

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, March 15, 2021/ 24 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

Coal reserves in India

2081 **Dr. Bhagwat Karad:**

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

- (a) whether Government has assessed the coal reserves in the country and has identified sites in Maharashtra for future extraction of coal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, quality-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has allocated coal blocks during the last five years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the number of coal blocks to be allocated to the State of Maharashtra and the country?

New guidelines issued for coal projects

2082 **Dr. Bhagwat Karad:**

Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

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

- (a) whether any new guideline has been issued for coal projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the steps taken by Government to achieve the target of augmentation of coal production capacity per year; and
- (d) the details of coal production in India especially Vidarbha and Marathwada region and the State of Maharashtra?

Coal blocks identified for allocation

2083 **Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:**

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

- (a) the details of coal /lignite blocks identified by the ministry for allocation under Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 and Coal Blocks Allocation (CBA) Rules, 2017 in the last five years;
- (b) the details of the coal/lignite blocks identified and allocated/reallocated for different purposes under Coal India Limited (CIL) and non-CIL categories in the last five years under

the MMDR Act, 1957; and

(c) the details of coal mines allocated for auction under the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 in the last five years, State-wise?

Auction for commercial coal mining

2084 Dr. C.M. Ramesh:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to auction coal mines in the country for commercial mining, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any high powered Committee of experts has been constituted to identify such coal mines for auctioning, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Coal production in country

2085 Dr. C.M. Ramesh:

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

(a) the details of coal production in the country during the last five years;

(b) the amount of coal imported during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government has made any effort to increase the coal production in the country to minimize the import of coal from abroad, if so, the details thereof?

CSR projects of coal PSUs

2086 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

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

(a) whether Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry have failed to utilise hundred percent funds allocated for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects towards the local development, in last five years;

(b) if so, the quantum of funds allocated and utilised during the period from 2016-17 to till date;

(c) whether Government has any special budget for infrastructural development in local areas to develop its property, schools, parks, etc, through Public Private Partnership (PPP) model; and

(d) if so, details of such PPP models, area-wise including Dausa district in Rajasthan and details of funds allocated/spent by subsidiary companies from 2016-17 to till date?

Collieries in country

2087 Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:

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

(a) the total number of coal collieries in the country at present along with their annual production;

(b) the number of them which are in public and private sectors; and

(c) the number of collieries closed down during the last six months?

Taxes on coal

2088 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

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

(a) the details of taxes, royalty, Goods and Service Tax (GST), cess, National Mining

- Exploration tax and other levies imposed on coal;
 (b) the percentage of above taxes which constitutes the total cost of coal;
 (c) the reasons for imposing multiple taxes on coal exploration and transportation;
 (d) whether any proposal was sent to the Ministry of Finance to bring down various taxes and levies on coal; and
 (e) if so, the details thereof?

Coal allocated to Gujarat from the South Eastern coal belts

2089 **Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

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

the amount of coal allocated to Gujarat from the South Eastern coal belts from 2014 to 2018?

Plans for sustainable energy security

2090 **Shri Rajmani Patel:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any plans to review the New Coal Distribution Policy in the country;
 (b) if so, the details of the plans for sustainable energy security regarding coal; and
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

CSR fund spent by NLC India Limited

2091 **Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware about the total Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund spent by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) India Limited in the last five years;
 (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, district-wise, fund-wise and project-wise;
 (c) whether Government is aware about the total CSR fund spent by the NLC India Limited in Tamil Nadu, specifically in and around Neyveli region of Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu in the last five years; and
 (d) if so, the details thereof?

MRE Kits for Armed Forces

2092 **Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

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

- (a) whether the armed forces are provided Meals Ready to Eat (MRE) Kits akin to those prevalent in North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), Russian and Chinese militaries;
 (b) if so, the details of the contents of such MRE kits including calorific information;
 (c) whether soldiers posted in Ladakh or other forward areas are provided MRE Kits;
 (d) whether Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) or any other organisation have developed military-grade MRE Kits;
 (e) if so, details thereof and whether they are being used by armed forces; and
 (f) the feedback mechanism to ensure quality and taste preferences of soldiers/officers?

Sainik Schools in Telangana

2093 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

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

- (a) the number of Sainik Schools running in the country and the quantum of funds allocated to each existing Sainik School at present;
- (b) the number of Sainik Schools proposed in Telangana and the details of the list of identified locations to set up Sainik Schools in Telangana; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal to setup a Sainik School in Nizamabad District, Telangana dedicated to Ryada Maheswar, a soldier who died in Galwan Valley of Ladakh, as a tribute to him?

Policy for indigenisation of Defence sector

2094 **Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has launched any new policy for indigenisation of Defence sector, particularly for components and spares used in defence platforms for Defence Public Sector Units (DPSUs)/Ordnance Factory Board (OFB)/ Service Headquarters (SHQs) in the last three years, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of major Government initiatives for supporting development of technological capabilities; and
- (c) the details of major schemes/policies to achieve self-reliance and foster innovation and technology development in defence and aerospace by engaging Industries including MSMEs, start-ups, individual innovators, Research & Development (R&D) institutes and academia in the last three years?

Steps taken to enhance capacity of security forces

2095 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) the action taken by Government to enhance the capacity of defence sector to enable security forces to tackle the present security scenario of the country efficiently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken action to upgrade the existing weapons by adopting latest technology so that they may become more dangerous to the enemy; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Procurement of defence products developed by DRDO

2096 **Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has ignored indigenous tanks developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in its recent defence procurement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has invited private companies in the procurement of defence products;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with amount of tender given to them, company-wise;
- (e) the number of products developed by DRDO accepted and absorbed by Army in last

three years; and

(f) the details of amount sanctioned to DRDO for research work exclusively in the last three years, year-wise?

Composition of Armed Forces

2097 **Shri Anil Desai:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that all the three wings of Armed Forces have participation from almost all the States;

(b) the details of participations in Armed Forces, State-wise;

(c) the criteria for recruitment in the Armed Forces; and

(d) whether all the States have equal opportunity for recruitment, if so, the details thereof?

Privatisation of Defence PSUs

2098 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

(a) the details of the Public Sector Units (PSUs) making Defence-related equipment where Government is planning to privatise or decrease its shareholding;

(b) by when Government is planning to do the same, PSU-wise details thereof;

(c) details of the PSUs making Defence-related Equipment in which Government has already privatised or decreased its shareholding in last five years;

(d) funds collected through privatisation or decrease in shareholding through each one of the PSUs in last five years; and

(e) whether Government is considering privatisation and selling of shareholding as the only solution of the problem, if so, details thereof?

Consultation with employees on corporatisation of OFB

2099 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

(a) whether the Ministry is holding consultations with defence civilian employees of Ordnance Factories on Government plans of corporatisation of the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB);

(b) if so, the details of such meetings and consultations; and

(c) if not, the detailed reasons for not taking the most important stakeholder into confidence before initiating such plan?

