

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, March 8, 2021/ 17 Phalguna, 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

Impact of commercial coal mining on ecology

1441 **Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

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

- (a) the details of coal mines offered through auction by Government for commercial mining, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the details of the Environmental Impact Assessments that were undertaken for each coal mine, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that many locals are opposed to these projects and the details of the effect of commercial mining in these coal mines on locals;
- (d) the details of the forest cover lost due to commercial mining in these coal mines, State/UT/area-wise; and
- (e) the details of the impact of commercial mining in these coal mines on flora, fauna, soil and ecosystem of the region, State/UT-wise?

Target fixed for coal production

1442 # **Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

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

- (a) the coal production target fixed by Government till the year 2025; and
- (b) the details of steps taken by Government in this direction to achieve this target?

Downgrading of coal mines

1443 # **Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

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

- (a) whether grades of 177 out of 386 mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) have been downgraded as compared to grades declared in 2016-2017;
- (b) whether coal being sold through e-tenders in many coal mines is sold in collusion with the contractors, who show the coal as down grade, causing huge loss to the income of the Ministry; and
- (c) the number of times surprise inspection has been conducted in last three years by

various agencies for the inspection of the grade of coal, being sold through e-tenders and the enquiry reports thereof, agency-wise?

International cooperation with coal producing countries

1444 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has initiated any major policies for international cooperation with the advanced coal producing countries in the last five years, if so, the details thereof, country-wise;
- (b) the details of total bilateral funds received from these countries for import of equipment, new technologies for efficient management in the coal industry and skill development and training during the last five years, sector-wise; and
- (c) the details of total foreign financial assistance to meet the investment requirement in the coal sector in the last five years?

Import of coal

1445 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

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

- (a) whether coal has been imported in the nation from 2014 onwards;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, along with the quantity of coal imported during the last five years and the current year, country-wise;
- (c) the cost of imported coal as compared to indigenously produced coal; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to boost its production?

Lack of drinking water facility for labourers inside coal mines

1446 # Shri Deepak Prakash:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken cognisance of the fact that there is lack of drinking water facility for the labourers and other staff inside coal mines or at sites; and
- (b) if so, the guidelines of Government in this regard?

Cases pending under appeal before AMRCD

1447 Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu:

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

- (a) the number of appeal cases between Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) and Hindustan Steelworks Corporation Limited (HSC) pending for final decision before the Cabinet Secretary for dispute settlement under Administrative Mechanism for Resolution of CPSEs Disputes (AMRCD);
- (b) the details of cases received, disposed and status of pending cases, date-wise; and
- (c) the time taken by Cabinet Secretary for disposal of such appeals filed before him?

Vacancies of SC, ST and OBCs in coal sector CPSUs

1448 Shri K.K. Ragesh:

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

- (a) whether the vacancies reserved for SC, ST and OBCs remains vacant in coal sector Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs);

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

Reports of severe stress in Defence Forces

1449 **Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia:**

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

- (a) whether a study conducted by an Indian think tank has found that a large number of defence personnel are under severe stress which is resulting in suicides, fratricides and untoward incidents each year in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of defence personnel who left services due to severe stress in the last three years; and
- (c) the steps Government proposes to take for removing stress in the defence forces and to ensure better facilities and avenues to the serving defence personnel?

Memorial dedicated to 1971 Indo-Pak war heroes

1450 **Shri Vaiko:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry proposes to construct a memorial dedicated to 1971 Indo-Pak war heroes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any other tributes could be paid to celebrate the Golden Victory Year to mark the country's victory in the 1971 war, if so, the details thereof?

Government spending on military modernisation

1451 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to spend 130 billion dollars on military modernisation in the next five years, in order to achieve self-reliance in defence production;
- (b) if so, whether Government has opened up the Defence industry for private sector participation to provide impetus to indigenous manufacturing and whether opening up of the industry will also pave the way for foreign original equipment manufactures to enter into Strategic Partnerships with domestic companies; and
- (c) if so, action taken to facilitate Defence Public Sector Enterprises (DPSUs) and Private Defence players to explore business opportunities abroad?

Cases of human rights violation in the Armed forces

1452 **Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

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

- (a) whether the cases of human rights violations are increasing in the armed forces;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the years 2018 to 2020, year-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to address such human rights violations?

Policy to promote self-reliance in defence manufacturing

1453 **Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has introduced any policies to promote self-reliance in defence manufacturing, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the major policies to ensure self-reliance in defence manufacturing; and
- (c) the manner in which such policies affect imports of defence items along with the details thereof?

Pension to World War-II veterans

1454 **Shri K.P. Munusamy:**

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

- (a) whether Government has stopped issuing pensions to the World War-II pensioners since January 2019; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Defence budget

1455 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

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

- (a) the difference of budgetary demands made by the Armed Forces and the actual allocation in rupees for each financial year since 2014-15, year-wise;
- (b) whether military officials have conveyed to Government that capital expenditure allocations in the last few years have been insufficient; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to address the concerns raised?

Defence force personnel affected by COVID-19

1456 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

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

- (a) the number of COVID-19 positive cases in the defence forces till date;
- (b) the fatality rate in the armed forces due to the COVID-19;
- (c) whether Government has provided any financial support to the affected defence personnel; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Offices privy to sensitive information

1457 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

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

- (a) the list of offices in Government who are aware about and privy to sensitive information related to the India's defence policy and action; and
- (b) the standard protocol followed by Government for disseminating sensitive information for public awareness?

Defence equipment production under 'Make-in-India'

1458 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Dr. Amee Yajnik:

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

- (a) the efforts being made by Government for production of defence equipment under 'Make-in-India' scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details regarding production of defence equipment wherein the target have already been achieved and the likely timeline by which the country will be 'atmanirbhar' in defence production; and
- (d) whether Government is planning to export such defence equipment, if so, whether demand from any foreign country has been received for these equipments, if so, the details thereof?

Co-production of defence equipment by indigenous manufacturers and foreign partners

1459 **Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

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

- (a) whether Government is encouraging eligible indigenous industry leaders for design and co-production of defence equipment with foreign partners;
- (b) if so, the progress made so far; and
- (c) the major areas of defence equipment being explored for design and co-production; and
- (d) whether Government would have any stake in such mutual understanding?

Complaints from personnel regarding facilities

1460 **Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

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

- (a) the number of complaints from defence personnel over the last four years regarding lack of proper protective clothing/gear, poor quality of food, etc;
- (b) the details of such complaints; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to address these concerns?

Status of petition regarding welfare of ex-servicemen

1461 **Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

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

- (a) whether Ministry has received Letter No. NEx CC/SG/ SPL /2019 dated 12.02.2019 and Petition No. NEx CC/SG/President-Petition/19 dated 08.02.2019 submitted at Presidents' Secretariat, New Delhi regarding the issues for welfare of ex-servicemen and their dependents from National Ex-servicemen Co-ordination Committee (Regd No. 2171 of 1997-98);
- (b) if so, whether the petitions submitted were acknowledged and replied in due course; and
- (c) the actions initiated on the issues raised in the petitions for their resolution in the better interest of the Armed Forces veterans and their dependents in particular and nation at large?

