, the time limit fixed for recruitment, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Dilution of reservations in civil administrative posts

2670 Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of lateral entry positions currently filled and proposed in all Government administrative posts and the percentage of SC, ST, and OBC representation in these lateral entry positions; and
- (b) Whether proposed lateral entry into administrative service by Government will result in a reduction in reserved posts for SCs, STs, and OBCs, and if so, the detailed number of reductions in posts?

Grievance cell for redressal of complaints

2671 Shri Rajmani Patel:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a grievance cell has been set up for redressal of complaints received from various Ministries;
- (b) if so, the details of complaints received and pending in the year 2018, 2019 and 2020;
- (c) the information about individuals and departments against whom the complaints have been received as in part 'b' above; and
- (d) the efforts being made for quick redressal of complaints?

Vacant posts of OBC, SC, ST

2672 Shri Rajmani Patel:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of OBC, SC and ST posts of first, second, third, and fourth categories vacant at national level and in the States; and
- (b) the action that is being taken to fill the vacant posts?

Litigation for old pension scheme

2673 Shri Neeraj Shekhar:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 428 given in the Rajya Sabha on 4th February, 2021 and state:

- (a) whether High Court of Delhi on 15/01/2021 in W.P. (C) 8208/2020 and various other cases has ordered to revert officials under National Pension System (NPS) to Old Pension Scheme whose results for selection were declared after 31/12/2003 while advertisements for recruitment were issued before NPS coming into force;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and action taken/proposed in this regard; and
- (c) the rationale for not issuing general orders for all on above lines inspite of recent judgements of Apex/High Courts in similar cases and compelling own officials for undue litigation instead of attending office thereby causing wastage of public money?

Role and scope of CBI

2674 Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the role and scope of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI);
- (b) the protocol and procedure for initiation of investigations; and
- (c) the protocol and procedure for closure of investigations?

Corruption charges against Government employees

2675 # **Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Government employees and officers arrested on the charges of corruption by CBI and other investigating agencies during the last five years;
- (b) the number of officers against whom the system has been successful in getting conviction during these years;
- (c) whether it is a fact that most of the accused persons charged for corruption are getting acquitted; and
- (d) the State-wise number of officers of administrative services declared absconders?

Backwardness of Aspirational Districts

2676 # **Shri Narayan Rane:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that development related works to remove the backwardness of Aspirational Districts are being done at slow pace;
- (b) the response of Government in this regard; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

Data on wealth inequality

2677 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any data on the wealth inequality across the various income groups in the country;
- (b) whether the wealth inequality in the country has further worsened due to the COVID-19 induced lockdown and economic collapse;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being planned by Government to lower this income inequality vis-a-vis increased taxation?

Use of infrastructure facilities by private sector

2678 **Shri Sanjay Raut:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has decided to open up its space to the private sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the proposals received by various companies for using ISRO's infrastructure facilities;
- (c) quantum of revenue earned by the ISRO from launching satellites of various private and international agencies during the last three years; and
- (d) the details of steps taken or proposed by Government to develop ISRO's space business to earn more revenue, particularly from abroad?

Danger of debris orbiting the earth

2679 **Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that thousands of pieces of satellite debris orbiting the earth, pose a danger;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is planning to remove the debris;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Time overrun in various projects

2680 **Shri Y. S. Chowdary:**

Will the Minister of **Statistics and Programme Implementation** be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise details of various projects showing time overrun across the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the various reasons for delay in completion of these projects;
- (c) the steps/measures taken by Government to avoid delay;
- (d) whether it is a fact that delay in completion of these projects will also result in escalation of construction cost; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

Cost and time overrun in infrastructure projects

2681 **Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:**

Will the Minister of **Statistics and Programme Implementation** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether over 300 infrastructure projects are having cost overrun and time overrun, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of sectors that are widely affected as a result of delays in execution of infrastructure projects; and
- (c) whether Government has a monitoring mechanism for releasing funds and if so, whether Government would strengthen the mechanism for better results in future?