Steps taken to enhance the quality of training in IAF

2100 **Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

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

(a) steps taken to enhance the quality of training including induction of simulators and improvement of training syllabi in the training establishments so as to enable the trainer pilot to be adequately prepared for flying the aircraft and handle modern on-board cockpit systems with greater proficiency;

(b) whether there is a shortage of additional Hawk aircraft and Intermediate Jet Trainer for replacement of the existing HPT-32 trainer aircraft to modernise the trainer fleet of the Indian Air Force (IAF); and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Submarines in the Navy

2101 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the average lifespan of a submarine is considered to be twenty five years;
- (b) if so, the proportion of total submarines currently in the Navy which are older than twenty five years;
- (c) the plans of Government to replace these older submarines; and
- (d) by when this replacement is going to be done?

Vacant postions in the Army

2102 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

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

- (a) the total vacancy for positions of Officers, Junior Commissioned Officers (JCO), etc, in the Army, as of March 2021;
- (b) the total intake planned for the current year through the Short Service Commission (SSC) recruitment; and
- (c) the total percentage of women in the Army, Navy and Air Force, individually, as of March 2021?

Setting up of Sainik Schools in partnership

2103 **Shri K. Somaprasad:**

Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:

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

- (a) whether Government is proposing to bring a new scheme for setting up one hundred Sainik Schools in the country in partnership with NGOs/private schools/State Governments, etc;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and budget allocated to the project; and
- (c) the details and number of applications received from different States and Union Territories including Kerala;
- (d) whether Government has set up any Committee to finalise the roadmap to complete this project; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and by when these 100 Sainik Schools project would be completed?

Self-reliance in defence manufacturing

2104 **Dr. Banda Prakash:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps for modernisation of weaponry like tanks, missiles and to reduce the dependence on imports, along with the contribution to the Defence sector under 'AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' and;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has announced total embargo for one hundred and one Defence items beyond 2023, if so, the details of these items and the reasons therefor?

Hindrances in defence modernisation

2105 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government's reluctance to grant defence contracts to country's private sector is a factor for the lack of growth in defence modernisation and capabilities;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that so far, the only major contract granted to country's private sector is with Larsen & Toubro, due to which India's reliance on foreign imports for high-tech weapons still continues; and
- (c) if so, steps taken by Government to stop the hindrances in the development of the indigenous industry?

Equipment manufactured under 'Make-in-India' Programme

2106 **Shri Rajmani Patel:**

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

- (a) the details of number of defence equipment manufactured under the 'Make-in-India' Programme in the country during the last two years;
- (b) whether Government is exporting any of these products;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, country-wise and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has awarded any order/contract to Government of Uttar Pradesh under this Programme so far and if so, the details thereof?

Empanelment by DGR

2107 **Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

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

- (a) reasons as to why security agency and coal loading and transport company of retired officers only are empanelled by Director General of Resettlement (DGR) and also business provided by DGR;
- (b) reasons behind denying empanelment of security agency and coal loading transport company of JCOs/NCOs/ORs by DGR and for not providing them any business which is violative of the Fundamental Rights guaranteed under articles 14, 15, 16 and 19; and
- (c) reasons as to why company owned, company operated petrol pump/CNG stations are only reserved for officers and denied to NCOs/ORs thereby violating their Fundamental Rights guaranteed under articles 14, 15, 16 and 19?

Land Monetisation Policy

2108 **Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

Shri Rajmani Patel:

Shri Digvijaya Singh:

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

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

- (a) whether the Army's Land Monetisation Policy has been on hold due to drop in prices of land in light of the pandemic;
- (b) if so, the expected time by which it will be resumed;
- (c) whether the difference in the value of revenue from land monetisation in pre-pandemic times, to the value of expected revenue under current circumstances has been estimated; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the quantum of difference in rupees and if not, the

reasons therefor?

Empowering gram panchayats in dealing with wild animals

2109 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

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

- (a) whether Government has recently issued an advisory that empowers gram panchayats in dealing with the problem of wild animals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to utilise the add on coverage under the 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna' for crop compensation against crop damage due to human wildlife conflict;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government has decided that payment of a portion of ex-gratia as interim relief within twenty four hours of the incident to the victim/family is to be undertaken?

Specialized cadre of veterinary doctors to treat the wildlife

2110 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

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

- (a) whether Government intends to create a specialized cadre of veterinary doctors to treat the wildlife of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any contingency plan to rescue the wildlife in case of pandemic like Canine Distemper Virus (CDV), huge forest fires and floods etc; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Mega power projects in Lahaul

2111 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government of Himachal Pradesh signed Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) for five mega projects in Lahaul in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any new proposed mega power project coming up in the highly sensitive valleys of Lahaul and Pangi in Himachal Pradesh; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Committee for research on adverse effects of climate change

2112 # **Shri Surendra Singh Nagar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has constituted or proposed to constitute a Committee to undertake research and suggest measures to deal with the adverse effects of climate change;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of its tenure and composition alongwith its terms of reference; and
- (d) whether the Committee has submitted its report and if not, by when it is likely to be submitted?

Safe disposal of medical waste

2113 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

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

- (a) whether large amount of injections and medical waste is generated due to prevailing COVID-19 in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of action taken for safe disposal of such waste; and
- (c) the part of the country, selected for safe disposal of medical waste?

Environmental clearance of small mines

2114 # **Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

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

- (a) area of small mines in acres, which is exempted from seeking environmental clearance and area of mines, in acres, which was exempted from seeking environmental clearance before year 2017;
- (b) whether due to the compulsion of seeking environmental clearance, small mines of 3 to 5 acres area are on verge of closure owing to long environmental clearance process;
- (c) whether the Ministry would propose to reinstate the compulsion of environmental clearance under old process for small mines; and
- (d) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the effect of environmental clearance compulsion on small mines of 3 to 5 acres area?

Preparedness for Uttarakhand flash floods

2115 **Shri Shamsher Singh Dullo:**

Dr. Amee Yajnik:

Shri K.C. Venugopal:

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the glacial disaster in February 2021 and its impact on adjoining States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including calamity mitigation and disaster preparedness measures, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has received any warnings or recommendations from experts about the melting of Himalayan glaciers, since 2014 till date; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including Government's response thereto?

Illegal sand mining in India

2116 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

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

- (a) the action taken by Government to stop illegal trade in minor minerals, particularly sand;
- (b) the actions taken by the National Green Tribunal against illegal sand mining; and
- (c) the environmental hazards associated with illegal sand mining and trading?

Action plan for conservation of vultures

2117 **Shri Rajeev Satav:**

Shri Sanjay Seth:

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

- (a) whether the National Board for Wildlife has recently approved an action plan for vulture conservation and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government proposes to establish new vulture conservation centres in the States of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu and if so, the time by which it will be set up;
- (c) whether nine species of vultures present in India are facing the danger of extinction; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken by Government for conservation of vultures?

Commercial cultivation of GM crops and foods made from GM ingredients

2118 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has approved commercial cultivation of Genetically Modified (GM) crops and also manufacturing, import and selling of processed foods made from GM ingredients;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether Government has undertaken any study regarding impact of GM crops cultivation on environment and impact of GM foods on health of individuals in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Forest cover in India

2119 **Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

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

- (a) the total forest cover in India;
- (b) the details of increase or decrease in the forest cover during the last five years; and
- (c) the steps being undertaken by Government to increase the forest cover?

