

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, February 8, 2021/ 19 Magha, 1942 (Saka)

(Ministries : Coal; Defence; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Information and Broadcasting; Jal Shakti; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Mines; Minority Affairs; Parliamentary Affairs; Ports, Shipping and Waterways; Road Transport and Highways; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions -- 160

Privatisation of coal sector

641 Shri Elamaram Kareem:

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

- (a) the reason behind the decision to allow private players in commercial mining of coal and hundred per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in coal sector;
- (b) whether Government would be able to regulate price of coal if the sector is privatised, if so, mechanism thereof, if not, its impact on our economy;
- (c) whether any studies have been conducted by Government to assess impact of this decision on sectors that use coal;
- (d) its impact over electricity sector and whether increase in coal price would lead to increase in electricity price; and
- (e) whether Government has any plans to address such adverse impact?

Auction of coal block in Chhattisgarh

642 # Shri Vivek K. Tankha:

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

- (a) the amount of premium per ton in addition to royalty based on the highest bid value for Gare IV/1 and Gare IV/7 in Chhattisgarh in the coal block auctioned in 2015; and
- (b) whether the above mentioned mines are operational at present based on the highest bid of 2015 and, if not, the reasons therefor?

Auction of Gare coal block in Chhattisgarh

643 # Shri Vivek K. Tankha:

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

- (a) the per tonne premium amount the State Governments would get in addition to royalty as per the current rate of coal according to the highest bid in the reauction of Gare IV/1 and Gare IV/7 of Chhattisgarh in the coal block auction of the year 2020;
- (b) whether the premium income from the current auction rate is lower than that of from 2015 rates; and

(c) if so, the amount of loss Chhattisgarh is expected to suffer per year?

Eco parks set up by coalfields

644 Dr. C.M. Ramesh:

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

- (a) the details of number of eco parks set up in different parts of the country by various coalfields, State-wise; and
- (b) whether Government has allocated some funds in this regard for proper maintenance and upkeep of such parks, if so, the details thereof for the last three years?

Cancellation of contracts connected with terror funding

645 # Shri Deepak Prakash:

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

the guidelines of Government regarding cancellation of contracts/ tenders, work orders, logistic support etc. of such firms, agencies and people, running under the subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL), who have a direct or indirect connection with organisations responsible for funding the terror groups and those that have been identified by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), National Investigation Agency (NIA) and Enforcement Directorate (ED)?

Disposal of overburden from coal mines

646 # Shri Mahesh Poddar:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that clear guidelines are available for proper disposal of overburden drawn from coal mines, if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that big mounds of overburden from Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) have been formed since decades in Dhanbad city of Jharkhand and its surrounding areas, which are dangerous for environment/ human life;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that many guidelines of Directorate General of Mines Safety in this regard are not being followed; and
- (d) if so, whether Government would take initiatives for proper and early disposal of BCCL overburden?

Diversification of CIL into non-coal mining sectors

647 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

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

- (a) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) has decided to diversify into non-coal mining areas, to make the transition away from fossil fuel;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether CIL has earmarked separate funds for the diversification and if so, the details thereof?

Investment in clean technology by CIL

648 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

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

- (a) whether a decision has been taken to make an investment in clean technology after

- witnessing a slump in demand for coal during COVID-19 pandemic in 2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of other areas where Coal India Limited (CIL) has decided for major investment; and
- (d) whether any timeline has been fixed for entering into clean technology by CIL?

Rehabilitation of tribal population in Madanpur South coal block

649 Shri Binoy Viswam:

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

- (a) whether the consent of gram sabha through public consultation has been sought in Korba district as per the Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 before acquisition of the Madanpur South coal block;
- (b) the details of the objections raised against the acquisition as per Section 7 of the Coal Bearing Act, 1957;
- (c) the details of the compensation to be given to the displaced people; and
- (d) the number of tribals who will be affected by acquisition of this area for mining and the details of the plan to rehabilitate them?

Environmental clearances for coal projects

650 Shri Binoy Viswam:

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

- (a) the number of projects which have been allotted for coal mining since 2017;
- (b) whether there are any projects which did not acquire environmental clearances before starting the mining process, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether any action was taken against such projects, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) whether there are any projects that do not have the required environmental clearance and are still functioning, if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Allocation of coal to Andhra Pradesh under SHAKTI policy

651 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

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

- (a) whether any request from Andhra Pradesh Government has been received in the Ministry for allocation of coal under Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala Transparently in India (SHAKTI) Policy to power plants in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (b) if so, the details of the request and steps taken by the Ministry to provide coal linkages under above policy?

CMPF account of labourers in coal mines

652 # Smt. Chhaya Verma:

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

- (a) number of labourers employed during last five years in mines of Chhattisgarh and other parts of the country and rate at which they are being paid;
- (b) whether account of labourers employed in mines have been opened in Coal Mines Provident Fund (CMPF) and whether share of employer and labourers is being deposited;
- (c) whether it is a fact that CMPF account of most of the labourers employed in mines have not been opened due to which share of employer and labourers is not being deposited; and

(d) details of action taken against officers who have not opened CMPF accounts of labourers?

Accidents in coal mines

653 Shri K.J. Alphons:

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

- (a) the number of persons who have died due to accidents in coal mines;
- (b) the details of insurance provided to miners;
- (c) whether insurance is compulsory for miners in private mines; and
- (d) the mechanism followed by Government to enforce the stipulations?

National Coal Wage Agreement

654 Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu:

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

- (a) the details of number of outsourcing companies engaged in coal production under Coal India limited (CIL) subsidiaries;
- (b) whether it is a fact that these companies are making payment to their workers as per Minimum Wages Act prevailing in the respective States where they are working, instead of making payment as per National Coal Wage Agreement (NCWA); and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that they are not implementing the existing labour law of Government prescribed for coal mines workers?

Pending coal projects

655 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

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

- (a) whether a large number of coal projects are pending in the country since 2015, due to one reason or the other; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise and location-wise?

Illegal coal mining in Meghalaya

656 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that illegal mining of coal in Meghalaya is continuing despite the ban by the National Green Tribunal (NGT);
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to stop illegal mining there;
- (c) the amount of loss it causes to Government; and
- (d) whether it is also a fact that cement and power companies are hand in glove with illegal mining activities and they owe forty three crore rupees as fine which they have not deposited?

