

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, December 10, 2021/ 19 Agrahayana, 1943 (Saka)

**(Ministries : Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Commerce and Industry;
Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Electronics and
Information Technology; Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; Food
Processing Industries; Heavy Industries; Railways; Textiles)**

Total number of questions -- 160

Implementation of PMKSY-PDMC Yojana in Rajasthan

1441 # **Shri Ramkumar Verma:**

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

- (a) the total area covered by micro irrigation in the country till now under Per Drop More Crop component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee (PMKSY-PDMC) Yojana;
- (b) the progress made in the area covered under micro irrigation in the State of Rajasthan in the last three years;
- (c) the amount of central funds released to the States, including Rajasthan under the scheme during the period; and
- (d) the manner in which State Governments are working in collaboration with Central Government for promoting these schemes?

Promoting organic farming

1442 # **Shri Ramkumar Verma:**

Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha:

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

- (a) the adverse effect of chemicals on agricultural products;
- (b) whether Government is promoting or preferring organic farming to chemical free farming;
- (c) if so, the details of regions covered under organic farming, State-wise, especially in Uttar Pradesh;
- (d) whether Government has any plans to provide assistance for organic certification to individual farmers, if so, the criteria in place for providing such assistance; and
- (e) whether Government is working on any specific action plan for promoting alternative or organic fertilizers which help in reducing excessive consumption of urea in the country, if so, the details thereof?

Women farmers in the country

1443 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

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

- (a) the percentage of land owned by female farmers in the country;
- (b) the number of land-owning female farmers and land-owning male farmers in different States;
- (c) the percentage of female farmers who have accessed PMFBY, PM-KISAN and Kisan Credit Cards in different States;
- (d) the average monthly income earned by female and male farmers and farm labourers in different States;
- (e) the percentage of female farmers who sold their agricultural produces at MSP in different States during last five years, year-wise; and
- (f) the definition used for women farmers when calculating numbers of farmer suicides in the country?

Promotion of agricultural mechanization for in-situ management of crop residue

1444 **Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

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

- (a) the number of farm Machinery Banks for custom hiring of crop residue management machinery established, during the year 2019-20 till present, State-wise;
- (b) the number of crop residue management machinery distributed on subsidy during the year 2019-20 till present, State-wise;
- (c) the quantity of crop-residue managed through machinery during 2019-20 till present, State-wise along with district-wise in Punjab;
- (d) the area of land (in lakh ha) over which crop residue management adopted during the year 2019-20 till present, State-wise; and
- (e) the average operational cost of machinery for the year 2019-20 till present?

Benefit to women farmers under PMFBY and PM-KISAN schemes

1445 **Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

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

- (a) the number of women farmer applications under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) in the years 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, State-wise;
- (b) the number of women farmer beneficiaries under PMFBY in the years 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, State-wise;
- (c) the number of women farmers enrolled under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) in the years 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, State-wise; and
- (d) the total funds transferred to women farmers under PM-KISAN in the years 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, State-wise?

Damage to paddy crops in Uttar Pradesh due to rains

1446 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

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

- (a) whether Government has deputed any team in the State of Uttar Pradesh to assess the extent of damages caused by rains to paddy crops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has drafted any policy for upward revision of the compensation for

farmers for crop loss during floods/droughts, if so, the details thereof; and
(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Implementation of Horticulture Cluster Development Programme in Kerala

1447 **Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

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

- (a) the status of the Horticulture Cluster Development Programme;
- (b) the name of clusters selected for this;
- (c) whether Government has received request from the Government of Kerala to include the State in the programme; and
- (d) if so, the development made in this regard?

Enrollement under PMFBY

1448 **Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

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

- (a) the Central share released to the insurance companies towards crop insurance under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and the annual quantum of claims settled by the insurance companies every year since the inception of this scheme, State-wise; and
- (b) the number of farmers enrolled in the scheme every year, State-wise?

Settlement of claims under PMFBY

1449 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

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

- (a) the total claims remain pending under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY);
- (b) the details of all insurance companies which have defaulted on insurance payments, with default amount for each;
- (c) the steps taken against the defaulting insurance companies so far; and
- (d) the average delay in settlement of claims under PMFBY over the last four years, year-wise?

Pendency of complaints with PMFBY

1450 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

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

- (a) the number of complaints pending with the State-level Grievance Redressal Committees for the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima (PMFBY) Yojana, State-wise;
- (b) the number of complaints which have been resolved by the Committees in the current year;
- (c) whether steps have been taken to increase awareness among farmers about the working of the Grievance Redressal Committees;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of States yet to notify the District and State level Grievance Redressal Committees, the details thereof?