Improvement in air and water quality during lockdown and post lockdown

1462 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that air and water quality in almost all parts of the country improved drastically due to lockdown in the month of May and June 2020;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps being taken to ensure that the air and water quality which improved in the month of May and June 2020 is maintained post lockdown; and
- (d) if not specific steps are being taken, reasons for the same as it was the best opportunity to take important measures to ensure improved air and water quality?

Study on polluted cities

1463 # **Shri Narayan Rane:**

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

- (a) the names of highly polluted cities in the country with respect to air pollution;
- (b) whether Government has undertaken any study to ascertain the number of cases of untimely death occurring due to air pollution in different parts of the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, year-wise and State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the density of air pollution in the polluted cities of the country caused the aggravation of air pollution; and
- (e) if so, the details of such aggravation occurring during the last few years, polluted city-wise, alongwith the reasons therefor?

Installation of bird diverters on existing solar and wind power lines

1464 **Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has started the process of installing bird diverters on existing wind and solar transmission lines;
- (b) if so, percentage of existing wind and solar transmission lines on which such diverters have been installed and if not, reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ministry has developed any monitoring mechanism to ensure installation of such diverters;
- (d) whether the Ministry has conducted any research on the need for such diverters on all existing transmission lines in the country; and
- (e) whether the Ministry has identified species of birds that are at high risk of electrocution due to absence of such diverters?

Incentives to small entrepreneurs for scientific recycling of plastic waste

1465 **Dr. Amee Yajnik:**

Shri Sanjay Seth:

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for providing incentives to the small entrepreneurs engaged in scientific recycling of plastic waste;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the measures taken by Government to dispose off plastic waste from those units that have been closed down by the National Green Tribunal and rehabilitate those units?

Schemes for protection of environment

1466 **Dr. Amee Yajnik:**

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) the details of the schemes implemented by Government for protection of environment

- across the country during the last three years and the current year;
 (b) whether various States of the country have been going through a critical phase with respect to environmental crisis;
 (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 (d) the remedial measures taken by Government in this regard?

National level monitoring system to map the afforestation

1467 **Shri Prasanna Acharya:**

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

- (a) the average number of trees cut every year for construction/expansion/repair of roads under various schemes of Central and State Governments;
 (b) the number of road side trees planted every year and their survival rate;
 (c) whether there is any national level monitoring system to map the afforestation and regeneration in the affected area; and
 (d) if so, the details thereof?

Central scheme to aid management of crop residue to alleviate pollution

1468 **Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:**

Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

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

- (a) the quantum of e-waste generated along with the rate of increase in generation of waste in the last three years;
 (b) the details of schemes being implemented for the recycling of e-waste;
 (c) the measures taken by Government to prevent the generation of e-waste;
 (d) whether Government is contemplating or has introduced a central sector scheme for promotion of agricultural mechanization for in situ management of crop residue; and
 (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Climate change and natural disasters

1469 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

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

- (a) whether Government takes serious note of the shrinking of glaciers due to climate change that has resulted in an increased hazard of natural disasters;
 (b) whether Government has commissioned a study for the same;
 (c) if so, the details thereof;
 (d) the number of such disasters in the last decade, State-wise;
 (e) the institutions that work towards alerting about the same;
 (f) the reasons for the failure of such alerting systems during the Chamoli floods; and
 (g) the steps undertaken by Government and the action plan to ensure that such failures will not be repeated?

Carbon sink goal

1470 **Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

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

- (a) whether India is not likely to reach the 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes carbon sink goal by 2030;
 (b) if so, details thereof and reasons therefor;
 (c) details of steps Government is taking to conserve very dense forests/moderately dense

forests and convert open forests into moderately dense/very dense forests, and if not, reasons therefor;

(d) details of Government's poverty alleviation/livelihood programmes for forest dependent and fringe communities, and if not, reasons therefor; and

(e) whether clean energy has seen slow uptake amongst forest dependent communities, and if so, steps taken by Government to increase adoption of alternate fuels in these areas?

Status of draft notification on pharmaceutical effluents

1471 Dr. Narendra Jadhav:

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

(a) the status of the draft notification prescribing standards for effluents from bulk drug manufacturing plants released in January 2020 for public comments;

(b) whether limiting the concentration of antibiotics in the pharmaceutical effluents is a priority for Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Usage of degraded forest land by Central PSUs

1472 Shri Sujeet Kumar:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) are allowed to use degraded forest land twice the extent of forest land diverted for non-forest use whereas State PSUs are asked to give an equal extent of non-forest land against the required diverted forest land; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal by Government to treat both Central PSUs and State PSUs on equal footing for raising compensatory afforestation?

Target of planting saplings

1473 Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:

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

(a) the number of trees targeted to be planted during the next five years; and

(b) the details of actual number of trees planted during 2019-20, State-wise?

Roadmap for Project Lion

1474 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

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

(a) whether Government has prepared the road map for implementation of the proposed Project Lion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of available health infrastructure in Gir to treat sick or injured lions;

(d) whether the road map includes setting up of a special Indian Council of Agricultural Research- Indian Veterinary Research Institute (ICAR-IVRI) sub-centre in Gir to cope up with emergencies like canine distemper, etc; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Maintaining balanced biodiversity in National Parks

1475 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

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

- (a) the steps Government is taking to maintain balanced biodiversity in National Parks and Sanctuaries;
- (b) the details of National Parks / Sanctuaries in Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to curb mining, human encroachment, hunting, poaching and other such menace in National Parks and Sanctuaries of the country; and
- (d) the details in respect of National Parks / Sanctuaries in Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat?

Filling up vacancies of rangers

1476 Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that cases of illegal poaching, missing of big cats and tigers have increased in Rajasthan Forest Department during the year 2018-2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of existing vacancies of the post of ranger in India, particularly in Rajasthan;
- (d) whether the incidents of hunting have increased due to unfilled vacancies of staff/ranger in State Forest Departments;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether Government is planning to execute a new policy to stop the illegal poaching and filling up vacancies of rangers in State Forest Departments?

Deaths due to air pollution

1477 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

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

- (a) whether a new study in the Lancet magazine has claimed that air pollution itself accounted for 17.8 per cent of total deaths in India in 2019;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the huge rise in deaths due to air pollution over the last few years;
- (c) if not, Government's estimate on number of deaths due to air pollution in the country;
- (d) steps being planned by Government to curtail the growing menace of air pollution across the country; and
- (e) whether there are any plans to regulate the use of highly polluting substances across the country by a central legislation?

Environmental clearance to Central Vista project

1478 Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry approved the proposed Central Vista project in the capital from the environmental angle;
- (b) the measures taken by the Ministry to prevent environmental impact during the construction;
- (c) the measures taken to ensure that the project is completed in the time frame without causing time overrun and financial overrun;
- (d) the total cost of the Central Vista project and the new Parliament building; and
- (e) the measures taken to ensure that the space available to the public is not reduced and compromised for the free movement of the people?