Allocation of coal blocks

657 Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) whether Government has made any assessment regarding total coal reserves in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, quality-wise and State-wise;

- (c) whether Government has allocated any coal block in year 2020;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the number of coal blocks yet to be allocated?

Revision of coal royalty

658 **Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

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

- (a) the steps being undertaken by Government to revise coal royalty; and
- (b) whether there are any plans to increase coal royalty for States like Odisha who contribute immensely?

Measures taken to equip and modernise Army

659 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

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

- (a) the details of measures being taken to equip and modernise the Army to enable it to face the emerging challenges; and
- (b) whether the indigenously armoured tank/ arms have been developed to meet the demand of the Indian Army to tackle the alarming situation?

Development of a conventional submarine

660 **Shri A. D. Singh:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a former Defence Minister had approved the development of a conventional submarine under the aegis of the DRDO and the country is still planning to produce under license six more conventional submarines, under transfer of technology provision; and
- (b) the development status of the conventional submarine and reasoning behind going ahead with the licensed production of another foreign submarine in view of the fact that while the country can design and produce a Nuclear Submarine, the Nation after seventy years still needs license to produce conventional submarines?

Achieving self-reliance in special clothing

661 **Shri Sanjay Raut:**

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

- (a) whether Government is considering to attain self-reliance and reducing import of special clothing and mountaineering equipment to strengthen Army troops in high altitude areas, particularly in Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

Malabar naval exercises

662 **Shri K. Somaprasad:**

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

- (a) whether Government has decided to continue the Malabar series of exercises, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has evaluated the scope, impact and geopolitical implications of

Malabar series of naval exercises with respect to the present international scenario, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of member nations of 'Quad' participated in the latest Malabar exercise?

Disinvestment of Defence sector CPSUs

663 **Shri K.K. Ragesh:**

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

(a) whether any Defence sector Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) are set for disinvestment;

(b) if so, the details of the CPSUs and the products being produced by them; and

(c) the reasons for disinvestment of the defence sector CPSUs?

Items procured for defence forces posted at China border

664 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has procured items for defence forces posted at China border especially in Laddakh area;

(b) whether any special allowance has been extended to the families of forces; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Defence Startups

665 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning 250 defence startups over next five years;

(b) whether Government has identified projects to be taken up under startup scheme, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a need to strengthen Research and Development in defence manufacturing, steps taken by Government in this regard;

(d) whether Government is planning to expand innovations for Defence Excellence Initiative and earmark at least Rs.500 crore for this initiative; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to bring together innovators with public and private sector industry and to make the country exporter of defence technologies?

Decrease in budget spending for Defence

666 **Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the total budget allocation for Defence as a percentage of projected Gross Domestic Product has been consistently decreasing for the last four years; and

(b) if so, the reasons for consistently decreasing the budget spending for Defence; and

(c) whether there is a lack of proper protective clothing/gear for Defence personnel, if so, the details thereof?

Defence Corridors in Tamil Nadu

667 **Shri P. Wilson:**

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

- (a) whether Government has monitored the progress of Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor Project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the number of meetings held so far in this regard and the action taken thereof;
- (d) the details of the steps taken by Government to invite private companies to invest in this projects; and
- (e) the details of the deadline fixed by Government to complete this project?

Gender ratio in the armed forces

668 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

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

- (a) the number of men and women employed separately in the three wings of the defence forces, service-wise;
- (b) the percentage of women personnel in all the three services of armed forces as compared to percentage of men, service-wise;
- (c) whether there has been an increase in the number of women joining the defence forces; and
- (d) the measures taken to increase the participation of women in the defence forces?

Defence manufacturing hubs

669 # **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to make defence manufacturing hubs in various States including Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total number of persons likely to be involved in these industrial hubs; and
- (d) whether investment agreements are likely to be signed in this regard?

Quality of food for jawans

670 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

- (a) the number of complaints received in the last three years over the quality of food by the jawans, year-wise;
- (b) whether there is a complaint box at various units where a jawan can complain against the poor quality of food without his name being disclosed;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, reasons for the same;
- (e) whether regular surveys are being carried out among jawans to understand whether they are satisfied with the quality of food they are getting;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Army men under stress

671 **Shri K.P. Munusamy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the army men are under severe stress in the force losing more soldiers every year due to suicides, fratricides and untoward incidents on the borders;
- (b) if so, the reasons thereof and whether Government has any proposal to rehabilitate the soldiers for the last three years; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Nagar Van scheme

672 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of Nagar Van scheme announced by the Ministry recently;
- (b) the details of municipalities and corporations identified under the above scheme, with a particular reference to Karnataka; and
- (c) the details of funds going to be arranged by the Ministry for this purpose and details of role of States, municipalities and corporations to develop forest in urban areas?

Expansion of forest cover

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

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan in respect of environment conservation and expansion of forest cover;
- (b) if so, the details of expanded forest cover by means of afforestation;
- (c) the details of funds provided for conservation and afforestation during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and
- (d) the details of the funds allocated and amount utilised in this regard?

Utilization of the CAMPA fund towards tribal welfare

674 **Shri Bikash Ranjan:**

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) fund has been used towards the welfare of the tribal communities during the lockdown;
- (b) if so, the total number of beneficiaries, State-wise; and
- (c) the manner in which projects are being executed without having final forest clearance under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980?

Meetings of EAC

675 **Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) meetings since 2017, month-wise;
- (b) the details of the environmental clearance proposals that the EAC has deliberated upon since 2017, month-wise;
- (c) the details of the proposals passed during each meeting of the EAC since 2018;

- (d) the details of the proposals rejected during each meeting of the EAC since 2018; and
- (e) whether the time spent by EAC on discussing and deliberating upon proposals is consistent with international standards, in particular, with the practice within the European Union or United States of America, and if so, the details thereof?

National Clean Air Programme

676 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the list of cities identified under the National Clean Air Programme to improve the ambient air quality;
- (b) the action plan prepared to assess the development since the launch of programme, city-wise; and
- (c) the extent to which air pollution has further worsened the conditions in Delhi and efforts being made to improve the air quality?

Deforestation of trees in Goa

677 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to cut fifty thousand trees in two protected forest areas in Goa to make way for three central projects;
- (b) the details of the number of trees cut across the country during the last three years for various development purposes, year-wise, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) the action Government proposes to take to save the trees and forests at the altar of development?