R&D projects in EF&CC sector

2120 **Shri Prashanta Nanda:**

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

- (a) the number of centrally sponsored Research and Development (R&D) projects currently being undertaken in the Environment, Forest and Climate Change (EF&CC) sector;
- (b) the total amount of fund allocated for such projects; and
- (c) the list of projects and funds allocated?

Rehabilitation of tigers

2121 # **Shri Anil Baluni:**

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

- (a) the details of names of States where tigers are being rehabilitated, and to what extent the rehabilitation scheme has succeeded; and
- (b) the details of States where this experiment is proposed to be replicated in future?

Damage to forests due to pine trees

2122 # **Shri Anil Baluni:**

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

- (a) whether the pine trees are causing damage to forests, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether there is any planning to remove pine trees, if so, the details thereof?

ESZ notification and restrictions on agricultural/horticultural activities

2123 **Shri K.K. Ragesh:**

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

- (a) whether Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ) notification is proposing to impose any restrictions on agricultural/horticultural activities in the notified areas of Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details of agriculture/horticulture or related activities which the ESZ notification intends to restrict; and
- (c) whether Central Government is reviewing the clauses which may hit agriculture/horticulture or related activities in Eco Sensitive Zones?

Impact of climate change on glaciers in Indian Himalayan region

2124 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Shri Shamsher Singh Dullo:

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

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

- (a) whether Government has any data or has conducted any study on the rate at which glaciers in Indian Himalayan region are melting;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has done any assessment on the impact of increase in the melting rate of glaciers on the lives of people in adjoining States;
- (d) whether Government has taken any action to mitigate such natural calamities; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Withdrawal of incentive given to flyash brick industries

2125 **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

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

- (a) whether Government is going to withdraw incentive given till now, by flyash Notification vide S.O. 763(E) dated 1.9.1999 and further amendments till 2016;
- (b) whether in draft notification announced vide O.M. No. HSM09/01/2019 reserving twenty per cent of dry Electrostatic Precipitators (ESP) flyash for supply, free of cost to flyash brick manufactures, has been proposed to be abolished;
- (c) whether the said draft Notification proposes to abolish compulsory usage of flyash products by Government construction agencies; and
- (d) if so, whether Government would like to continue the earlier policy of promoting flyash bricks?

Environmental clearance during lockdown

2126 **Shri Anand Sharma:**

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

- (a) whether environmental clearance, including wildlife clearance was issued to any

infrastructure, industrial or other project during COVID-19 lockdown between 20th March, 2020 and 1st October, 2021;

(b) if so, the details thereof and medium through which Environmental Impact Assessment was conducted;

(c) whether any such clearances were conducted virtually without site visits and inspection;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether such projects threaten fragile ecosystems currently existing at proposed project sites?

Recommendations of WII on developmental projects

2127 # Shri Vivek K. Tankha:

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

(a) whether the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) has given necessary suggestions for minimizing the adverse effects of linear development projects (Railway lines, Highways, etc.) passing through forest areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in view of the recommendations made by WII and for absolute implementation of these recommendations in linear development projects, Government is giving them the status of legal obligations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index

2128 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

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

(a) the details of areas identified as Critically/Severely Polluted Areas (C/SPAs), State/UT-wise;

(b) the details of air/land/water quality scores of C/SPAs under the Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI), during the last five years, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether all C/SPAs have Continuous Ambient Air/Water Quality Monitoring Stations and if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of action plan and monitoring of pollution mitigation in these C/SPAs, State/UT-wise?

Retreating glaciers

2129 Shri A. D. Singh:

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

(a) the extent to which the major Himalayan glaciers have retreated in the last four decades;

(b) the steps Government is taking to mitigate the effects of climate change on this important water source; and

(c) whether Government has put in place any mechanism to keep a watch on formation of glacial lakes in the Himalayan region to prevent further disasters?

Import of heavy industrial equipment and plants

2130 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

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

- (a) the amount of heavy industrial equipment and plants imported during the last five years, industry-wise;
- (b) the details of steps taken by Government to develop heavy engineering industry in the country to substitute import of the heavy engineering equipment and plants;
- (c) the amount of foreign exchange the country can save by developing them domestically;
- (d) whether Government has plans to develop the country into an export hub for heavy industrial equipment and plants; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the plans till now?

Setting up of capital goods industries in the country

2131 Shri A. Vijayakumar:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that second-hand capital goods are imported to the country, instead of setting up industries in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to invite companies to set up capital goods industries;
- (c) whether Government will acquire technology transfer of capital goods by sending experts abroad; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Reserved posts in Central PSUs

2132 Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Shri K.C. Venugopal:

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

- (a) the total number of sanctioned reserved posts for Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in all Central Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), and the details thereof;
- (b) whether proposed privatisation and disinvestment of PSUs, particularly Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), will result in a reduction in reserved posts for SCs, STs, and OBCs, and if so, the details of number of reduction in posts; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to ensure the continuation of reservations in Central PSUs, particularly BPCL, after disinvestment?

Startups in Heavy Industry segment

2133 Dr. Vikas Mahatme:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has formulated policy to promote startups in Heavy Industry segment;
- (b) the number of startups registered in the above-mentioned segment in last five years; and
- (c) whether the Ministry is actively considering proposals to make a new Public Sector Policy for encouraging Startups, if so, likely impact of the same in quantifiable terms?

Electric locomotives and automobiles in the country

2134 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to augment conversion of all diesel engines to electric-run engines and automobiles by 2022;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has chalked out any action plan to phase out use of diesel running locomotives and automobiles;
- (d) whether there is any plan of converting present diesel/petrol-run vehicles to electric-run vehicles;
- (e) whether Government has instructed to produce electric-run engines in a phased manner and step-by-step, by withdrawing 20 per cent diesel engines every year; and
- (f) whether any timeframe has been chalked out for implementation of this decision?

CPSUs under the Ministry

2135 Shri K.J. Alphons:

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

- (a) the number of CPSUs under the Ministry;
- (b) the total investment in these CPSUs;
- (c) the return on capital from these CPSUs; and
- (d) whether the return on capital is reasonable considering the cost of capital?

Impact of lockdown on automobile sector

2136 Dr. Narendra Jadhav:

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

- (a) whether Government has assessed the impact of lockdown on the automobile industry;
- (b) whether any schemes have been announced for the revival of the sector; and
- (c) if so, the details of the measures being taken?

Guidelines for OTT platforms

2137 Shri Vaiko:

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

- (a) whether Government has finalized draft guidelines for Over The Top (OTT) platforms and other social media groups;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether suggestions/comments were invited from the public and stakeholders before finalizing;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether those suggestions were considered before finalizing the guidelines; and
- (f) in what way these are different from the self-regulation norms/guidelines followed by these groups?

Transmission Centres for Kisan TV

2138 # Shri Rajendra Gehlot:

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

- (a) the details of Transmission Centres setup by Government for Kisan TV in Rajasthan;
- (b) the number of agricultural research related programmes being broadcast on these channels; and
- (c) whether the viewers having private Direct To Home (DTH) connections are not able to watch Kisan TV, if so, the steps being taken by Government, in this regard?