Status of afforestation

1479 **Shri Shwait Malik:**

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

- (a) the status of afforestation in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of afforestation and deforestation in Punjab during the last three years, district-wise;
- (c) the status of issue of permission to tribals and forest dwellers on the basis of Forest Rights Act;
- (d) whether some State Government's decision to award land rights to encroachers, affects forests in any way; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Annual progress report of ENVIS Centre on Control of Pollution

1480 **Shri Bikash Ranjan:**

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

- (a) whether as per Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) notification dated 9th March 2020, there are 128 sites in India which are contaminated by toxic and hazardous substances, and West Bengal led the list with 27 sites followed by Odisha at 23, if so, effective steps taken by Government to address this contamination;
- (b) the measures taken by Government to remove and control dumping of electronic waste lying on banks of river Ramganga, Moradabad; and
- (c) reasons that the annual progress report of Environmental Information System (ENVIS) Centre on Control of Pollution (Water, Air and Noise) has not been updated after 2018-19?

Impact of draft Environment Impact Assessment Notification 2020

1481 **Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:**

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

- (a) whether there have been widespread protests against draft EIA Notification in Assam, particularly provisions mentioned at 14(e) and 14(f);
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether a large number of places in Northeast fall within hundred kilometers from borders and there should be such provisions in the draft for declaring any project as strategic;
- (d) whether as per draft EIA, no public hearing would be necessary for environmental clearance for any defence related strategic projects established within aerial distance of hundred kilometers from the borders, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) latest thinking of Government on said notification?

Reduction in the Ministry's budget

1482 **Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:**

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

- (a) whether Government is of the view that the reduction in allocation to the Ministry in this year's budget compared to 2020-21 Union Budget, including 25 per cent reduction in allocation to the Climate Change Action Plan is apt in light of 2030 agenda; and
- (b) whether Government is of the view that the reduction in allocation to the autonomous bodies within its ambit, including the Wildlife Institute of India, in this year's budget compared to 2020-21 Union Budget, is apt in light of the need to strengthen various

institutions for the judicious management of the environment?

Hlgh ammonia level in Yamuna

1483 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

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

- (a) whether there is an alarming increase of ammonia level in the Yamuna river thereby, making the river water unfit to be supplied to the residents of National Capital Territory of Delhi, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the manner in which Government is going to tackle it and whether any alternative plan has been thought of or any corrective measures have been taken, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

CSR for conservation of environment

1484 **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

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

- (a) whether Government has fixed any Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) towards conservation of environment in various cities of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government for effective implementation of relevant schemes pertaining to conservation of environment?

Conservation of Shorea robusta forests

1485 # **Shri Brijlal:**

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

- (a) whether the forests of Sakhu (Shorea robusta) which are found in the lowlands of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal, provide the strongest timber in the world and the wood of this tree was earlier used as sleepers below the railway tracks and gradually the forests of strong woods like Sakhu are shrinking;
- (b) if so, whether there is any scheme under consideration to save and expand the area of the said forests; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Status of pollution in Jharkhand

1486 # **Shri Samir Oraon:**

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

- (a) the details of current status of pollution level in the State of Jharkhand;
- (b) whether the Central Government has approved funds to the State of Jharkhand for the purpose of pollution control over there; and
- (c) if so, the details of the funds provided to the State Government during the last three years?

Compensatory Afforestation Fund and Gram Sabha

1487 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

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

- (a) whether any mechanism has been set up by the Ministry to ensure compliance of Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA) in implementation of Compensatory Afforestation (CA) projects;

- (b) the steps taken by the Ministry to safeguard rights of tribals and forest dwellers while disbursing CA funds to the States;
- (c) whether the Ministry has worked out a mechanism to transfer CA funds directly to the Gram Sabhas, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of area in hectares where compensatory afforestation has been undertaken in the country since 2008?

National Mission for Green India Scheme

1488 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

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

- (a) whether Government released the second instalment of 2020-21 work programme under approved Annual Plan of Operation (APO) of National Mission for Green India (GIM) Scheme ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is a fact that approval of the proposed advance work for plantation of over 9756 hectares in 2020-21 alongwith approval of support activities, is pending with Government; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Environmental clearance of port projects

1489 Shri Hishey Lachungpa:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that in various major port trusts, within the port environment clearance of various projects is taking a lot of time, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) number of within the port projects of major ports cleared and time taken to clear these projects in the last three years; and
- (c) efforts made to reduce the clearance time of these projects?

Decentralisation of waste management process

1490 # Smt. Kanta Kardam:

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

- (a) whether Government has decentralised the waste management process in the country for recycling of waste manure; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Noise pollution in Delhi

1491 Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:

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

- (a) the prescribed noise pollution standards for residential areas in National Capital Region of Delhi;
- (b) whether according to survey conducted by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), noise pollution in South Delhi was higher than the prescribed limit; and
- (c) if so, steps being taken to control noise pollution at night by imposing penalty on those responsible for such pollution?

Tiger Reserve forests

1492 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

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

- (a) the number of Tiger Reserve forests in the country;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to increase Tiger Reserve forests in the country; and
- (c) the steps taken to streamline the Tiger Reserve corridors and to avoid man animal conflict?

New Bills introduced by the Ministry

1493 # **Shri Vinay Dinu Tendulkar:**

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

- (a) the number of Bills introduced by the Ministry to bring new Acts or to amend existing Acts which were passed by Parliament also at later stage during the last five years;
- (b) the details of such new Acts related to subordinate departments which were drafted and passed;
- (c) the current status of the implementation of these Acts and whether any review of their impact has been undertaken; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Marine policy on ALDFG

1494 **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated a policy to regulate the usage and to curb ghost gear fishing or Abandoned, Lost or Otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG) which has been responsible for the death of numerous species of marine wildlife;
- (b) if so, details of the said policy along with details of compliances by the various Ministries; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for avoiding formulation of said policy which would be environmentally beneficial?

Noise pollution due to vehicular horns

1495 # **Shri Surendra Singh Nagar:**

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

- (a) the overall average standard of noise pollution created by the vehicular horns in various metropolitan cities of the country;
- (b) whether Government has formulated any action plan to address the damage caused by noise pollution, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Ministry proposes to put a ban on the horns of various vehicles and if so, the details thereof?

Locust attack due to climate change

1496 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

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

- (a) whether the recent locust attack on agricultural crops in the country can be attributed to climate change, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has collaborated or prepared any report on impact of climate

change on agriculture in the coming years; and
 (c) if so, the details thereof along with the details of policy interventions taken to address the issue?