Plastic Elimination and National Marine Litter Policy

678 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per Economic Advisory Council's report on Coastal Marine Spatial Planning and Tourism, Government has taken steps to draft a Plastic Elimination and National Marine Litter Policy, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps for enactment of suitable legislation and regulations for coastal regulation and planning along with policy guidelines for marine pollution and litter needs?

National Afforestation Programme

679 **Shri Dinesh Trivedi:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has achieved the annual targeted area of afforestation under the National Afforestation Programme during the last three years;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps Government plans to undertake in order to achieve the same;
- (d) whether Government plans to increase the allocation of funds to the National Afforestation Programme for the same; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Spread of invasive Lantana plants in tiger habitats

680 Shri Dinesh Trivedi:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken serious note of spread of invasive Lantana plants in tiger habitats across India that has resulted in scarcity of native forage plants for wild herbivores;
- (b) whether Government has undertaken/plans to undertake any steps for ecological restoration of Lantana invaded landscapes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including area restored till date out of total Lantana invaded area;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government has commissioned any research to understand how native vegetation responds to various Lantana removal practices like uprooting, weeding, fire, etc.; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Compensatory Afforestation in Telangana

681 Dr. Banda Prakash:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has compiled a list of locations and corresponding acreage where compensatory afforestation was carried out in the State of Telangana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof since 2016, district-wise and year-wise; and
- (c) the sanction, release and utilization of CAMPA funds since 2016, State-wise and year-wise?

Restoration of Senchal-Tiger hill temperate forest range

682 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Senchal-Tiger hill temperate forest range is a valuable catchment area for natural water storage that supplies water to people of Darjeeling town and tourists;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that it is in a denudated state as poachers and firewood collectors are still active in the region;
- (c) whether there is any plan to restore the original structure of the forest range in this particular area; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor?

Diseases due to air pollution

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

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that air pollution is causing many diseases and untimely deaths;
- (b) the names of diseases caused by air pollution;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that targeted success is not being achieved to check air pollution and as a result air quality is worsening day by day; and
- (d) action taken by Government in this regard?

Conservation of forests in the western ghats of Karnataka

684 Shri G.C. Chandrashekhara:

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) the schemes taken up by Government for the conservation of forests, wildlife, and the environment in western ghats of Karnataka during 2018-19 and 2019-20;
- (b) the amount provided by Government for this during the said period, project-wise;
- (c) the achievements made under each project during the said period; and
- (d) the budgetary allocation made for these projects during the interim budget for 2020-21?

Impact of diet on climate change

685 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any assessment was done on impact of animal agriculture on climate change and increase in factory animal farming and Green House Gas (GHG) emissions in India, if so, details thereof;
- (b) impact of waste disposal from slaughterhouses on environment;
- (c) details of major waste centres used for dumping by slaughterhouses, State-wise;
- (d) details of total carbon dioxide equivalent emissions by animal agriculture; and
- (e) the comparison of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions, water consumption and land area used for different food choices i.e. vegan vs vegetarian vs non vegetarian or plant based diet vs animal products based diet in Indian context?

Nagar Van Udyan Yojana

686 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised under the Nagar Van Udyan Yojana, during the last four years, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the details of land earmarked/plans approved for the development of urban forests under this scheme, during the last four years, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the details of roadmap and monitoring mechanism for the development of two hundred urban forests in the next five years;
- (d) whether Government plans to include urban green corridors under this initiative; if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of existing urban forests and protections in place for them, State/UT-wise?

Post environmental clearance monitoring

687 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of projects that have violated post environmental clearance norms and details of action taken against them during the last five years, the State/UT/sector/project-wise;
- (b) the details of projects that have not submitted their annual environment audit report during the last five years, State/UT/sector/project-wise;
- (c) whether Government has taken steps to monitor and enforce strict adherence to post clearance compliance norms;
- (d) if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government has taken steps to establish a National Environment Commission

to monitor environmental compliance of projects; and
(f) if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor?

Violation of Forest Conservation Act in construction of Char Dham road

688 Dr. C.M. Ramesh:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is alleged violation of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 during the construction of Char Dham road in Uttarakhand, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Himalayan ecosystem across the entire stretch is also going to be affected; and
- (c) whether the work has been undertaken on the basis of any recommendation of an Expert Committee, if so, the details thereof?

National Board for Wildlife

689 Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of times the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) has met since 2014, year-wise;
- (b) the number of wildlife clearances for projects granted by the NBWL since 2014, year-wise;
- (c) the maximum legally sanctioned number of independent members on the Board; and
- (d) the number of independent members at present serving on the Board?

Relaxation of norms for environmental clearance

690 Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has relaxed norms of environmental clearance for the new industrial projects in the country;
- (b) if so, the salient features of such relaxation of norms;
- (c) the number of environmental clearances the Ministry has issued during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (d) the details of environmental clearances granted in last three years, State-wise?

Conservation of medicinal plants

691 Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken steps in coordination with Departments of Forest and the Ministry of AYUSH for environmental conservation and promotion of medicinal plants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total area of forest used for this coordination and the area developed for the medicinal plants in Kerala; and
- (d) the total area of forest devoted in Kerala for coordinated environmental conservation jointly by the Ministry with the Ministry of AYUSH?

Clearance to setup industries on islands and deep sea areas

692 Shri Ripun Bora:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is required to give special permission and clearance to setup industries or projects on the islands and the deep sea areas of the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that apart from environmental feasibility, seismographic and volcano seismic signals clearance, compliance reports are also required, to set up such projects; and
- (c) if so, the details of clearance certificate issued during the last three years including the transshipment zone for Great Nicobar and if not, the reasons therefor?

Environmental appraisal of industrial projects

693 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government wants to expedite the environmental appraisal of industrial projects, as per norms for 'fast track green', if so, the details thereof and progress made thereon; and
- (b) if not, the reasons for pendency, State-wise?

Pollution due to Central Vista Redevelopment project

694 Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has considered the impact of the Central Vista Redevelopment project on the air pollution levels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is aware that nearly 416 sq. km of dense forest cover will be needed to offset the carbon footprint of the project; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken to address the same and if not, whether the Ministry has alternate estimates of the forest cover needed to offset the carbon footprint?