Panel set up to review TRP system

2139 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that a Panel has been set up to review Television Rating Points (TRP) system;
- (b) details of the report submitted to the Ministry;
- (c) further action taken on the report if any; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Draft National Broadcasting Policy

2140 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Shri Rajeev Satav:

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated a draft National Broadcasting Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the aims and objectives of the same;
- (c) whether Government has consulted the various stakeholders in this regard and if so, the details thereof and the response of the various stakeholders thereto;
- (d) whether broadcasting industry has requested Government to grant infrastructure status and if so, the details thereof and response of Government; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to help media and entertainment sector to contribute significantly to India's mission to becoming a \$5 trillion economy?

News Channels operating through YouTube and OTT

2141 **Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to regulate the news channels which are operating through YouTube and other Over The Top (OTT) platforms;
- (b) total number of news channel operating through the YouTube and OTT medium;
- (c) whether there has been a demand by the media industry in India to regulate the operation of the News Channels mentioned above;
- (d) number of movies of Indian make which were released through the OTT platforms during the last three calendar years; and
- (e) whether Government is aware of the demand of the news media industry to share the revenue by Google and other such?

Trend of media trials and a regulatory mechanism

2142 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that there has been an increase in the trend of media trials where verdicts are delivered even before investigating agencies complete their work and have filed charge sheets;
- (b) if so, the details of the private channels involved in such activities;
- (c) whether any regulatory mechanism exists to check such programmes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken/being taken by Government to curb such programmes?

Description and presentation of News in Electronics and Print Media

2143 Shri Prasanna Acharya:

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

- (a) whether there are any specified guidelines containing subjects, description and presentation of News in Electronics and Print Media;
- (b) whether Government is aware that some news channels present news items in a manner which encourages communal disharmony, social bitterness and encroaches upon individual liberty; and
- (c) whether Government is considering making necessary changes in the Press Council of India guidelines to discourage such practices by few Electronics and Print Media?

Death of media persons

2144 Shri K.P. Munusamy:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken serious note of the COVID-19 related death of persons employed in TV and Print Media in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total number of deaths;
- (c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to protect the life and interest of the media persons doing their job amidst the COVID-19 crisis and Governments' further stand and decision in this regard; and
- (d) the effective steps taken by Government to create a safe and secured environment for frontline media personnel in the coming months?

PM's address to the Nation

2145 Ms. Arpita Ghosh:

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

- (a) the number of times Prime Minister have addressed the nation since 1952;
- (b) the details of each Prime Minister's address; and
- (c) the purpose of the speeches thereof?

Issuing trigger warnings on News Channels

2146 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:

Dr. Narendra Jadhav:

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

- (a) whether Government has issued any guidelines to television news channels for issuing trigger warnings before showing violent or sensitive content;
- (b) whether Government has commissioned a research/study in this regard;
- (c) the steps undertaken by Government to regulate such programming on Television news; and
- (d) whether Government witnessed any negative impact on the public, if so, the details thereof?

Regulation for online video content

2147 Shri Vivek K. Tankha:

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

- (a) whether Government has any plans for regulation of Over The Top (OTT) platform and

online video content;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is planning to restrict streaming companies and censorship of OTT platform/online video content by implementing new legislation on OTT platform and online streaming of videos; and

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

Implementation of CAT orders

2148 Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:

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

(a) the complete details of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) orders/Judgements from 2005 onwards, which have not been implemented by Government;

(b) the details of CAT orders/Judgements which have not been appealed in the High Court with reasons thereof, case-wise; and

(c) whether the Ministry is adhering to the opinion of Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) and Ministry of Law & Justice and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Updation of water purification technology

2149 Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder:

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

(a) whether the contamination of the drinking water is increasing and State Governments are unable to provide pure water due to lack of latest technologies;

(b) if so, whether Government has proposed to give financial assistance to the State to update the old age water purification technology with the best global practices;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has sought technological/financial help from external agencies/sources; and

(e) if so, the details thereof as on date?

Indigenous water treatment companies

2150 Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder:

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

(a) the details of indigenous water treatment companies in the country;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to boost these indigenous small water treatment companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Har Ghar Jal Scheme

2151 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

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

(a) whether Government is working on the schemes with the target of providing adequate water to every villager for drinking, cooking, other domestic requirements and for cattle in all circumstances including flood and drought;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is working on any scheme named 'Har Ghar Jal' in which a fixed

time-limit has been fixed in order to achieve the target; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Toilet facilities under NBA

2152 # Shri Surendra Singh Nagar:

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

- (a) the number of families which have been provided toilet facilities under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) at present, State-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that people in rural areas feel comfortable in defecating in the fields despite having toilets at home;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government is working on any plan to change this mindset so that people could be motivated to use the toilets?

Fluoride contamination in drinking water in Tamil Nadu

2153 Shri P. Wilson:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the rural people of Tamil Nadu are facing a huge problem due to the contamination of Fluoride in drinking water in Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps/measures to control the Fluoride contamination in drinking water, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of financial and technical help that Government extended to Tamil Nadu to control extent of Fluoride during each of the last three years and the current year, district-wise?

Depletion of ground water

2154 Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the constant depletion of ground water level and drying up of the ponds and wells;
- (b) if so, the proposal of Government to increase their water level for their revival and recharge; and
- (c) the details of steps taken by Government to ensure the availability of clean drinking water in the country during the last five years and the current year?

Budget allocation for maintenance of water system

2155 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study to assess the water which is wasted due to leakages in the country ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) budget allocation for maintenance of the water system, for fixing the gaps in water infrastructure State-wise?

Piped water to rural households under JJM

2156 Shri P. Bhattacharya:

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

- (a) whether the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) aims to provide piped potable water to every rural household by 2024 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the budgetary allocation made for the Mission, State-wise;
- (c) the details of blocks covered in Jalgaon, Nandurbar, Kolhapur, Ratnagiri, Ahmednagar and Thane districts of Maharashtra;
- (d) the details of the number of households in Maharashtra that have received piped potable water under the Mission, district-wise; and
- (e) whether any problem is being faced in implementation of the JJM and if so, the details thereof?

National River Conservation Programme

2157 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

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

- (a) the main aims and objectives of the National River Conservation Programme (NRCP);
- (b) whether it is a fact that Tungabhadra, Cauvery and Pennar in Karnataka have been identified under NRCP;
- (c) if so, the details of polluted stretches identified in the above rivers;
- (d) the status of cleaning the identified stretches in the above rivers; and
- (e) the allocation made in 2021-22 for NRCP?

Tap water connection in Karnataka

2158 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that Karnataka is one of the 'drinking-water suffering' States in the country;
- (b) whether Government is also aware that except Koppal district, no other district in Karnataka has 65 per cent of tap water connections;
- (c) details of steps taken/proposed to taken to put emphasis on other districts under Har Ghar Jal scheme to provide tap water to every household in Karnataka; and
- (d) whether there is any impact of COVID-19 on the scheme?

Feasibility report on inter-linking of Godavari and Krishna rivers

2159 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

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

- (a) whether feasibility report on Godavari (Polavaram) – Krishna (Vijayawada) rivers inter-linking has been completed by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has earmarked any fund for completing this rivers linking project;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Status of Mahanadi Tribunal

2160 **Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

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

- (a) the status of the Mahanadi Tribunal now; and
- (b) whether the concerns of the State of Odisha has been addressed by this Tribunal?