Extinction of species

1497 Shri A. Vijayakumar:

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

- (a) the number of endangered species listed in the country;
- (b) the steps taken to protect endangered species;
- (c) whether many of the species have become extinct in the Indian forests; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

List of States with highest pollution levels

1498 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

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

- (a) the list of top five States in India recording highest pollution levels during the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps during the years 2016-2020; and
- (c) the details of changes implemented by the Committee on Pollution in 2020?

Conservation of Vultures

1499 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

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

- (a) the number of species, with names, of Vultures in India;
- (b) total number of Vultures left in India;
- (c) whether their number has declined since 1980s;
- (d) the reasons for decline and species which have decreased most;
- (e) whether white backed, long billed and slender billed species are facing existential crisis due to rapid rate of decline;
- (f) whether misuse of diclofenac drug is one of major reasons for their decline; and
- (g) the steps taken by Government to save them and increase their number?

Surplus stock of non-BS-VI compliant vehicles

1500 Dr. Narendra Jadhav:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken steps in collaboration with other concerned Ministries to work out some measures to ensure that the unsold surplus stock of non-BS-VI compliant vehicles, if any, are disposed off; and
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

Performance of PSEs

1501 Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:

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

- (a) the performance of the Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) in the country during the COVID-19 affected period;
- (b) the results of the Navratna companies during this period in critical sectors;

- (c) whether there has been any cost cutting efforts in these companies leading to job losses and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the names of PSEs who reduced the staff strength to manage the losses?

Profit making PSEs

1502 Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy:

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

- (a) the number of Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) which are running on full capacity utilisation and are making profits in the years 2016 to 2020;
- (b) the number of PSEs which are running in loss and the cumulative loss made during the last five years;
- (c) whether there is a proposal to revive any of the loss-making companies;
- (d) the names of the PSEs which are likely to be disinvested and the total amount to be made from such disinvestments; and
- (e) the total number of employees working in the loss-making PSEs?

Transfer of BHEL-EML Plant in Kasargod Plant to Kerala Government

1503 Shri Elamaram Kareem:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the decision of Kerala High Court to transfer the Bharat Heavy Electrical Ltd.-Electrical Machines Ltd. (BHEL-EML) Plant in Kasaragod, Kerala to the Kerala Government and the actions taken thereon;
- (b) the reason behind inordinate delay in transfer process even after reaching a tripartite understanding and draft Memorandum of Understanding on the same;
- (c) the details of developments on the decision and by when Government intends to complete the transfer process; and
- (d) the reason behind Government not acting according to the direction of Kerala High Court in this regard?

Procurement of Goods and Services by CPSE

1504 Dr. Banda Prakash:

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

- (a) the total procurement of goods and services by each Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the status of procurement under this policy from Micro & Small Enterprises (MSEs) owned by OBCs/SCs/ STs and non-SCs/STs during the said period by each CPSE; and
- (c) the reasons if any, for non-compliance of the policy?

Electric Powered Car and Scooter manufacturing

1505 Shri Rajmani Patel:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to encourage Electric Powered Car and Scooter manufacturing in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there is a huge demand for e-Cars and e-Scooters in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has set any target to manufacture e-Scooters in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has set up any timeframe to open up the market for e-Cars and e-Scooters on a large scale and if so, the details thereof?

Production in PSUs

1506 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

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

- (a) whether the production in many Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) has decreased and the losses incurred by these PSUs have gone up;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has identified some PSUs to turn them into profit making ones and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government proposes to give any financial assistance to the loss making PSUs; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Guidelines for private TV channels

1507 **Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia:**

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

- (a) whether Government has decided to notify new up linking and down linking guidelines for private TV channels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government held several consultations with Over The Top (OTT) platforms and Internet And Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) following complaints; and
- (d) if so, the details of the outcome of the consultations held and to what extent Television Rating Points (TRPs) and OTT issues resolved?

Viewership on Doordarshan Free Dish

1508 **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Shri Rajmani Patel:

Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry had received complaints alleging that some private Networks circumvented Prasar Bharati's auction system to gain viewership on Doordarshan Free Dish in 2017;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry dismissed or ignored or "set aside" these complaints;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the reasons for doing so;
- (e) the estimated loss to the exchequer in terms of fees not received from said Media Networks for access to Doordarshan Free Dish; and
- (f) the measures being taken to collect those fees from these Media Networks?

Manipulation of TRP numbers

1509 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

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

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that certain media house has manipulated the Television Rating Points (TRP) numbers;
- (b) whether Government has taken cognizance of this matter and taken any action against

such channels who have involved in TRP manipulation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether Government has any plan to take any action against such television channels?

Financial assistance to film production

1510 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

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

(a) the details of the financial assistance provided to the film making regarding rural India; and

(c) the details of amount spent on such films in official languages of India from 2014 to 2020, State-wise?

Resumption of broadcasting by Tamil Unit, ESD

1511 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has not yet commenced the broadcast of External Services Division (ESD) particularly, Tamil Unit Services since the abrupt stopping of broadcast due to COVID-19 pandemic in March, 2020;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government will come forward to commence the broadcasting of Tamil Unit, External Services Division of All India Radio considering its strategic location at New Delhi;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Sudden removal of a news item from major news publications

1512 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the CEO of Niti Aayog, claimed in an interview that reforms are difficult in India because of 'too much democracy' in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that reports on this were suddenly removed from all major news publications;

(c) if so, whether this move was a part of any directive from the Ministry to these publications to censor this news item;

(d) if so, whether Government has agreed with the comment made by him; and

(e) if not, what action has been taken against the CEO for his statement?

Punitive action against fake news on print and electronic media

1513 **Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

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

(a) details of cases where punitive action against fake news on print and electronic media in India have been taken; and

(b) the other steps taken by the Ministry is considering to reduce the fake news content on print and electronic media?

Regulation of content by OTT

1514 # **Shri Arun Singh:**

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

- (a) whether in the absence of any regulation, the content being broadcast by Over The Top (OTT) Platforms hurts our rich cultural traditions and beliefs, and many of the contents available on such platforms is capable of communicating negativity in adolescent attitudes; and
- (b) whether by the virtue of the notification issued by Government in the past, now OTT Platforms come under the purview of the Ministry, and whether the Ministry has any specific set of rules/law for proper regulation of OTT Platforms to ensure a respect for public sentiment?

Sushant Singh Case media Trial

1515 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

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

- (a) whether under Criminal Law Presumption of Innocence is a fundamental element, and essence of criminal trial lies in that accused is to be presumed innocent until a charge is proved against him;
- (b) whether in the Sushant Singh case, media trial has already condemned and denounced certain individuals as national villains;
- (c) whether in India people's opinion holds the final say and it culminates into votes and finally Governments are formed;
- (d) steps taken by Government to Prevent Media from going overboard and thereby violating individual Rights under Article 14; and
- (e) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

Employement under JJM

1516 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

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

the details of number of people employed under 'Jal Jeevan Mission' (JJM) especially in Bihar, State-wise?