Decline in Index of Industrial Production

2682 **Shri Surendra Singh Nagar:**

Will the Minister of **Statistics and Programme Implementation** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a massive decline in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) during COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has not released the rate of IIP contracting during the month of April/May, 2020; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Delays in publication of results of surveys

2683 **Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

Will the Minister of **Statistics and Programme Implementation** be pleased to state:

- (a) the duration, methods and mode of data collection and publication of results of various

surveys undertaken by the Ministry and its various organizations, the details thereof for the last five years survey-wise;

(b) in which surveys, does the Ministry utilize handheld devices for collection of primary data;

(c) the details of the last round of annual survey of NSSO published and the reasons for such a long gap after survey;

(d) whether the Ministry is making efforts to reduce time lag between conduct of survey and publication of results; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (MITRA) in Andhra Pradesh

2684 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Shri Subhas Chandra Bose Pilli:

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

(a) whether Government plans to sanction Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (MITRA) in the State of Andhra Pradesh in the coming financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the funds sanctioned for various Integrated Textile Parks (ITPs) in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last 2 financial years?

Efforts to promote technical textile sector

2685 **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

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

Shri P. Bhattacharya:

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

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to promote the technical textile sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to attach the handloom clusters to the textile industry for procuring the handloom products directly;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Scheme to promote textile products

2686 **Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia:**

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

(a) whether Government has launched a scheme to promote the domestic production of a number of textile related products in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has since taken any steps to boost the growth in some sectors to make it a global textile player; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Setting up of mega textile parks

2687 **Dr. Banda Prakash:**

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

(a) whether Government proposes to develop mega textile parks across the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof along with time frame for completion of the said parks;
- (c) the details of employment opportunities likely to be created through the setting up of these mega parks; and
- (d) whether Government has any information regarding Kakatiya Mega Textile Park at Warangal in Telangana, if so, the details thereof?

MITRA Scheme

2688 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

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

- (a) whether Government has worked out/implementing Mega Investment Textiles Parks (MITRA) Scheme with about 7 Textile Parks to be established over 3 years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and progress made so far; and
- (c) the future action plan in this regard?

Skill training centres for weavers

2689 Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated any scheme to create new skill training centres for weavers in the country under Skill Development Scheme;
- (b) if so, whether the centres would be equipped with modern and latest technology; and
- (c) the number of weaver centres running in the country, State-wise?

Closure of Public Sector Undertakings

2690 Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken a decision to wind up two Public Sector Undertakings (PSU) under the Ministry of Textiles;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard with their names and reasons for closure;
- (c) whether Government has also decided to abolish five advisory boards and is also planning to withdraw its representatives from Export Promotion Councils; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Production Linked Incentive Scheme for textile sector

2691 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

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

- (a) whether Cabinet has approved a Production Linked Incentive Scheme for textile sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any special incentives are being planned for the handloom sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the handloom sector is only offered incentives to boost exports;
- (f) if so, reasons why no incentives are designed to promote production for domestic and local markets; and
- (g) the steps to be taken by the Ministry to promote the diversity in local handloom and handicraft instead of forcing standardization for exports?

Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission

2692 **Shri Rajeev Satav:**

Shri Sanjay Seth:

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

- (a) whether Government has launched the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission and if so, the details thereof and the aims and objective behind the move;
- (b) the number of most backward tribal dominated districts that will be targeted under this mission;
- (c) the estimated number of tribals in remote and maoist hit areas who will be provided employment opportunities; and
- (d) the other steps taken by Government for the welfare of tribals living in most backward areas and maoist hit areas?

Water and livelihood problems in tribal areas

2693 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

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

- (a) whether any initiative has been taken by Government to solve the water and livelihood problems of tribal areas; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Welfare programmes for the tribal areas in Maharashtra

2694 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

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

- (a) the details of the funds allocated by Government for sponsored programmes for the tribal areas of the country, particularly in Maharashtra as on date, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the welfare programmes being implemented for the development of tribal areas specially for the eradication of illiteracy and for the electrification of remote tribal areas, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has stipulated any target for the development of tribal areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups

2695 **Dr. Bhagwat Karad:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps for overall development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs);
- (b) the number of such groups in the country that are facing continuous decline in their population;
- (c) the details thereof State/ district-wise; and
- (d) the efforts being made to preserve the existence of such communities and if so, the details thereof?