Diseases due to Fluoride contamination

2161 # **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

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

- (a) whether various types of diseases can occur in the body due to high presence of Fluoride in water, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the quality of land and air is also affected badly due to the presence of too much Fluoride, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has carried out any survey of the districts and areas that have been inflicted with the disease of Fluorosis caused by Fluoride; and
- (d) if so, the number and name of districts effected by Fluorosis, State-wise?

Implementation of JJM

2162 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) the salient feature of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM);
- (b) the details of the number of districts initially covered under this Mission within country;
- (c) whether Government has made any survey in various States regarding the households having tap connections and without tap connections;
- (d) whether Government has fixed any target in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the progress of work made so far in various States?

Increasing cases of Fluoride contamination

2163 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

- (a) whether Government has asked the States to provide alternative source of drinking water to the people in areas with high concentration of Fluoride in ground water in view of increase in cases of Fluoride contamination;
- (b) whether areas with high concentration of Fluoride in ground water have been identified and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to provide safe drinking water in the Fluoride affected districts/areas across the country and if so, the details thereof?

Piped drinking water

2164 **Shri Prasanna Acharya:**

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

- (a) the percentage of people in the country having access to piped drinking water, State-wise; and
- (b) the long drawn programme of Government to provide piped drinking water in the tribal

inhabited areas where water born disease is a regular phenomena?

Gap in water supply and sewage infrastructure

2165 **Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia:**

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

- (a) whether there is a huge gap in sewage infrastructure needed to comprehensively manage water supply in major cities across the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government has chalked out any strategy to meet the challenges of urban water deficit; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Status of PMKSY

2166 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

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

- (a) the progress made under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) (Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme & other Projects) so far, State-wise along with funds sanctioned/spent, project-wise; and
- (b) the present status thereof?

Implementation of anti-erosion projects

2167 **Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is implementing anti-erosion projects for the protection of human lives from floods across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the anti-erosion projects sanctioned during the last one year;
- (c) whether Government is aware of the bank erosion of Brahmaputra river at many places every year and if so, the details thereof, year-wise;
- (d) whether Government contemplates any action plan or project to check flash floods which occur in Assam routinely during monsoon; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds utilizations in Tamil Nadu under PMKSY

2168 **Shri N.R. Elango:**

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

- (a) the extent of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) fund utilization in Tamil Nadu and the outcomes of the projects implemented in Tamil Nadu under PMKSY; and
- (b) the level of indigenization of the micro irrigation technologies (technology, spare parts) that are promoted via PMKSY and is undertaking active efforts to create testbeds for home grown technology products in this area?

BIS standard for drinking water supply

2169 **Shri N.R. Elango:**

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

- (a) the status of the BIS draft standard for drinking water supply;
- (b) the status of 24x7 water supply in select Indian cities; and

(c) whether the Ministry has evolved methodologies and guidelines towards improving piped water supply quality with the negative correlation between piped water quality and degree of intermittent water supply?

Conversion from lift to drip irrigation system

2170 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

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

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to convert all lift irrigation lands into drip irrigation lands as it saves much electric power and doubles the cultivation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government in this direction?

Lack of access to clean water

2171 Shri Sanjay Singh:

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

- (a) whether over 120 million households still lack access to clean water near their homes in the country, which is the highest in the world, according to UN-water;
- (b) whether according to United Nations International Children's Education Fund (UNICEF), 91 million urban Indians lack basic hand washing facilities at home which creates a higher risk of spread of illnesses and diseases like diarrhoea, typhoid, hepatitis, including coronavirus; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to accelerate the process of providing clean water connection to another 138 million households, or 73 per cent remaining, by 2024, especially in rural households?

Information on State water policies

2172 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:

Dr. Narendra Jadhav:

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

- (a) the details of number of States/UTs that have formulated and adopted their State Water Policies;
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to encourage other States to formulate clean water policies;
- (c) whether Government has done a review of the implementation of various policies relevant to the issue of water pollution and environmental conservation; and
- (d) a detailed statement showing policies that have been reviewed along with publicly disclosed findings?

Arsenic and Fluoride contamination in drinking water in Chhattisgarh

2173 # Shri Ram Vichar Netam:

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

- (a) the number of settlements where drinking water is contaminated with Arsenic and Fluoride as on January 2021 in Chhattisgarh;
- (b) the number of villages covered under piped drinking water pipeline supply under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) in Chhattisgarh till date; and
- (d) the funds allocated to Chhattisgarh under the NRDWP and the funds utilised therefrom during the last two years?

Declaration of access to safe drinking water as a fundamental right

2174 # **Shri Narayan Rane:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to declare access to safe drinking water as a fundamental right for every citizen of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the total number of rural habitations which have been provided the facility of safe drinking water, State/Union Territory-wise; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to formulate any action plan to achieve the goal of providing safe drinking water to hundred per cent rural habitations by 2020 and if so, the details thereof?

Inadequate water management system

2175 **Shri Y. S. Chowdary:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the most of the rain water goes to the sea due to inadequate water management system in place in the country;
- (b) if so, the detail thereof;
- (c) the details of rain water saved during the last three years, State-wise;
- (d) whether Government has prepared a detailed plan to conserve rain water across the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Contamination of heavy metals in drinking water

2176 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

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

- (a) the details of number of households affected by contamination of heavy metals in drinking water in the country as on date, State-wise;
- (b) the details of increase/decrease in number of households which are affected by contamination of heavy metals in drinking water in the country, State-wise;
- (c) the details of budget allocation for the year 2021-22 for provision of safe drinking water in rural areas, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of households which have been provided safe and heavy metal free drinking water in the country, State-wise?

Star Rating of Annual Survey of cleanliness ODF

2177 # **Shri Ram Shakal:**

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

- (a) whether the introduction of Star Rating of Annual Survey of cleanliness for Open Defecation Free (ODF), garbage free cities has expeditiously paved the way for sustainable cleanliness;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount of funds allocated for this purpose during current financial year?

Agriculture and tourism based industries under MSMEs

2178 Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to include agriculture and tourism based industries under the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government to boost the export of agriculture products?

Launch of Khadi Natural Paint

2179 # Dr. Anil Jain:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has launched India's first ever 'Khadi Natural Paint' made out of cow dung;
- (b) if so, the main features of this paint;
- (c) whether it is a fact that 'Khadi Natural Paint' is eco-friendly and non-toxic with anti-fungal and anti-bacterial properties, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is a fact that 'Khadi Natural Paint' will improve the rural economy and reverse the migration from cities to rural areas; and
- (e) whether Government would have any role in the manufacturing and marketing of this paint?

Employment generation under PMEGP in Rajasthan

2180 # Shri Rajendra Gehlot:

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

- (a) the details of new micro enterprises set up under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) in Rajasthan during the last three years including current financial year, year-wise;
- (b) the details of employment generated under PMEGP programme in Rajasthan during the said period; and
- (c) whether any reservation has been provided to the economically weaker sections of the general category, if so, the details thereof?