Houses covered under NRDWP

1517 # **Shri Narayan Rane:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the 12th Five Year Plan, there has been only a meagre increase in the number of households fully covered for the supply of drinking water and a decrease in the partially covered houses has been recorded under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for the slow growth rate as compared to the targeted growth rate; and
- (d) the names of States that failed to achieve the target of providing drinking water, during the said period?

Water connection under SNJPY

1518 **Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:**

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

- (a) the details of number of villages in Tripura being provided with drinking water facility, by providing a water connection to every house under 'Samooch Nal Jal Praday Yojana'(SNJPY); and
- (b) the details of the estimated targets along with the amount to be spent for this during the next three years including 2020-21, district-wise and year-wise?

Participation of small indigenous companies in Government tenders

1519 **Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that though the indigenous small water treatment companies are technically qualified, yet in Government tenders, the companies are financially disqualified due to financial criteria;
- (b) whether there are any special privileges to these small indigenous companies to participate in Government tenders; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Increasing groundwater levels

1520 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:

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

- (a) whether Jal Shakti Abhiyan has led to an increase in groundwater level, surface water storage capacity, soil moisture in farmlands and increased plant cover;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the national and State-wise data on the abovementioned parameters;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has commissioned a study of the water scarcity crisis in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Completion of Polavaram Irrigation Project

1521 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has revised the tentative date of completing the Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP) to April, 2022;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the proposed new date of completing the PIP by April, 2022 also includes completion of the relief and rehabilitation measures;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Setting up a National Bureau of Water Use Efficiency

1522 # **Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

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

- (a) whether Government has finalised the new National Water Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its salient features;
- (c) by when the new policy is likely to be implemented;
- (d) whether Government proposes to set up a National Bureau of Water Use Efficiency; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and its proposed function?

Steps taken to reduce pollution in rivers

1523 Shri Bikash Ranjan:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has recognized sixty polluted river stretches based on bio-chemical oxygen demand in different North Eastern States according to the latest India's Environment report; and
- (b) if so, the details of the effective steps taken by Government to address the continuing water crisis and reduce pollution in rivers, river stretch-wise?

Investment Clearance for IFREMW at Rohmoria, Assam

1524 Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Investment Clearance has been given for Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Management Works (IFREMW) at Rohmoria area at an estimated cost of ₹78.48 crore by the Investment Clearance Committee of the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons why Government has not undertaken any work under the said scheme despite the investment clearance?

Per capita availability of water in rural habitations

1525 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

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

- (a) the details of rural habitations having more than prescribed 40 liters per capita per day availability of potable water in Karnataka, district-wise;
- (b) to what extent Jal Jeevan Mission(JJM) will help to address per capita availability of water in some parched districts of Karnataka;
- (c) whether it is a fact that allocation for 2020-21 under JJM has been doubled for Karnataka; and
- (d) if so, the details of allocation made in 2020-21 and status of utilization and achievement of physical targets, district-wise?

Release of Polavaram dues

1526 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

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

- (a) whether Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a Memorandum to Home Minister on 19-02-2021 for releasing Polavaram dues already spent by State Government and accepting ₹55,650 crores recommended by Technical Expert Committee;
- (b) if so, action taken on above request;
- (c) whether delays in processing requests from State Government results in cost and time overruns;

(d) the amount of fund due to State Government and by when the dues are going to be cleared; and

(e) whether the Ministry is considering a mechanism by which funds can be flown easily and the project can be completed by early 2022?

Faulty STPs along Yamuna

1527 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there are faulty Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) along the Yamuna river and as a result, quality of water continue to remain unfit for supply to residents of Delhi even after treatment, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the same situation has been reported in almost all the rivers in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether recently Supreme Court has issued a direction in this regard to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), if so, the details thereof?

Water crisis due to water exploitation

1528 # **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

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

(a) whether water crisis is increasing due to water exploitation for agricultural crops, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any action plan has been formulated by Government, so that there would be reduced water wastage in agricultural works; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Monitoring Committee to identify polluted rivers

1529 # **Shri Rajendra Gehlot:**

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

(a) whether Government has set up any Monitoring Committee to identify the most polluted rivers in the country in addition to the Ganga region, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number and details of rivers identified for this purpose during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government has taken any steps for cleaning these rivers, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Implementation of Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal

1530 # **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

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

(a) the current status of the implementation of 'Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal' programme;

(b) whether Government has provided desired funds to State Governments for the same;

(c) the funds provided to Bihar during the current financial year; and

(d) the number of villages which would be provided drinking water with this fund and by when the rest of the villages would be covered?

Major irrigation projects in Jharkhand

1531 # **Shri Samir Oraon:**

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

- (a) whether any complaint of delay has been received in major irrigation projects in the State of Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the target set for completion of each project; and
- (d) the details of the funds sanctioned for completion of said projects?

Restoration of rivers and water bodies

1532 **Shri K.P. Munusamy:**

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

- (a) whether Government has sanctioned any amount for the restoration of rivers and water bodies in Tamil Nadu during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has provided any financial assistance for the revival and restoration of marsh lands, lakes and ponds in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Villages proposed to be covered under JJM

1533 **Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw:**

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

the number of villages to be covered under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) scheme in the year 2021 and 2022?

Allocation of funds for safe drinking water

1534 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

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

- (a) the details of fund allocated for provision of safe drinking water in Arsenic affected areas of the country under budget 2021-22, State-wise, scheme-wise; and
- (b) the details of number of households which have been provided safe drinking water in Arsenic affected areas during last three years till date, State-wise?

Community participation in water related programmes

1535 **Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has failed to adhere to the target of Sustainable Development Goals in the participation of community in water related programme implementation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken any initiative to increase participation of community in water- related programme implementation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

Piped drinking water to all households

1536 **Smt. Ambika Soni:**

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

- (a) the total number of rural households in Punjab / Jammu & Kashmir;
- (b) the number of households which have already been provided with tap water connections in these States;
- (c) the number of villages for which village action plan has been finalized for providing piped drinking water under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM); and
- (d) the steps taken by Government for providing piped drinking water to all the households under the Mission in these States in a time bound manner?

Promotion of Khadi

1537 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

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

the details of number of schemes that are being implemented by the Ministry for the promotion of Khadi?

Benefit under Centre's COVID-19 Scheme to MSMEs

1538 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

- (a) the details of total number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) registered with Government;
- (b) the details of number of MSMEs which took benefit under Centre's COVID-19 Scheme;
- (c) the details of number and total percentage of MSMEs which applied for the benefits under Centre's ₹ 3 lakh crore emergency credit line; and
- (d) the details of number and total percentage of MSMEs which received the benefits under Centre's ₹ 3 lakh crore emergency credit line?

Mandated period for payments to MSMEs

1539 **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

- (a) the methods Government intends to use, to monitor all payments to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and enforce mandated period of 45 days from date of delivery for payments;
- (b) penalties that Government will institute for those who violate this regulation;
- (c) whether MSMEs will be able to register grievances regarding violations of regulation on champions portal;
- (d) how Government will ensure that those in violation of this regulation do not unduly harass MSMEs to prevent filing of grievances/unfairly terminate transacting with them for vindictive reasons; and
- (e) whether medium scale industry is not covered under MSMEs Act's provision for delayed payment?