The Eco Sensitive Zone of Dibru Saikhowa National Park and Dehing-Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary

695 Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of Dibru Saikhowa National Park and Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary has been brought down to zero kilometer in the southern boundary of the said protected areas; and
- (b) whether it is defeating the very purpose of creating such Eco Sensitive Zone's as "Shock Absorbers" as envisaged by the National Wildlife Action Plan, 2002, Wildlife Conservation Strategy, 2002 and National/State Forest Policy?

Plantation in private sector

696 # Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning a special scheme to promote plantation in private sector;

- (b) if so, the amount being provided to the State of Madhya Pradesh under this scheme; and
- (c) if not, whether Government is considering any such scheme?

Delegation of rights regarding forestry

697 # Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the panchayats in Madhya Pradesh have been delegated any powers in respect of forestry; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Collaboration with tribals to increase forest cover

698 Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are schemes in place to encourage collaboration with local tribes or groups to improve forest coverage;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Afforestation of degraded areas

699 Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a national level monitoring system to map the afforestation and regeneration of degraded areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Environmental clearance for projects in Tamil Nadu

700 Shri P. Wilson:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the project proposals from the State of Tamil Nadu pending before the Ministry for grant of environmental clearance;
- (b) the details of each of the pending projects along with the time of its pendency;
- (c) the details of various stages of clearance of each project, project-wise; and
- (d) the reasons for pendency of projects and the time by which the pending project proposals are likely to be cleared?

Draft EIA 2020 notification

701 Shri Derek O' Brien:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of public comments that Government received on the draft Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) 2020 notification;
- (b) the status of taking into consideration the public comments on draft EIA 2020 and the number of comments considered/incorporated out of them; and
- (c) the number of ex post facto environmental clearance given by Government during the last five years and whether Government recorded the volume of total environmental

degradation caused because of it?

Environmental approval of projects

702 # Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received requests from various States for environmental approval;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the list of the projects which were accorded environmental approval, State-wise?

E-buses under FAME India Scheme

703 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:

Will the Minister of ***Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of proposals the Ministry has received for the procurement of e-buses by transport agencies under Phase-II of Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles (FAME) India Scheme since 2019;
- (b) the number of proposals concerning such e-buses that have already been sanctioned since August 2019;
- (c) the amount released for procurement of e-buses under the phase II of Fame India since 2019 and the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the allotted funds have already been utilised by the concerned operators?

Performance of PSEs

704 Dr. Banda Prakash:

Will the Minister of ***Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the performance of the Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) under Government during the financial year 2020;
- (b) the results of the Navratna companies during this period in critical sectors; and
- (c) whether there has been any cost cutting efforts in these companies leading to job losses and if so, the details thereof?

Transfer of the Instrumentation Limited, Palakkad

705 Shri Elamaram Kareem:

Will the Minister of ***Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) status of transfer of Palakkad Unit of Instrumentation Limited to Government of Kerala;
- (b) reason behind inordinate delay in process even after getting the 'in-principle' approval of the Union Cabinet and signing of tripartite Memorandum of Understanding between Central Government, Kerala Government and Instrumentation Limited;
- (c) the justification for argument of Ministry that value of land owned by Palakkad Unit should also be taken into consideration for transfer when land was originally allotted to Instrumentation Limited by Kerala Government for starting its unit; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that Central Government is stepping back from transfer decision?

Status of construction of toilets by CPSEs

706 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

Will the Minister of ***Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether reports on the construction of toilets by the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) showed glaring inconsistencies and gaps in implementation including non-existent, partially-constructed and poorly-maintained toilets;
- (b) if so, the steps taken against such PSEs for allegedly mismanaging the public money;
- (c) whether there is any scope of misappropriation of funds given for toilet construction by the CPSEs officials; and
- (d) the details of the number of officials reprimanded or punished for such poor performance, including names, designations and exact action taken against such officials?

Closing down of HPC Limited

707 Shri Ripun Bora:

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to close down the Hindustan Paper Corporation (HPC) Limited;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that a claim of ₹ 2900 crores are pending with the Central Government alongwith ₹ 850 crores of employee liability thereof;
- (c) if so, reasons for not making any payment to the employees of Cachar Paper Mill since 2015 and to the employees of Jagiroad mill of Naogaon since 2017; and
- (d) the details of the decision of Government and a time bound proposal in clearance of payments of the creditors and employees therein?

Establishment of new heavy industrial units

708 # Shri Sanjay Seth:

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the new heavy industrial units established during the last three years, including the number of people getting employment in each unit;
- (b) whether Government has received any proposal in respect of heavy industrial units from Uttar Pradesh; and
- (c) if so, the details of the said project along with its present status?

Policy to purchase goods and services from MSEs

709 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudde:

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any policy has been adopted by Government to purchase goods and services from Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs);
- (b) if so, the statistics for the period from 2010-15 and 2015-20;
- (c) the sectors in which the Ministry has made such purchases and the sector-wise details of purchases made since the lockdown; and
- (d) the details of the amount spent on these purchases?

Land possessed by Public Enterprises

710 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of public Enterprises that own more than 25 acres land;
- (b) the number of PSUs which monetised their land to increase capital flow;
- (c) if not monetised, then the reasons for that;
- (d) whether Government will form the committee to examine the issue of monetisation of

spare land of public enterprises?

Performance of Prasar Bharati

711 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

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

- (a) performance of Prasar Bharati during the last three years;
- (b) the Scheme of Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development (BIND) to modernize and strengthen infrastructure of Prasar Bharati which expired last year;
- (c) whether Government plans to extend this scheme further as modernization and providing infrastructure in Prasar Bharati is yet to reach its objective; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Guidelines on the television rating agencies

712 Shri Vaiko:

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

- (a) whether the Committee headed by Prasar Bharati CEO to review the guidelines on the television rating agencies in India submitted its report to the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what future course of action is being taken to ensure greater transparency in the Television Rating Points (TRP) system and ensure that it is not manipulated; and
- (d) whether any monitoring is being done by high level Committee to ensure fairness, if so, the details thereof?

Changes in content of films after certification

713 Shri A. Vijayakumar:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that many changes in content of feature films are made due to the pressure group after the permission of Central Board of Film Certificate (CBFC), in particular, Tamil Film Industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken against those producers of Tamil Film Industry who changes after CBFC certified content?