Special Insolvency Resolution Framework for MSMEs

2181 Shri Mahesh Poddar:

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

- (a) whether only debtors will be able to initiate proceedings under special insolvency resolution framework for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs);
- (b) if so, intended benefits of allowing only debtors to initiate proceedings;
- (c) steps Government is taking to protect dues of MSMEs sector in resolution under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, particularly in view of MSMEs and delayed payments acts;
- (d) steps Government is taking towards simplification of procedural requirements for resolution; and
- (e) steps Government is taking to ensure that valuations of MSMEs in resolution plans adequately factor in the informal nature of MSMEs and a majority of their transactions?

Cases of resolution under SIRF

2182 **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

- (a) the number of cases in resolution under the Special Insolvency Resolution Framework (SIRF) for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) as of 31 January 2021;
- (b) the number of cases resolved under this framework as of 31 January 2021;
- (c) whether Government possesses data on break-up of these cases, State-wise;
- (d) if so, the details of the same; and
- (e) if not, whether Government intends to maintain such data under the aegis of the aforementioned framework?

FM/UL certification and re-validation

2183 **Shri Sanjay Raut:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Indian BIS Mark/ISI mark is a less stringent standard than Factory Mutual (FM)/Underwriters Laboratory, USA(UL) for the certification and revalidation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and observations thereon;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) could not compete with foreign products due to the need of FM/UL certifications and re-validation, which is very costly and puts burden on price competitiveness of the product; and
- (d) if so, Government's response thereto?

Financial package for MSMEs sector in COVID-19 situation

2184 **Dr. Banda Prakash:**

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

- (a) the details of financial package announced by Government for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector for its revival along with number of MSMEs revived from such package so far in COVID-19 pandemic, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether banks are not implementing stimulus package in its true spirit and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to introduce an effective monitoring system for implementation of the scheme and if so, the details thereof?

Field officers under PMEGP

2185 **Shri Muzibulla Khan:**

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

the total number of field officers under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), State-wise?

Credit Guarantee Trust Fund for SMEs

2186 **Shri Muzibulla Khan:**

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

- (a) the total number of beneficiaries of Credit Guarantee Trust Fund for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGT SME) in the Financial Year 2020-21; and
- (b) the total number of beneficiaries of said fund CGT SME in the Financial Year 2020-21,

State-wise?

Registration of MSMEs in Karnataka

2187 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

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

- (a) the number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) registered in Karnataka during 2018-2019, 2019-2020;
- (b) whether there is a cancellation of MSMEs during the said period; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the total number of MSMEs cancelled?

Emergency credit to MSMEs

2188 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

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

- (a) emergency credit line announced under AtmaNirbhar Bharat Package (ABP);
- (b) eligibility criteria to avail this credit line by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs);
- (c) whether scheme is announced only till October, 2020;
- (d) whether there are demands from MSMEs sector to extend this scheme for one more year and if so, what the Ministry has done on this;
- (e) to what extent this helps in resuming activity of MSMEs and safeguarding jobs; and
- (f) whether Government is happy with Budget allocation for 2021-22 and if not, how it is going to manage its schemes within the available resources in the next fiscal?

Impact of functioning of MSMEs

2189 **Shri Hishey Lachungpa:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to enable the unlisted companies to convert their shares into dematerialized form;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has done any study on the impact of any such move on the functioning of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Deaths in mica mines

2190 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

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

- (a) the number of workers who died while working in mica mines across the country since 2017 and whether any of these were children;
- (b) the details of the compensation paid to the family of these victims;
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken note of the large number of child labourers who work in these mines, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the action taken against the mines engaged in child labour and the corporations using mica from these mines; and
- (e) the safety mechanisms which exists currently to improve the working conditions in these mica mines?

Enhancement of royalty on non coal minerals

2191 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

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

- (a) whether Government is considering enhancing the rate of royalty for iron/chromite/bauxite ores, etc., as per the demand of the State Government; and
- (b) by when the decision of enhancement of the rate of royalty is expected to be taken?

Sand stowing for mine safety

2192 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that many mines in Odisha under Mahanadi Coalfields, a subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL) are closed due to sand stowing;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action/measures taken by Government;
- (c) by when the balance backfilling work would be completed; and
- (d) whether there is any detailed plan formulated to complete the backfilling in these two underground mines?

Sale of coal/lignite produced by captive mines

2193 **Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has urged the Ministry of Finance to incorporate a provision in Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to allow sale of fifty per cent of coal/lignite produced by captive mines on an annual basis;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry has also invited comments from the State Governments of coal bearing States and stakeholders/ general public on the said proposals; and
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Ministry and the details of the comments, if any, received from the stakeholders and the general public?

Royalty issues with respect to states

2194 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to amend/increase the amount of royalty being paid to the States for minerals and has constituted a study group for the purpose and amending the rate of dead rent for major minerals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this direction by the said group; and
- (c) the time by which the royalty rates for minerals are likely to be amended/increased?

Financial assistance to poor minority students

2195 **Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia:**

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

- (a) whether Government provides financial assistance to poor minority students for graduation level studies;
- (b) if so, details thereof and if not, whether Government has any plan to do so;
- (c) number of minority students benefitted in terms of financial assistance for their higher studies in foreign countries;
- (d) details of amount spent by the Ministry for education of minority students for last three

years, year-wise;

(e) whether the Ministry provides assistance to States for carrying out schemes for the welfare of minority students; and

(f) if so, details thereof and if not, whether Government has any plan to do so in near future?

Higher education amongst minorities

2196 Shri Binoy Viswam:

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

(a) the total percentage of students belonging to minority communities currently enrolled in public higher educational institutes in the country;

(b) whether the Ministry has identified key problem areas in its own programmes that must be addressed to improve the access to higher education amongst minorities;

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry to improve access to higher education; and

(d) whether the Ministry plans on extending the number of educational schemes available to minorities for higher education, if so, the details thereof?

Free coaching centres in Rajasthan

2197 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

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

(a) the number of free coaching centres in Rajasthan and number of free coaching centres under the related scheme and names of the places where these centres are located;

(b) whether Government proposes to open these centres, where there are no such centres, as soon as possible;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government proposes to open one center each at Dausa, Sawai Madhopur, Alwar and Karauli in Rajasthan, if so, the details thereof?

Action on the Sachar Committee report

2198 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

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

(a) whether Government has taken follow up action on the Sachar Committee recommendations regarding more participation of minorities in the private sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard;

(d) whether any special measures have been taken to implement the report of the Sachar Committee in several States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Irregularities in pre-matric scholarship

2199 Shri Anand Sharma:

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

(a) whether Government is aware of irregularities and criminal practices in the applications of the pre-matric scholarship in Jharkhand and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether steps have been taken to identify the perpetrators of such malpractices and ensure delivery of scholarships to beneficiaries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Dropouts from school due to COVID-19

2200 **Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

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

- (a) the percentage of students from minority communities who have dropped out of school after the COVID-19 pandemic, among the total dropouts;
- (b) the drop out rate for minority students over the last ten years; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to address the issue of dropouts?

'Padho Pardesh' and Scholarship scheme for minorities

2201 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) the details of implementation of 'Padho Pardesh', a scheme that provides interest subsidy to minority students for overseas studies, State-wise;
- (b) the number of students who have benefitted from this scheme in the State of Odisha; and
- (c) the details of the implementation of pre-matric, post-matric and merit-cum-means scholarship schemes for minorities, State-wise?