Sanctioning of loans under PMEGP

1540 **Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:**

Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

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

Sick MSMEs units

1541 **Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that thousands of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) units were sick in the country during the last year;
- (b) if so, the number of people who have become unemployed and the number of families affected due to this; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Boosting entrepreneurship among women

1542 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any initiative to foster entrepreneurship among women in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of women who were benefitted from the same over the last two years, and details of women entrepreneurs, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has the number of women entrepreneurs whose enterprises had to face permanent closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) whether Government proposes to extend monetary help to women entrepreneurs running MSMEs who had to face permanent closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, if so, the details thereof?

Problems of raw material for MSMEs

1543 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

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

- (a) the efforts made by Government to make provisions for making raw materials available to these units easily keeping in view the raw material problems of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs); and
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to solve the financial problem being faced by MSMEs units, which puts them in an adverse position vis-a-vis their larger rivals and action taken by Government to reduce the problem being faced by the MSMEs within the country?

Model law on MSMEs

1544 **Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:**

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';
- (b) the success achieved so far in this regard;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any model law to regulate the functioning of MSMEs in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether all the States across the country including Kerala have adopted/are implementing the said law and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

Udyam Sakhi Portal

1545 **Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has introduced Udyam Sakhi Portal to make women self-reliant in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has put an effective mechanism in place to create awareness among women about harassment, exploitation in work places and business platforms; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Technology Upgradation in MSMEs Sector

1546 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any plan of taking up Technology Upgradation in the MSMEs Sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the initiatives taken to make the Indian MSMEs access the global markets, improve Research and Development and investments proposed to indigenous MSMEs?

Timely disbursement of payments to MSMEs

1547 **Shri Anand Sharma:**

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

- (a) the payments due to Micro, Medium and Small Enterprises (MSMEs) on behalf of Government as of January 25, 2021;
- (b) the timeline for disbursement of these payments;
- (c) the maximum time limit within which Government plans to disburse these payments and the general time limit for payment;
- (d) whether Government is cognisant of operational difficulties faced by MSMEs on account of delayed payments; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and measures to address the same?

Closed MSMEs due to COVID-19 pandemic

1548 # **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

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

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any study to ascertain the number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) closed during lockdown imposed due to COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) the extent of financial loss caused to such units due to lockdown;
- (c) the number of people who have lost their jobs and had to face a financial crisis; and
- (d) the number of units having taken the benefit of the package announced by Government?

Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on MSMEs Sector

1549 **Dr. Bhagwat Karad:**

Dr. Sasmit Patra:

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

- (a) whether Government has made any assessment of the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Sector so far; and
- (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

MSMEs in defence production sector

1550 **Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

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

- (a) the number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in India's domestic defence production sector;
- (b) the measures the Ministry is taking to promote MSMEs in defence production sector;
- (c) whether with Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) via automatic route going up to 74 per cent, the Ministry is taking any steps to protect domestic defence MSMEs against foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers(OEMs); and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Employment in MSMEs Sector

1551 **Shri P. Wilson:**

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

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any survey on the number of MSMEs which has closed since 2014;
- (b) the number of jobs generated by MSMEs since 2014 especially in Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of steps taken by Government to strengthen support, finance, revive and restructure the existing and closed down MSMEs since 2014;
- (d) whether Government has initiated any discussions, dialogue with MSMEs to hear their grievances with regard to difficulties they are facing especially with financial institutions; and
- (e) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government?

District Mineral Foundation

1552 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

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

- (a) the current status of projects under the District Mineral Foundation (DMF);

- (b) the details of projects alongwith DMF fund allocation, State-wise;
- (c) whether any measure has been taken by the Ministry to increase the spending of the DMF;
- (d) whether there is a single window monitoring mechanism for the DMF;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, whether there is any roadmap to design a monitoring mechanism for DMF?

Renewal of mining lease

1553 Shri Prashanta Nanda:

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

- (a) whether there is any provision to renew the lease of mines before expiry date to reduce the loss that occurs due to time lag;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Shortage of critical minerals required for solar mission

1554 Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:

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

- (a) whether India is likely to face acute shortage of critical minerals necessary for developing clean energy applications, infrastructure for its solar mission and for manufacturing high technology products in near future and if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether the country is likely to become largely dependent on China in coming years to source such materials for its manufacturing sector and at present is hundred per cent import dependent for critical minerals and if so, details thereof; and
- (c) steps/measures taken by Government to reduce such dependence, to develop mines and unleash untapped potential of the vast mineral resources?

Assessment of minerals in Rajasthan

1555 Shri K.J. Alphons:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has done a complete assessment of the minerals available in Rajasthan;
- (b) whether the results have been published in public domain; and
- (c) the plan for utilisation of these minerals?

Upliftment of minorities

1556 Shri Vaiko:

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

- (a) the details of the schemes introduced for upliftment of minorities and to improve their quality of living standards alongwith the budget allocated during the last three years;
- (b) whether scholarships have been provided to minority students during the said period and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of funds allocated and expenditure under various schemes and the number of beneficiaries, State-wise including State of Telangana;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to increase this amount this year, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Reconsideration of income limit criteria for pre-matric scholarship

1557 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has kept one lakh as the family income limit as eligibility criteria for pre-matric scholarship;
- (b) if so, the rationale through which Government has arrived at the figure of one lakh as the income limit for eligibility for pre-matric scholarship; and
- (b) whether Government is ready to reconsider the current income limit criteria, as it is exclusionary in nature for many needy students?

Vacancies in National Commission for Minorities

1558 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

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

- (a) the total number of members sanctioned and actually present, in the National Commission for Minorities;
- (b) the number of posts which are lying vacant and since when;
- (c) the efforts made by Government to fill all the vacancies for the effective functioning of the Commission; and
- (d) by what time, the commission will have the full strength of members?

Scholarship schemes for minorities

1559 **Shri Syed Zafar Islam:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any scheme for scholarships exclusively for students from minority communities, including the State of Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including pre-matric, post-matric and merit-cum-means components of such scholarship schemes; and
- (c) the details of budget earmarked for this purpose during the last three years, including State of Uttar Pradesh?

Non-active major and minor ports

1560 **Shri Prasanna Acharya:**

Shri Prashanta Nanda:

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:

Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

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

- (a) the total number of non-active major and minor ports in the country as on date;
- (b) the details of the non-active major and minor ports as on date, State-wise;
- (c) whether there is any proposal/plan/strategy to make such non-active/non-functional major and minor ports active and functional; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Development of ports to global standard level

1561 # **Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

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

- (a) the names of ports which have been selected to be developed as global standard ports in the country;
- (b) the changes that would be brought in maritime trade after the said ports meet global standards and the financial expenditure that would be incurred on this project; and
- (c) the details thereof?