Upliftment of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups

2696 **Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia:**

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

- (a) the steps taken for the upliftment of the 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups

(PVTGs) in the country;

(b) whether a quantifiable increase has been witnessed in the standard of living of the PVTGs, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any state specific interventions are being undertaken or proposed to be undertaken for the upliftment of the PVTGs?

Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups in the country

2697 **Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia:**

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

(a) the State-wise details of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) population in the country;

(b) whether Government has taken any step to improve material condition of PVTGs; and

(c) if so, year-wise and State-wise details of the amount allocated and expenditure incurred in the last five years?

Implementation of Tribal Sub-Plan

2698 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

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

(a) the details of schemes/programmes being implemented by Government for the welfare and development of tribal population in the country;

(b) whether the said schemes/programmes especially Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) has achieved the desired results in the country;

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

(d) the details of funds provided by Government under the said schemes/programmes during each of the last three years and in the current year?

Schedule Tribe status for communities in Karnataka

2699 **Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

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

(a) whether Government has any plans to grant Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to the Koli fishermen community and the Kadu Kuruba, Rajgond Kuruba community in the State of Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details of said plan and by when it is proposed to be implemented?

Livelihood of tribal communities

2700 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

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

(a) whether the AatmaNirbhar Bharat package mentions about the tribals;

(b) if not, the schemes for the welfare of tribals during COVID-19 pandemic;

(c) the manner in which Government will deal with the situation of the tribal communities who are the gatherers of Minor Forest Produces(MFPs) during the lockdown;

(d) the progress of the Van Dhan Vikas Kendras(VDVks) which was launched last year to create additional income for tribal communities; and

(e) in what manner Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) funds have been utilized during the COVID-19 scenario for creating employment opportunities for the tribal communities?

Tribal welfare programmes in Rajasthan

2701 # Shri Neeraj Dangi:

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

- (a) the year-wise details of the funds spent by Government during the last five years on tribal welfare programme in Rajasthan;
- (b) whether Government is organising special employment generation programmes for the tribal community;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the details of the plan of Government to generate employment for the tribal community?

Steps regarding linear projects

2702 Shri Bikash Ranjan:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has notified any exception for linear projects with regard to the compliance of The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act, 2006;
- (b) if so, on what basis such exception has been notified in violation of the said Act, 2006; and
- (c) if not, the manner in which the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is carrying on with linear projects at Stage-I Clearance in violation to the Forest Rights Act, 2006?

Status of malnutrition in the country

2703 Dr. Sasmit Patra:

Will the Minister of **Women and Child Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the status of malnutrition in the country; and
- (b) the details of number of malnourished children in the country over the past three years State-wise and year-wise?

Nutrition targets

2704 Dr. Narendra Jadhav:

Will the Minister of **Women and Child Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of India's position in the 2020 Global Nutrition Report, which highlights that India is off course to meet the global nutrition targets for all indicators, if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and
- (b) whether Government has taken any corrective steps in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Impact assessment of disruption of health services

2705 Dr. Narendra Jadhav:

Will the Minister of **Women and Child Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study to assess the impact of disruption in health outreach services in India during COVID-19 induced lockdown, especially impact on malnutrition status across States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has identified the States/districts in the country that need

immediate attention to address the issue of access to nutrition, if so, the details thereof?

Reduction in budget for child welfare

2706 Shri Sanjay Singh:

Will the Minister of ***Women and Child Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the share of budget allocated to child welfare in the 2021-22 was reduced by 10.8 per cent as compared to the 2020-21 with the budget for child protection receiving the highest reduction of almost 40 per cent; and
- (b) if so, the reasons for the reduction despite the NCRB data suggesting as many as 148,185 cases of crime against children in 2019, which meant that each day over 400 crimes were committed against children in the country?

Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace

2707 Shri Prashanta Nanda:

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:

Will the Minister of ***Women and Child Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (SHWW Act) protects the women working in the unorganized sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the measures taken to provide equal human rights to unorganized sector workers?

National Women Entrepreneurship Council

2708 # Shri Samir Oraon:

Will the Minister of ***Women and Child Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to establish National Women Entrepreneurship Council (NWECC);
- (b) if so, the salient features and details of this council; and
- (c) the latest update of the currently proposed council, the details thereof?