Infrastructure development at Indian ports

2202 **Dr. Amee Yajnik:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to create a world class environment friendly infrastructure at ports to make India a US \$ 5 trillion economy by 2024;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by Government in this direction;
- (c) whether Government has devised any plan to harness India's vast coast for the sustainable growth and development of the shipping industry and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other steps taken by Government to develop all Indian ports at par with other global ports across the world?

Freight transportation through National Waterway-I

2203 # **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

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

- (a) whether the freight activities in National Waterway-I (Ganga) between Varanasi-Haldia have started;
- (b) whether any assessment has been undertaken to ascertain the extent of cost effectiveness of the transportation through waterways in comparison with rail and road mode of transportation; and
- (c) the travelling time between Varanasi and Haldia along with the hurdles being faced during this waterway transportation?

Rail and road connectivity between ports

2204 Shri Iranna Kadadi:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has undertaken 55 rail projects and 15 road projects to connect various ports in the country; (b) if so, the details of rail and road projects that have been undertaken to connect various ports in Karnataka; and
- (c) the status of each of the rail and road projects relating to connectivity of various ports in Karnataka?

Restrictions on shipping due to COVID-19

2205 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

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

- (a) the current restrictions on Shipping, to and from the country due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (b) whether Government has a record of industries that have suffered due to Shipping restrictions over the past year, if so, the details thereof?

Funds released for IWAI

2206 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

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

- (a) the details of progress made along with announcement/implementation/execution of the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) projects phase-wise and States covered/beneficiaries listed and criteria adopted along with funds sanctioned/released and the results yielded so far, sector-wise during the last six years and current year-wise as on date;
- (b) the demand received/action taken from States, year-wise; and
- (c) the details of future action plan in this regard?

Container handling for major Indian ports

2207 Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:

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

- (a) the total container handling per year for major Indian ports over the last fifteen years, port-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the total number of 20-feeter Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit (TUES) containers, 40-feeter (FUES) containers and 45-feeter containers handled over the last fifteen years by the major ports;
- (c) the total number of reefer containers handled by major ports over last fifteen years; and
- (d) the proportion of this total handling that has been done by private ports and the details thereof?

Impact of Jal Marg Vikas project on Haldia-Varanasi

2208 Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:

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

- (a) the total length of national waterways at present and in March 2014 in the country;
- (b) details of projects developed or under development in Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal and Assam with details like length, budget, expenditure

incurred etc.;

(c) whether national waterway projects are currently operational and status of their operational performance;

(d) the physical, financial progress, likely completion date, States covered and expected impact of Jal Marg Vikas Project on Haldia-Varanasi stretch of NW-1; and

(e) the status of different stretches of NH-4 covering Andhra Pradesh and reasons for delay?

Tendering of NHs for collection of toll tax

2209 Shri Elamaram Kareem:

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

(a) the amount collected through tendering of the National Highways (NHs) for collection of toll tax from 01-04-2014 to 31-03-2020;

(b) the total amount collected by the contractors through collection of toll tax in all the toll plazas during this period; and

(c) the number of toll plazas in NHs in existence and collecting toll at present and the number of toll plazas removed after their toll collection period expired, State wise data thereof?

Road transport workers in the country

2210 Shri Elamaram Kareem:

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

(a) the number of road transport workers at present, the number of workers in auto rickshaw, taxi, truck, bus, etc. and the number of driver, conductor, mechanics, etc. both in Public Sector and Private Sector;

(b) the number of vehicles "on road", type wise, as on 31st March 2020; and

(c) whether Government has considered the report and the recommendations of the V. V. Giri National Labour Institute which studied the problems of the road transport workers, if so, the decisions taken on that report?

FASTag deployment and collections

2211 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:

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

(a) the number of toll plazas that are FASTag enabled since 2018, year-wise;

(b) the number of users that have registered to use FASTag;

(c) toll collected through FASTag as a percentage of the total toll collected during 2019-20 and 2020-21;

(d) the extent of economic benefits derived as savings from the use of FASTag;

(e) whether the deployment of FASTag has necessitated laying off workers that previously worked at toll plazas and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether deployment of FASTag has reduced commute time on Highways?

Development work of NHs in the States

2212 Dr. Amee Yajnik:

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

(a) the details of development work of National Highways (NHs) taken up in various States of the country during the last two years;

- (b) whether the targets fixed for the said work have been achieved and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the funds allocated and released for the purpose during the last two years?

Provision for Accident Removal Committee

2213 Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has made provision for formation of Accident Removal Committee in every districts;
- (b) if so, whether the Committees are constituted and functioning in every districts; and
- (c) the details of the function of the Committees?

Diversion of NH-52

2214 Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:

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

- (a) whether Government has proposed for diversion of NH-52 from Mangaldoi and Kharpetia in Assam to reduce congestion, etc. of the township;
- (b) if so, whether any survey have been done; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the schedule of completion of the project?

Encroachment on NH-44

2215 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that with no checks on 'illegal access points' to National Highway-44, around 70 km stretch from the Karnal-Panipat border to Karnal-Kurukshetra border is posing a threat to commuters;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that most of the people running dhabas, restaurants and fuel stations on this stretch have taken illegal access to the NH-44, making a mockery of the system;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has collected any data about the legal entry and exit points on this stretch?

Plan for reducing accidents

2216 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

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

- (a) whether Government has drawn any plan for reducing road accidents in the years to come;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Minister has suggested that there should be a three day mandatory training of engineers of Ministry, National Highways Authority of India, Public Works Department and various agencies related to road construction for awareness about road safety; and
- (c) if so, steps taken in this regard till date?

Status of Patna-Buxar Highway

2217 # Shri Ram Nath Thakur:

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

- (a) the current status of Patna-Buxar Highway extension plan;
- (b) by when, this plan is likely to be completed along with the details of work which remains to be completed in terms of percentage;
- (c) the current status of construction work of proposed Koilwar Bridge on Sone river and Buxar bridge on river Ganga; and
- (d) by when it is proposed to be completed?

Toll free facility for vehicles of district on NHs

2218 # Shri Neeraj Dangi:

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

- (a) whether National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) proposes to make the vehicles of the district concerned with the location of toll plazas toll-free on National Highways operated under it;
- (b) if so, by when they will be toll free; and
- (c) if not, reasons as to why the vehicles of the concerned district cannot be given a relaxation in toll?

Construction of over bridge, culvert on NHs

2219 Shri P. Bhattacharya:

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

- (a) the details of the construction of over bridge/small culvert, etc. on the National Highways (NHs) in the country in public interest;
- (b) the details of new over bridges/ small bridges/culverts constructed on NHs in public interest during the last three years, State and NH-wise;
- (c) whether demands/requests for construction of a new culvert/over bridge have been made by the local representatives, villagers and students for the last four to five years due to the severe accidents taking place frequently at Bandar Sindari village in Kishangarh on NH-8; and
- (d) if so, action taken by Government in this regard?