Development of Ramayapatnam Port

1562 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- (a) whether Government has received any fresh request from Andhra Pradesh Government with regard to the development of Ramayapatnam Port in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) number of ports proposed to be developed during the next five years across India, including Ramayapatnam Port; and
- (d) the details thereof?

Seaports in Odisha

1563 **Shri Subhash Chandra Singh:**

Shri Prashanta Nanda:

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

- (a) whether Government has identified the seaports to be developed in Odisha and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the quantum of funds earmarked and released so far for the development of the identified seaports?

Development and Performance of Ports

1564 **Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

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

- (a) the cargo handling capacity, actual volumes and financial performance of every major ports in the country in 2019-20 as compared to 2013-14;
- (b) whether Government has repeatedly asked Andhra Pradesh Government to propose or accept development of a major port at a location other than Dugarajapatnam;
- (c) if so, on dates on which such communications were sent since 2014;
- (d) the details of the Ministry's proposals and the State Government's response to proposals on alternate port development;
- (e) whether Ramayapatnam is being considered for major port development in place of Dugarajapatnam; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Clearing river beds of Khawthlang Tuipui

1565 **Shri K. Vanlalvena:**

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

whether the Central Government would assist the Mizoram Government in cleaning up the river beds of Khawthlang Tuipui near Indo-Bangla border for making the river navigable for Inland Water Transport?

Projects implemented under Sagarmala Project

1566 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 30 projects are being implemented under Sagarmala Project in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details of each of the project;
- (c) status of implementation of each of the project;
- (d) whether there is any time and cost overrun of any project and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) impact of COVID-19 on projects?

Joint Initiative with DRDO on Sustainable Geo-hazard Management

1567 **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

- (a) the details of the agreement between the Ministry and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on sustainable geo-hazard management;
- (b) the manner in which technology will be used under this agreement to prepare more efficient plans for the construction of tunnels and highways, as well as mitigation of landslides and avalanches;
- (c) the contributions Ministry will make towards this project in terms of administration and financing; and
- (d) the manner in which this initiative will make transportation safer for commuters on roads?

Right-of-way on NHs

1568 # **Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Right-of-way is a constitutional right of citizens on the National Highways (NHs);
- (b) if so, whether the movement of citizens could be hampered by installing toll plazas on NHs, without providing alternative routes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether any order has been issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court or Hon'ble High Court with regard to hampering of uninterrupted movement of citizens through installation of toll barriers on NHs without providing alternate routes, if so, the details thereof?

Development of NHs in Bihar

1569 **Shri A. D. Singh:**

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

- (a) whether the works on National Highways (NHs) in Bihar are completed on schedule and if so, the details of the works under progress and pending as on date, NHs-wise;
- (b) the steps taken/being taken for the development of NHs in Bihar during each of the last five years and the current year; and
- (c) the details of construction work of road completed and under progress in Bihar by National Highways Authority of India during the above said period?

Newly constructed NHs

1570 **Shri Anil Desai:**

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

- (a) the main features of the newly constructed National Highways(NHs);
- (b) the number of Highways constructed by Government during last five years; and
- (c) the safety and security of modern gadgets and equipment installed at the newly constructed Highways?

Waiting time on NH toll plazas

1571 # **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Smt. Sampatiya Uikey:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

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

- (a) whether vehicles have to still wait for a long time at many National Highways (NHs) toll plazas for payment of toll, due to manual toll collection system;
- (b) the details of manual toll collection system in the country, State-wise/NH-wise;
- (c) whether there are three main toll gates on Yamuna Expressway between Greater Noida and Agra at Jewar, Mathura and Agra, where passengers have to stop for manual toll payment; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that it takes a longer time on Yamuna Expressway than on other NH due to lack of passenger facilities there?

Accident prone NHs

1572 # **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Smt. Sampatiya Uikey:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that certain National Highways (NHs) are more prone to accidents compared to the other NHs of the country due to which more road accidents are happening there;
- (b) the NH-wise details of accidents occurred on NHs during the last three years;
- (c) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the reasons as to why certain NHs are more prone to accident as compared to other NHs and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken to reduce the number of accidents on NHs?

Plan to shift vehicles running in NCT of Delhi to EVs

1573 # **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 it is a fact that there is a plan to shift vehicles currently being running in the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi to Electric Vehicles (EVs) in a phased manner;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether private and two wheeler vehicles would also be included in this scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government is mulling over providing some amount to consumers whose old vehicle registration is getting expired in lieu of scrap in order to shift to EVs?

Road widening work of NH 45

1574 # **Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:**

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

- (a) whether road widening work of National Highway (NH) No.-45 from Sagartola to Kabir Chabootra would be started after the approval in this financial year itself;
- (b) whether the pilgrims could reach Amarkantak, the origin of the Narmada river more comfortably after the widening of this road; and
- (c) whether the vehicles and citizens would be benefited in to and fro movement from Madhya Pradesh to Chhattisgarh with the widening of this road?

Request for release of funds from Central Road Fund

1575 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

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

- (a) whether a request from the Chief Minister of Karnataka has been received for release of Rs. 971 crore pending with the Ministry under Central Road Fund;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Ministry to release the same;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government of Karnataka has requested for additional Rs. 1,000 crore to complete the pending works in 2019-20; and
- (d) if so, status of the above request?

Implementation of MV(A) Act, 2019

1576 # **Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) the States which have implemented the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) [MV(A)] Act, 2019;
- (b) the States which are delaying the implementation of the Act and whether they have given any suggestions; and
- (c) the details of increase in various types of fines in old and new MV (A) Act, 2019 and whether the vehicle owner and drivers are being provided with quality roads and systematic traffic arrangements?

Steps to attract investors in road sector

1577 **Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

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

- (a) whether Government is taking any steps to attract investors to invest in road sector; and
- (b) if so, steps being taken to assure them of high returns as compared to other places globally?

Target for road building in next five years

1578 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has set any target for road building for the next five years; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Steel from recycled scrap

1579 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

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

- (a) the manner in which Ministry looks at the recent decision of Government to permit steel from recycled scrap to be used in road and bridge projects;
- (b) the manner in which the Ministry will ensure steel produced from scrap, adhere to technical and quality standards set by the Ministry;
- (c) whether Ministry has given any thought of using composite and reinforced fibre bars which claim tensile strength of 5-6 times that of steel in road projects and bridge construction; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Electronic toll collection from FASTag to GPS

1580 Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that electronic toll collection is being planned through Global Positioning System (GPS) for exact distance traversed and not through toll plaza;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that there is increase in toll collection through FASTag; and
- (c) if so, the reason for changes from FASTag to GPS?

Construction of a bridge parallel to Gandhi Setu in Patna

1581 # Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to build a 14.5 kms long, four lane bridge parallel to the Mahatma Gandhi Setu in Patna with a cost of Rs. 1794.37 crore;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that foundation stone of this bridge has been laid but no work has started yet; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and by when the work will be started?