Supplementary Nutrition Program

2709 Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:

Will the Minister of ***Women and Child Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is proposing Anganwadi and Supplementary Nutrition Programme as essential services; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Under-reporting of crimes against women

2710 Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:

Will the Minister of ***Women and Child Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken cognizance of under-reporting of crimes against women in certain States in the country based on the comparison of findings of the National Family Health Survey-5 and National Crime Records Bureau data, including in Bihar; and
- (b) the reasons due to which the overall allocation to the Ministry has been reduced by over Rs 5000 crore compared to the previous Budget Estimates of 2020-21 and whether this will have an impact on relief to rape victims and their rehabilitation?

Registered cases under POCSO Act

2711 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

Will the Minister of **Women and Child Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of cases registered under the POCSO Act, 2012 along with the numbers of cases under investigation or sub-judice during the last two years in the country; and
- (b) the details thereof, State-wise?

Backsliding in nutrition progress

2712 **Shri Shamsher Singh Dullo:**

Will the Minister of **Women and Child Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken cognizance of the findings of the Fifth Round of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) indicating stagnation and deterioration of women's and children's nutrition indicators;
- (b) whether Government is taking any steps to ascertain the cause in this backsliding in nutrition progress, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has decreased the allocation for nutrition in the Budget Estimates 2021-22, despite the findings of NFHS, if so, the reasons therefor?

Increase in compensation to Anganwadi and ASHA workers

2713 **Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

Will the Minister of **Women and Child Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) the increase in total compensation provided to Anganwadi and ASHA workers over the last six years;
- (b) whether this increase in compensation has been consistent with the inflation rate during this period;
- (c) whether Government has any plan for increasing wages of Anganwadi and ASHA workers post the pandemic; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Malnutrition in school children

2714 **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

Will the Minister of **Women and Child Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that malnutrition in children is increasing with each passing year especially during the current time due to non-availability of health facilities and closure of schools for a prolonged period and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is any scheme to monitor malnutrition status in school children, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to extend Poshan Scheme in schools to monitor the status of school children; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and further steps taken or being taken by Government to monitor malnutrition among school children?

Unsatisfactory condition of juvenile homes

2715 # **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

Will the Minister of **Women and Child Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that the condition of juvenile homes in the country is not satisfactory;
- (b) if so, the concrete action taken by Government to provide better facilities to the children in these juvenile homes; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any punitive action against the managers of the said juvenile homes who are not managing them properly?

Identification of acute malnutrition in children

2716 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of ***Women and Child Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to launch a drive for identification of Severe Acute Malnutrition in children for referral to hospitals, if required and AYUSH centres; and
- (b) if so, by when the Ministry is likely to complete this exercise?

Engagement of Consultancy Agencies by the Ministry

2717 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:

Will the Minister of ***Women and Child Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has evolved any policy for the engagement of established agencies for the assignments to be carried out by the Ministry and its autonomous bodies during the last three years, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (b) the number of Consultancy Agencies that have been involved by the Ministry and its autonomous bodies during the last three years, their names and the details of the assignments given to them, including the fees paid?

Unsupervised children in shelter homes

2718 Shri Iranna Kadadi:

Will the Minister of ***Women and Child Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that a large number of children in shelter homes across the country are often left unsupervised, subjected to corporal punishment, given sub-standard food, devoid of medical or legal aid and languish for years without proper education or skill development;
- (b) if so, the facts and details in this regard;
- (c) whether a large number of shelter homes are not presenting children before the Child Welfare Committees or Juvenile Justice Boards as mandated by the Juvenile Justice Act; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with corrective measures taken by Government in this regard?

COVID-19 and malnutrition in children

2719 Shri Binoy Viswam:

Will the Minister of ***Women and Child Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has conducted any study on the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown on malnutrition and stunting in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken by the Ministry to address the nutrition deficit amongst children created by COVID-19 pandemic;
- (c) whether Government is in the process of releasing National Guidelines for Community Based Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the incidence of severe acute malnutrition has increased in 16 of the 22 States and UTs?

Funds spent under POSHAN Abhiyaan

2720 # Shri Rajendra Gehlot:

Will the Minister of ***Women and Child Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds spent under Poshan Abhiyan during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the funds spent in Rajasthan under the said Abhiyan during the last three years; and
- (c) the State-wise details of targets set under Poshan Abhiyan?

New Delhi
The 11th March, 2021
20 Phalguna, 1942 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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