Manipulation of TV rating

714 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that certain media channels have tried to manipulate the system of Television ratings through corrupt means;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has ordered any study into the issue of Television channels manipulating Television Rating Points (TRP) using corrupt means;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the preventive measures being planned by Government to avoid such things from happening in the future?

Radio Performance in India

715 **Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that radio is a very important tool of communication;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken note that radio proves to be effective in keeping the language alive in a vast country like India;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) what measures are being taken to increase the popularity of radio; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Monitoring of OTT platforms

716 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to monitor "Over The Top" (OTT) platforms or video streaming service providers like Netflix, Amazon Prime and others under the ambit with framing of proper laws or autonomous body governing digital content which were unregulated till now;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and present status thereof along with laws regulated/amended in this regard; and
- (c) the violations noticed in implementation/action taken thereon so far and if not, the reasons therefor?

Mechanism to regulate OTT platform

717 **Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

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

- (a) whether Government has set up a mechanism to regulate the content of "Over The Top" (OTT) platform; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Making AIR and Doordarshan profitable

718 **Shri K.J. Alphons:**

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

- (a) whether All India Radio (AIR) is making a profit;
- (b) whether Doordarshan is making a profit;
- (c) whether the clientele of both these organisations has gone up during the past ten years; and
- (d) by what percentage the advertisement revenue of these organisations has gone up during the said period?

Objectionable programmes on private TV networks

719 **Shri Anil Desai:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that there are a number of instances when objectionable programmes have been shown on private Television networks;
- (b) whether there is any control over the programmes shown by various private Television

networks similar to film censor board for films; and

(c) whether Government is considering issuing any guidelines for such network?

Installation of water recycling plants

720 Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision of recycling of water under drinking water schemes; and

(b) if so, the details of the plants installed for recycling of water in rural areas of the country, State-wise?

Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project

721 Shri Rajeev Satav:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP II) is being implemented to improve the safety of dams and its operational performance and if so, the details thereof alongwith any time frame that has been fixed for this project;

(b) whether around 80 per cent of the large dams are facing distress and are in need of attention for ensuring operational efficiency and structural safety; and

(c) if so, whether Government has been able to safeguard these dams through DRIP since its inception in several States and if so, details thereof and if not, steps taken in this regard?

Shifting of location of dams

722 Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States have raised the demand for shifting dams, located within their boundaries to other areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard?

Model bill on water regulatory mechanism

723 Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expert groups set up by Government on an uniform National Water Policy and to protect its reckless use have given their recommendations to Government from time to time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a model bill has been recently circulated to the States for setting up water regulatory mechanism;

(d) if so, the response of the State Governments on this bill; and

(e) the details of other concrete steps taken to check exploitation of groundwater?

Revival of water bodies in Andhra Pradesh

724 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 100 water bodies have been identified in Andhra Pradesh for

revival;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that ₹ 70 crore is the estimated cost for this purpose; and

(d) the details of water bodies so far been revived out of 100 water bodies, district-wise?

Inter-linking of rivers

725 Shri Vaiko:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating any special scheme for inter-linking of rivers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the new schemes are different from the earlier schemes which are already being implemented; and

(c) the rivers which are likely to be inter-linked under river inter-linking scheme in Southern part of India and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

Provision of pure drinking water

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

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by Government to provide pure drinking water to all people in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether Government has implemented an action plan at national level to overcome the crisis of drinking water in various parts of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Water pollution due to animal waste disposal

727 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

(a) whether waste produced by cows, buffaloes, sheep, goats, pigs, chickens and other slaughter houses raised for food in India wind up in the nation's water bodies, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the amount of waste generated by slaughter houses and dumped in water bodies for last three years;

(c) details of water dumping areas in regard to animal waste, State-wise;

(d) whether there is toxicity in underground water or waterways due to animal waste disposal, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any impact assessment has been done on slaughter house waste disposal on waterways, if so, details thereof?

Drying up of rivers due to sand mining

728 # Shri Kailash Soni:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of rivers have dried up due to sand mining; and

(b) if so, the actual numbers thereof?

Reliable and sustainable supply of water

729 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the overall strategy of Government to provide reliable and sustainable water supply to the people of country;
- (b) whether the deficiencies in providing water supply have been identified;
- (c) if so, the manner in which those deficiencies will be addressed;
- (d) the structural reforms proposed by Government with regard to water supply; and
- (e) the schemes for infrastructural investment in water supply?

Status of Jal Shakti Abhiyaan

730 **Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's Jal Shakti Abhiyaan is a truly transformational project that will impact health and dignity of millions of Indians; and
- (b) the status of the Jal Shakti Abhiyaan in Karnataka in general and particularly in the city of Bengaluru?

Promotion of rain water harvesting

731 # **Shri Brijlal:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of work to be undertaken at rural level in order to promote rain water harvesting;
- (b) whether any scheme is under consideration to install rain water harvesting systems in old structured residential houses; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Impact of COVID on SBM

732 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of districts covered under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) details of funds allocated, sanctioned, released and spent on above identified districts since implementation of SBM, district-wise and year-wise;
- (c) details of physical targets set and achieved under SBM; and
- (d) whether there is any impact on SBM due to COVID and if so, the details thereof?

Agreement for Sludge Management Framework

733 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has signed an agreement with Norwegian Institute of Bio-economy Research for development of sludge management framework in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the current methods by which the nodal agencies in the country deal with the sludge accumulating in the rivers and the details thereof?

Providing tap connection under JJM

734 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of houses that have been provided tap connections under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) during the last two years;
- (b) the number of houses that have been provided tap connections in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the said period; and
- (c) the break up of the tap connections provided during the last two years and the funds allocated and utilized for the same, State-wise?

Piped water connection in rural areas

735 Shri M. Shanmugam:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has the data of the rural household in the country who don not have the piped water connection and if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized for piped water connection in the country;
- (c) the details of the target set and achievements made so far; and
- (d) whether Government has constituted village and water sanitation committees for this purpose and if so, the details thereof including Tamil Nadu?

Package to people affected by Polavaram project

736 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to ensure that adequate rehabilitation package have been given to people displaced due to Polavaram project in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of modalities/procedures that have been followed to give compensation to Project Affected People (PAP) of Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP); and
- (d) the details of beneficiaries to whom rehabilitation package has been given till now?