Development of Green NH corridors

2220 Shri Rajeev Satav:

Shri Sanjay Seth:

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

- (a) the main objective of developing green National Highway (NH) corridors;
- (b) the States that have been shortlisted for green NH corridors;
- (c) whether the project aims to generate job opportunities for women by training women-led micro-enterprises as well as women collectives to implement green technologies in the corridors of NHs;
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and
- (e) the other steps taken by Government to construct more Green NH corridor by integrating technology design such as local and marginal materials, industrial by-products and other bio-engineering solutions?

Completion of highway projects

2221 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

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

- (a) the details of ongoing highway projects across the country and their expected date of completion along with the details of when the projects began;
- (b) whether highway projects were delayed or postponed due to the pandemic; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Land acquisition for Mumbai-Delhi Corridor Project

2222 Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:

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

- (a) by when the acquisition of land for Mumbai-Delhi Corridor Project will be completed;
- (b) the details of total cost of this project and likely time for its completion; and
- (c) the manner in which the industry including power projects and airports are likely to be benefitted by the said project along with the details thereof?

Road accidents in the country

2223 Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

- (a) whether the number of road accidents have increased in the country during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is considering to provide free of cost/cashless medical treatment to the victims of road accidents and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to prevent incidents of road accidents?

Port connectivity roads under Bharatmala/Sagarmala Schemes in Kerala

2224 Shri K.K. Ragesh:

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

- (a) whether construction or up-gradation of any Port connectivity roads are under consideration under Bharatmala/Sagarmala Schemes in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of funds earmarked or sanctioned for such projects so far?

Construction of Patna-Gaya-Dobhi Road

2225 # Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Patna-Gaya-Dobhi NH-83, Road in Bihar having the length of 127 kms was started in the year 2013 at a cost of ₹5500 crore;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Government of Bihar was to provide 700 acres of land which has not been provided, so far;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the required funds also could not be provided by NHAI and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) yet; and
- (d) the details of current status of the said road project and by when its completion is

targeted?

Management of NHs

2226 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that National Highways (NHs) falling in the city limits are very poorly managed by the Engineering Procurement & Construction (EPC) contractors, especially in Bengaluru–NH-4 (Nelamangala) Karnataka, NH-7 (Devanahalli), NH-4 (Hosur), Tamil Nadu, which are toll roads;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure quality and standards, especially of Devanahalli Road (NH-7)?

Four Lane NHs in Assam

2227 **Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:**

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has taken up for four lane National Highways (NHs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the progress of four lane highways in Assam;
- (d) whether the Ministry is aware of the slow progress of the construction of four lane highways in Assam particularly from Numaligarh to Dibrugarh, if so, details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Ministry to speed up the construction of four lanes NHs in Assam?

Raipur-Visakhapatnam NH project

2228 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether Raipur-Visakhapatnam is a flagship project of the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the manner in which flagship project is different from other National Highways (NHs) projects; and
- (c) the status of the project and by when it is going to be completed?

Ranking of NHs

2229 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry at the behest of Prime Minister's Office (PMO) decided to rank National Highways (NHs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of parameters that are going to be taken into account while ranking NHs; and
- (d) whether any incentive would be given to those stretches which have better ranks?

Status of NHs in select States

2230 **Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

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

- (a) the total length of National Highways (NHs) at present and at the end of March 2014 in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal and Assam;
- (b) the total list of NH projects completed from April, 2014 onwards in above States along with the details of completion date, length, location particulars, cost, etc.; and
- (c) the number of NH and road projects relating to above States of the Ministry that are included in national infrastructure pipeline and the capital outlay for these projects for the years 2020 to 2025 along with the details thereof?

Completion of Raipur-Bilaspur highway in Chhattisgarh

2231 # Shri Ram Vichar Netam:

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

- (a) the number of National Highways (NHs) underway/pending in Chhattisgarh;
- (b) the funds sanctioned and released by Government for the implementation of said projects during last three years;
- (c) whether Government is aware of the fact that the NH which is being constructed between Ambikapur and Bilaspur could not be completed in given time limit; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government thereon?

Target set for construction of highways

2232 # Shri Narayan Rane:

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

- (a) the details of the targets fixed by Government for the construction of National Highways (NHs);
- (b) the pace by which these targets are being achieved every year, the details thereof;
- (c) the States and projects where work could not be completed within estimated time; and
- (d) forthcoming new projects of NHs for which proposals have been received by Government?

Construction of Over Bridge over Brahmaputra River

2233 Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is planning to construct a bridge over river Brahmaputra to connect Numaligarh to Gohpur;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any Detailed Project Report (DPR) that has been prepared; and
- (d) by when it will be started?

NHs for Chhattisgarh

2234 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:

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

- (a) the length of the four new National Highways (NHs) recently announced by Government for Chhattisgarh; and
- (b) the details of timeline fixed for the completion of these NHs along with the amount of funds allocated in this regard?

Training of youth to participate in Olympics

2235 Shri P. Wilson:

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

- (a) whether Government has any plan to increase the participation of youth in upcoming Olympics, especially from Tamil Nadu, if so, details thereof;
- (b) the details of funds allocated/sanctioned and spent on improvement of youth in sports in the country, especially in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to boost the Olympics sports training infrastructure in the country especially, in rural India and non metro cities, if so, details thereof; and
- (d) whether any goal has been set for achieving a higher medal tally in the coming Olympics, if so, details thereof?

Promotion of sports amongst persons with disabilities

2236 # Shri Neeraj Dangi:

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

- (a) whether Government is mulling over promoting sports competitions for 'divyang' persons in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the total funds allocated/ released during the last five years, State/ Union Territory-wise and year-wise?

Schemes for sports in Karnataka

2237 Shri Iranna Kadadi:

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

- (a) the details of the existing Central Government schemes for the development of sports, implemented in Karnataka;
- (b) the amount allocated for each discipline of sports under these schemes during the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and
- (c) the details of expenditure incurred on sports in last three years and the current year in Karnataka?

Sports events not conducted during 2020-21

2238 Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy:

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

- (a) the number and list of international sports events which could not be conducted in 2020-21, in which India was expected to participate;
- (b) the measures taken by the Ministry through the sports bodies to keep up the morale of the sportspersons during the pandemic;
- (c) the measures taken by the Ministry to align the New Education Policy with the existing youth policy; and
- (d) whether there is a need to redefine the youth policy in the context of New Education Policy, and if so, the details thereof?

Sports events under Khelo India programme**2239 # Shri Deepak Prakash:**Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has started sports events at the national level under 'Khelo India' programme;
- (b) if so, the details of such sports events in which the players of Jharkhand have also benefited; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to ensure transparency in the selection of sports and fair play?

Reduction in expenditure on schemes**2240 # Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:****Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:****Shri Chh. Udayanraje Bhonsle:****Smt. Chhaya Verma:**Will the Minister of **Youth Affairs and Sports** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of amount of funds that could not be spent under the various schemes of the Ministry during the last year due to COVID-19, scheme-wise;
- (b) whether the development of the areas for which the schemes were introduced has been hampered due to no expenditure on development, maintenance and promotion of the schemes; and
- (c) if so, the details of steps being taken more swiftly on the schemes to compensate for the same?

New Delhi
The 8th March, 2021
17 Phalgun, 1942 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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