Extension of four lane Highway in Odisha

1582 Shri Subhash Chandra Singh:

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

- (a) the progress of Odisha based project for four lane extension of road from Cuttack to Sambalpur; and
- (b) the measures taken for maintenance of National Highways?

Conversion of Highways in NHs

1583 # Shri Ram Shakal:

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to convert various Highways in the country into National Highways (NHs);
- (b) if so, State-wise/ Union Territory-wise details thereof;
- (c) the funds allocated for conversion of several Highways into NHs in the current financial year;
- (d) whether there is a plan to widen and convert the Varanasi-Shaktinagar Highway into a NH; and
- (e) if so, by when?

Pending NH proposals relating to MP

1584 # **Shri Digvijaya Singh:**

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

- (a) number of proposals related to National Highways (NHs) passing through Madhya Pradesh (MP) pending with Government for approval and those pending for release of sanctioned amount;
- (b) whether proposed amount of ₹16.62 crore for construction of 16.5 kilometers long stretch under National Highway Development Authority forwarded by MP Government for upgradation/repair of Binaganj road via Kolaras, Lukwas, Badarwas and Ruthjai in Guna has been released, if not, by when it would be released; and
- (c) by when, construction of 0.60 km to 8.300 km and 20.700 to 256.800 km stretches in Ratapani forest area in NH 69 would be completed?

Agencies involved in construction of roads in Gujarat

1585 # **Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

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

- (a) the number of agencies that have been provided the work of Talaja-Mahuva National Highway in Gujarat, along with time, the work was assigned to these agencies;
- (b) the details of the time limit to complete this work;
- (c) the number of times, this time limit has been extended along with the timelines to complete this work; and
- (d) the steps taken against the agencies for not completing the said work in time limit?

Construction works on Gooty Section Project, AP

1586 **Shri Y. S. Chowdary:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that construction works, rehabilitation and upgradation of Karnataka/Andhra Pradesh (AP) border Gooty Section Project from KM 368.920 to KM 424.255 0 in the State of Andhra Pradesh is yet to be completed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/being by Government in this regard?

Death and injury on NH in Surguja, Chhattisgarh

1587 # **Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

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

- (a) the number of people died and sustained injuries in the road accidents on National Highways (NHs) due to damaged highways and traffic jam in Sarguja Division of Chhattisgarh;

- (b) whether it is a fact that most of these accidents occurred due to heavy vehicles mainly trucks and buses passing through Ambikapur Pathalgaon;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) preventive measures adopted by Government to stop accidents on NHs in Chhattisgarh?

National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development

1588 **Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

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

- (a) the details of autonomous organizations which received financial assistance under the National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development (NPYAD) Scheme, year-wise;
- (b) the activities/tools such organizations utilize to promote personality development among the target group;
- (c) the activities/tools such organizations utilize to promote secularism among the target group; and
- (d) the number of research publications that were supported by the Ministry under the NPYAD scheme from 2014 till the present day?

Support to coaches and sportspersons affected during lockdown

1589 **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Shri Kumar Ketkar:

Shri Digvijaya Singh:

Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that coaches and sportspersons across the country faced financial hardships during the lockdown period;
- (b) whether the Ministry has taken steps to provide financial assistance or relief to coaches and sportspersons to alleviate their financial hardships;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including quantum of funds provided and beneficiaries covered; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Organizing Olympic games in the next ten years

1590 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any specific policy/plan/strategy/legislation/roadmap for making a bid for organizing Olympic games in the next ten years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds released to restart sports activities after lockdown

1591 # **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Smt. Sampatiya Uikey:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

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

- (a) the details of funds released to restart sports activities after lockdown, sport-wise and

State-wise;

(b) the details of funds released and spent to promote sports at rural/ town level during last three years; and

(c) the details of facilities being provided to the players after lockdown to enable them to develop more interest in sports?

Olympics in India

1592 **Shri Shwait Malik:**

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

(a) whether Government is keen to conduct Olympics in India in near future;

(b) if so, the details of preparedness for the same;

(c) whether India raised its demand with International Olympics Committee;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the chances of conducting Olympics in India?

Selection of sportspersons

1593 # **Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

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

(a) whether Government has constituted a single Selection Committee for the selection of sportspersons to be awarded for various sports awards and if so, details thereof;

(b) the number of sportspersons of various categories who would be chosen for sports award for the year 2021;

(c) whether many sportspersons are forced to live in poverty after retirement as they do not get assistance from Government and if so, details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government would provide assistance to sportspersons after their retirement as they are facing problems after COVID-19 pandemic and if so, details thereof?

Job loss of youth

1594 **Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

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

(a) the number of youth who lost their job during lockdown in Karnataka, specifically Bengaluru;

(b) whether Government had formulated any action plan for these youth;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Vaccination of Indian delegation to Tokyo Olympics 2021

1595 **Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

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

(a) whether the Indian delegation representing India in the Tokyo Olympics 2021 will be vaccinated against COVID-19;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Preparation for Olympics in view of COVID-19

1596 Shri Anand Sharma:

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

- (a) whether all athletes preparing for the 2020 Olympics were prohibited from using their respective practice/ competition facilities due to COVID-19 lockdown in 2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether steps have been taken to prepare and train these athletes for the Olympics to be held in 2021, especially in light of lost competitive/ preparation opportunities in 2020;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the full contingent of athletes which was to represent India at the 2020 Olympics will be doing so at the Olympic Games in Tokyo, 2021?

Special schemes for the development of sports among women

1597 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

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

- (a) whether any scheme has been formulated/implemented for the development of sports amongst women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds allocated by Government and Sports Authority of India to encourage women in sports during each of the last five years and the current year, and the number of women beneficiaries at present, State-wise and scheme-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

Launch of new schemes

1598 # Shri Rajendra Gehlot:

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

- (a) the details of schemes launched during the last three years till date;
- (b) the details of the targets set under the said schemes and achievements made consequently, year-wise; and
- (c) the details of the proposals received from various States and the number of proposals approved by Government during the said period, State-wise?

Road map for Khelo India scheme

1599 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

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

- (a) the road map prepared/implemented for Khelo India scheme in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of funds sanctioned/spent during the last five years and current year as on date, State-wise, district-wise, particularly in rural areas of the country; and
- (c) the views of States and other stakeholders taken into consideration?

New Khelo India centres

1600 Shri Rajeev Satav:

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

- (a) whether Government has announced in Tenth Global Sports Summit to start one thousand Khelo India centres all over the country and if so, details thereof and the aims and objective behind the move;
- (b) the number of athletes selected and provided scholarship under Khelo India programme since its launch;
- (c) whether Government has recently incentivized private sports academies under Khelo India and if so, details thereof and the aims and objective behind the move; and
- (d) the other steps taken by Government to achieve the target of making India one of the top ten medal grossing countries in 2028 Olympics?

New Delhi
The 1st March, 2021
10 Phalgun, 1942 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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