Construction works of Polavaram Irrigation Project

737 Shri Y. S. Chowdary:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that construction works of Polavaram Irrigation Project in Andhra Pradesh is yet to be completed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

Funds for rural sanitation system

738 Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the funds allocated to various States for rural sanitation system during the last five years remained unused or were utilised for some other purpose; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

Reducing the height of Polavaram Project

739 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Government is aware that Andhra Pradesh Government is contemplating on reducing the height of the Polavaram Project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the schedule of the completion of the project?

Setting up of AWFT

740 **Shri Rajeev Satav:**

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of setting up of Artisan Welfare Fund Trust (AWFT) ;
- (b) the contribution made by artisans and Khadi institutions towards the trusts;
- (c) the number of AWFT set up by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the quantum of funds available with the AWFT during each of the last three years and the number of artisans benefitted out of it;
- (e) whether Government has made any assessment on the working of AWFT and if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (f) the other steps taken by Government for the welfare of Khadi artisans?

MSMEs benefitted by Government's packages

741 **Shri Bikash Ranjan:**

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

the total number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) who could derive benefit from the package declared by Government?

Establishment of New Technology Centres/Extension Centres Scheme

742 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of impact of the new Scheme, "Establishment of New Technology Centres(TCs)/Extension Centres(ECs)", launched in 2018 to increase the outreach of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Technology Centres in the country; and
- (b) whether there has been an increase in employment generation in the catchment areas of TCs/ECs after introduction of the said Scheme and if so, the details thereof?

MSMEs shut down during Corona pandemic

743 # **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) that were shut down in the country during the last one year and the details of the steps taken to resume production from such industries/enterprises at present;
- (b) the major causes for closure of MSMEs during Corona pandemic; and
- (c) the number of workers who have lost their jobs in the said enterprises and the steps

taken to restore the jobs of such workers?

Manpower in MSMEs sector

744 Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of people working in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof from 2014 to 2020, State-wise;
- (c) the details of social security and job safety of the workers employed in the MSMEs sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

MSMEs under EDB

745 Dr. Ameer Yajnik:

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

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken/being taken by Government to create favorable conditions to propel and boost Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector under Ease of Doing Business (EDB);
- (b) the success achieved so far in this regard during the last two years; and
- (c) whether Government has formulated any model law to regulate the functioning of MSMEs in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan for MSMEs

746 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of the financial incentive schemes that have been put into motion under the Atmanirbhar package for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and the beneficiaries thereof; and
- (b) details of the finances disbursed to start-ups during the last four years and current year, State-wise?

Promotion of Khadi and Village Commission

747 Dr. Bhagwat Karad:

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to promote and export products manufactured in villages through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to generate employment for persons during the last three years through the KVIC;
- (d) the details of schemes initiated for this purpose; and
- (e) the names of States which are likely to benefit from the said proposal including Maharashtra?

Promotion of MSMEs Sector

748 Dr. Bhagwat Karad:

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of various schemes and programmes implemented by Government for the growth and development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Sector in the country;
- (b) the steps taken by Government for easy availability of loan, technology upgradation and R&D activities in the MSMEs Sector;
- (c) the number of women entrepreneurs benefited under the said programme, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government for effective implementation of the programme including hike in the existing ceiling of financial assistance for MSMEs?

Plan to review policy of MSMEs

749 Shri Shwait Malik:

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to review the policy of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs);
- (b) if so, when Government is planning to table the new policy bill in Parliament; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Platform for traditional artisans and craftsmen

750 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to provide a platform for products made by traditional artisans and craftsmen in various parts of the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Adjustment of margin money under PMEGP

751 Shri Prashanta Nanda:

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps in order to avoid delay in adjustment of margin money under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Institutional and financial assistance to MSMEs

752 Shri Derek O' Brien:

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) operating in the country before the year 2020, the current number of MSMEs operating in the country and details of the number of MSMEs closed down/suffered because of COVID-19;
- (b) the details of institutional and financial assistance provided to MSMEs post COVID-19 lockdown in March, 2020; and
- (c) the monetary value addition done by MSMEs in the country?

Loan under PMEGP

753 Shri M. Shanmugam:

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the loans under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)/Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana are properly disbursed to the youths in various States, including Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) the quantum of loans given to youths in Tamil Nadu under the scheme during each of the last three years and the current year and the targets fixed/achieved during the said period; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to achieve the said targets and to disburse the funds under PMEGP in a proportionate manner?

Impact of lockdown/pandemic on MSMEs sector

754 Shri K.C. Venugopal:

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of actions taken by Government to revive the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) which has been seriously impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown;
- (b) whether Government has assessed the impact of lockdown/pandemic on MSMEs sectors in the country;
- (c) the details of economic impact and job loss on MSMEs sector; and
- (d) whether Government has sanctioned any exclusive financial assistance for the revival of MSMEs sector in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Illegal mining

755 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

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

- (a) the details of number of cases of illegal mining registered during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the details of all companies/ persons involved in illegal mining and whether they have been issued demand notices ever or any fine was imposed on them, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the amount of fine imposed/ recovered by Central/ State Governments so far, during the last three years; and
- (d) the details of steps taken by Central/State Governments so far, to identify and stop illegal mining during the last three years?

Impact of COVID-19 on salaries of mining workers

756 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

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

- (a) the impact of COVID-19 on mining workers' salaries and number of layoffs in the year 2020; and
- (b) the number of mining accidents during the last three years and the steps taken by the Ministry to reduce these?

Cracking of house walls due to heavy blasting

757 # Smt. Chhaya Verma:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that many metals are extracted through heavy blasting from mines located in Chhattisgarh which causes cracks in the walls of nearby houses and people are scared of their houses falling down and many problems are also cropping up due to heavy blasting;
- (b) whether steps have been taken for compliance of the norms at the time of heavy blasting; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

District Mining Fund

758 Shri Prashanta Nanda:

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

whether any measure have been taken by the Ministry to increase the spending of the District Mining Fund?

Treatment of mine water

759 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe:

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

- (a) the details of efforts made during the last five years for treating mine water and providing it to people living near the mine blocks; and
- (b) the details of projects planned for better usage of mine water for various domestic and industrial purposes in the coming years?

DMF in Chhattisgarh

760 # Shri Ram Vichar Netam:

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

- (a) the status of setting up of District Mineral Foundation (DMF) in each district of Chhattisgarh affected by mining operations;
- (b) the amount of funds received and utilised under DMF in the Sarguja, Balrampur-Ramanujgunj, Koriya, Korba, Surajpur and Jashpur districts of Chhattisgarh during the last two years;
- (c) whether any monitoring mechanism is in place to prevent the diversion of funds for any purpose other than welfare of the people living in mining districts, if so, details thereof; and
- (d) whether DMF has been stopped or diverted to any other scheme in Chhattisgarh due to COVID-19, if so, details thereof?

Land under custody of Waqf Boards

761 Shri Syed Zafar Islam:

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

the details of total land under the custody of Waqf Boards, State/UT-wise, including Uttar Pradesh?

Free coaching to minority students

762 **Shri Syed Zafar Islam:**

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

- (a) the details of coaching institutions providing free coaching to minority students in the country, including Uttar Pradesh and criteria to select coaching centres and the teachers;
- (b) the details of the students who have benefited under scholarship, free coaching and allied schemes during the last two years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of funds allocated for this purpose during the last three years, State-wise including Uttar Pradesh?

PMJVK in Maharashtra

763 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

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

- (a) whether Government has implemented projects under Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) in Maharashtra;
- (b) the details of the schools/colleges, health centres, hostels, drinking water facilities, polytechnics, Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), market sheds for artisans and farmers, sadbhav mandaps, job oriented skill development centres, Hunar hubs constructed under PMJVK in the State of Maharashtra; and
- (c) the total budget allocated and utilized by the State of Maharashtra under the project?

Minority development work in Odisha

764 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) the amount of funds earmarked for minority development work in Odisha during the last two years; and
- (b) the utilisation of the said funds, scheme-wise?

Upliftment of ethnic minorities in Odisha

765 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government for the upliftment of ethnic minorities in Odisha with respect to education and employment opportunities during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government provides any scholarship to ethnic minorities in Odisha at the graduate/university level;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has conducted any study to learn about the ground realities of ethnic minorities in Odisha; and
- (e) if so, the details of the study and if not, the reasons therefor?

Haj embarkation point at Calicut International Airport

766 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Haj Committee of India did not list Calicut International Airport as a Haj embarkation point this year;
- (b) if so, the reason for removing the Calicut Airport from the list of embarkation points;

- (c) whether Government has received any letter of request from the Calicut International Airport Authority or others to restore the same;
- (d) if so, the decision taken on the same; and
- (e) whether Government is ready to reconsider its earlier decision as there is huge public demand in the Malabar region to keep Calicut as an embarkation point?

Sagarmala Port connectivity in Andhra Pradesh

767 Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the railway projects undertaken for improved connectivity of ports in Andhra Pradesh under Sagarmala programme;
- (b) details of route, cost, length, status of implementation, etc., of above projects;
- (c) the highway/road projects undertaken for improved connectivity of ports in Andhra Pradesh under Sagarmala programme;
- (d) details of route, cost, length, status of implementation, etc., of above projects; and
- (e) list of railway and roadway projects under Sagarmala connecting Krishnapatnam port?

Prayagraj-Haldia waterway

768 Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia:

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Prayagraj-Haldia waterway (National Waterway 1) has seen a decline in number of freight-carriers during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken any initiative for deepening the Ganga river for smooth transportation of small ships in National Waterway; and
- (d) if so, the details of amount allocated and expenditure incurred on any such initiative during the last three years, year-wise?

Ferrying passengers and goods through rivers and lakes

769 Shri Anil Desai:

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of waterways which are presently in use to ferry passengers and goods through rivers and lakes etc;
- (b) whether it is a cheaper option in comparison to road, railways and the other modes of travels;
- (c) the safety devises which are compulsory while ferrying passengers and goods; and
- (d) whether any mishappenings took place during the last three years?

NHs in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

770 Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total length of National Highways (NHs) in the country in January 2014 and at present;
- (b) the length of Highways in 2014 and at present in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;
- (c) the National Highways projects completed since 2014 and ongoing projects in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;
- (d) the other NHs projects in the pipeline in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

- (e) the estimated length of NHs in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana by 2024; and
- (f) the estimated investment in NHs in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana during 2019 to 2024?

NHs constructed during COVID-19 pandemic

771 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the length of National Highways (NHs) in terms of kilometres constructed per day in the country during COVID-19 pandemic along with the total number of NHs constructed; and
- (b) the places where these highways have been constructed and the financial expenditure incurred?

NHs under construction in the country

772 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of National Highways (NHs) that are currently under construction in the country and the name of States where said highways are being constructed; and
- (b) the details about the facility that would be provided to the people after the construction of the same?

Progress of Bharatmala phase-II in AP

773 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) prepared so far under Bharatmala Phase-II, State-wise, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh (AP);
- (b) whether it is a fact that a lot of time has been lost in Phase-I due to delay in preparation of DPRs;
- (c) if so, whether the Ministry will prepare DPRs before the project is sanctioned or approved in the second phase to avoid delay;
- (d) the status of completion of Phase-I, with particular reference to AP; and
- (e) whether any land banks are being created under Phase-II, if so, the details thereof?

Conversion of SHs into NHs in West Bengal

774 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of West Bengal State Highways (SHs) which have been approved in principle for declaration as National Highways (NHs) during last three years along with the present position of those projects; and
- (b) steps taken by Government for declaration of those roads as NHs?

Status of NH in Kerala

775 Shri K.K. Ragesh:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) status of the National Highway (NH) stretches being developed/ expanded in Kerala;
- (b) the number of works going on as per schedule and the number of projects getting delayed; and
- (c) the reasons for delay, if any?

Illegal making of HSRP

776 # **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that many shopkeepers in Delhi are illegally making High Security Registration Plates (HSRP) and fixing them on vehicles; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Repair and maintenance of NHs

777 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is paying due attention to the repair and maintenance of National Highways (NHs);
- (b) the role of States in repair and maintenance of NHs; and
- (c) the funds allocated for maintenance and repair of NHs during the last two years?

Agencies involved in construction of Bhavnagar-Talaja NH

778 # **Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of agencies which were given the work of Bhavnagar-Talaja National Highway (NH) in the Gujarat State and when were they given the work and the time limit to complete this work;
- (b) the number of times this time limit has been extended and till when it has been extended, the details of the remaining work; and
- (c) the details of the action taken against the agency for not completing work in the actual time limit?

Toll tax collection of Bhavnagar-Talaja-Mahua NH

779 # **Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that toll tax is being collected on Bhavnagar-Talaja-Mahuva National Highway (NH) in the State of Gujarat, despite the fact that work on it is still incomplete?

Surpassing of Highway Construction Targets

780 **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government expects to exceed its 2020-21 construction target of 11,000 km before the end of Financial Year (FY);
- (b) if so, the specific factors that made this commendable feat possible;
- (c) the manner in which Government was able to sustain high rates of construction despite the COVID-19 lockdown;
- (d) whether the current spike in steel and cement prices will hamper its ability to meet similar standards in the upcoming FY; and
- (e) the positive takeaways and suggestions that other Ministries/ Departments may implement to similarly exceed annual targets in their respective fields?

Proposals for expansion/ widening of NHs

781 Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of proposals received by Government from various States including Kerala for expansion/widening of National Highways (NHs) during the last five years and the current year; and
- (b) the present status of those requests thereof?

Gopalpur-Digha Coastal Highway Project

782 Shri Sujeet Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

the current status of the Coastal Highway Project between Gopalpur and Digha?

Construction of a bridge over the river Brahmaputra connecting Majuli

783 Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal for constructing a bridge over the Brahmaputra river connecting Majuli, a world heritage site and Nimatighat;
- (b) if so, at what stage the proposal is pending;
- (c) whether there is any proposal for dredging of Brahmaputra River and construction of Highways by both side of the river; and
- (d) if so, at what stage the proposal is pending?

Highways and road projects in Punjab

784 Shri Shwait Malik:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has sanctioned any projects for construction of roads/highways in Punjab particularly in Amritsar since May, 2014;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the proposed schemes to be introduced in Punjab, district wise?

Road accidents and road safety audits in Odisha

785 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of road accidents and resultant deaths and injuries in Odisha in the past three years;
- (b) whether Government has been able to achieve its target of 50 per cent reduction in road accidents in 2020;
- (c) the details of the road safety audit conducted in Odisha in the last three years; and
- (d) the budgetary allocation thereof?

Remedial action to decongest traffic in traffic congested cities

786 Shri Neeraj Shekhar:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Indian cities among top ten most traffic congested cities of the world as per the latest report on global traffic congestion;
- (b) the details of remedial action taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether Government is aware of heavy traffic congestion on National Highways No. 31 and 20 and in cities, particularly in UP and Bihar; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has any concrete plan to decongest traffic on NHs passing through the cities in UP and Bihar;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- if not, the reasons therefor?

Technical institutes and engineering colleges

787 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has requested reputed technical institutes and engineering colleges to adopt nearby stretches of National Highways (NHs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any technical institutes and engineering colleges have adopted stretches of NH near to them;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Construction of all weather road in Uttarakhand

788 # Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the approval has been accorded for the construction of all weather roads in Uttarakhand;
- (b) if so, whether any limit has been fixed for the construction of this motorable road; and
- (c) if so, the estimated cost of this road, and by when it is likely to be completed?

Status of Vaishali-Samastipur-Begusarai Road

789 # Shri Ram Nath Thakur:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Vaishali-Begusarai via Samastipur road which passes through Mahnar-Mohiuddinnagar and connects Bachhwara and which runs through the dense population along the Ganga river is difficult to travel because of its dilapidated condition;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the said road has been included in the National Highways (NH); and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and by when this dilapidated road would be reconstructed?

Utilisation of CSR funds for promotion of rural sports

790 # Shri Narayan Rane:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that assistance of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds was sought to promote rural sports, however, no decision with regard to percentage of CSR funds has been taken so far;
- (b) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the funds allocated/ utilised during the last three years for promotion of rural sports under CSR?

Projects completed under USIS

791 # **Shri Narayan Rane:**

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the projects which have been cleared under Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme (USIS) during the last three years;
- (b) the number of projects completed out of the said projects; and
- (c) the names of the projects out of the said projects which have not been completed within stipulated time?

Autonomy in selection of sportspersons

792 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether sports authorities exercise autonomy while selecting players for various sports/ competitions; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Promotion of talented players from weaker sections

793 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any special provision to promote talented players from weaker sections in various international sports competitions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the efforts made by Government in this regard; and
- (c) the details of other steps taken by Government to encourage the players for these competitions and to enhance their performance level?

Inclusion of new sports discipline for sports quota

794 # **Shri Ram Shakal:**

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has introduced twenty new sports discipline including 'Mallakhamb' and 'Sepak Takraw' under the sports quota for employment purposes; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Emergence of sports talent from small cities

795 # **Shri Ram Shakal:**

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether sportsmen from small cities are emerging due to programmes like 'Khelo India' and 'Target Olympic Podium Scheme';
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the programmes started for training in the field of sports by Government?

Khelo India scheme

796 # Smt. Kanta Kardam:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Khelo India scheme has been successfully launched across the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the budget allocated for the scheme during 2019-20; and
- (c) the details of the funds released during the said period under the scheme, particularly for Uttar Pradesh, State/UT-wise?

Encouraging rural youth towards sports

797 Dr. Ameer Yajnik:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any special action plan to promote sports in rural areas by encouraging rural youth towards sports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the funds allocated by Government in this regard during the last three years, State-wise?

Modernising the SAI centres

798 Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to modernise the Sports Authority of India (SAI) centers across India including Bengaluru and the State of Karnataka; and
- (b) the amount of funds allocated and utilized for the purpose of strengthening and encouraging sportspersons from backward regions in Karnataka?

Restoration of railway fare concession for athletes

799 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has requested Union Railway Minister to restore the fare concessions for athletes travelling for various sports meets;
- (b) whether any response has been received from the Ministry of Railways; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Financial assistance to sportspersons during lockdown

800 # Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether financial grants have been provided to the players on account of closure of sports activities at various levels during lockdown;
- (b) if so, the details of number of players and their levels who have been provided grants, amount-wise, State-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has identified the players whose financial condition is miserable?

New Delhi
The 2nd February, 2021
13 Magha, 1942 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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