Compensation to families of farmers who died during protests

1451 # **Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu:**

Shri Sanjay Singh:

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to provide or made any provision towards livelihood monetary compensation to the families of the farmers who died during the farmers' protests;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is also planning to provide Government jobs to the family members of those farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Enactment of law on MSP

1452 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to constitute a committee on issues related to Minimum Support Price (MSP);
- (b) whether Government has reviewed the fact that if a law on MSP would be enacted, the farmers in the country may be in crisis; and
- (c) the measures being taken by Government to reinstate self-confidence in farmers of the country?

Campaign on organic farming

1453 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a campaign is being run by Government for poor farmers of the country to provide necessary information about organic farming which involves less cost;
- (b) if so, the name of States where this campaign is being run; and
- (c) the measures taken by Government to help the farmers to get rid of poverty, during the year 2020-21 and the details thereof?

Legal guarantee for MSP of every crop

1454 **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Abdul Wahab:

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

- a) whether Government proposes to bring legislation on guaranteed procurement of crops and legal guarantee to Minimum Support Price (MSP) for every crop as per C2 plus 50 per cent formula recommended by Swaminathan Commission;
- b) if so, the details thereof; and
- c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Procurement of groundnut, bajra, jowar, maize, tur, arhar, moong and paddy crops below the MSP

1455 **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Anand Sharma:

Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

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

- (a) whether average harvest price of summer sown crops have been one third of MSP and market prices for eight major crops, including groundnut/bajra/jowar/maize/tur/arhar/moong and paddy were below the MSP in October 2021, if so, reasons therefor along with its impact on livelihood of farmers;
- (b) the annual percentage increase in MSP during last five years, year-wise;
- (c) whether NAFED was not able to procure adequate quantities of pulses during kharif and rabi season;
- (d) if so, reasons therefor;
- (e) whether remedial measures have been taken in this regard; and
- (f) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

Insurance cover to the farmers of Chhattisgarh

1456 # **Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

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

- (a) the number of farmers who have taken crop insurance in Chhattisgarh during last three years and current year, year-wise, crop-wise and company-wise;
- (b) the number of farmers who got payment of the insurance claims during the said years, crop-wise and amount-wise and number of farmers whose insurance amount got sanctioned but remains yet to be disbursed in Chhattisgarh, district-wise;
- (c) the number of farmers who got the first installment of the compensation for the crops destroyed due to various reasons in Chhattisgarh during the year 2020-21; and
- (d) the number of farmers who remains to be paid and by when the compensation would be paid to them?

Allocation of funds to Chhattisgarh under MIDH

1457 # **Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that funds are provided by the Central Government to the States under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of funds allocated to the State of Chhattisgarh under the said mission during the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the amount of funds spent along with the nature of works on which it was spent and the amount of remaining allocated funds under the scheme during the said years, year-wise?

Aquaponic farming in the country

1458 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is providing different techniques and plans for agricultural production to double the income of farmers;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government is also promoting aquaponic farming in the dry places of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Production of exportable crops

1459 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the farmers in the country could avail better prices for their yields on producing exportable agro products which could help them towards doubling their income;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that adequate measures have been adopted by Government in the said direction and results have come on expected lines; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

MSP benefits to farmers

1460 **Shri Anand Sharma:**

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

- (a) the details with regard to the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) fixed for certain crops;
- (b) the details of MSP during last five years, crop wise, year-wise; and
- (c) whether Government is planning to terminate MSP benefits to farmers, if so, the reasons therefor?

Production of Palm Oil

1461 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether Andhra Pradesh is producing 90 per cent of palm oil in the country;
- (b) if so, details of palm oil production by other States and in Andhra Pradesh during last five years, year-wise;
- (c) whether palm oil production requires huge quantity of water and due to lack of it farmers producing oil palm are now shifting to coconut farming;
- (d) if so, manner in which proposed National Mission on Edible Oil –Oil Palm helps to address this; and
- (e) the details of mid-term and long-term export strategy given by Ministry to districts identified under One District One Product (ODOP) scheme?

Coverage under PMKMDY in Andhra Pradesh

1462 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that only 30,000 farmers have been covered under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan-Dhan Yojana (PMKMDY) from Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, reasons for such small number of farmers covered under this scheme;
- (c) whether the less coverage is due to lack of awareness of the scheme in farming community;
- (d) if so, efforts being made by Government to cover more farmers, under the scheme;

- (e) whether Government has any plan to fix annual target, State-wise, to cover more farmers under PMKMDY which would help them in their old age; and
 (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Collection of premium and payment of claims under PMFBY

1463 Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya:

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

- (a) the number and percentage of farmers covered under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) since its inception, State-wise;
- (b) the total amount of premium collected by the respective companies from the farmers/State Governments/Union Government under the Yojana along with the claims placed and the compensation paid during this period;
- (c) the number of States covered under the Yojana and the States which opted out during this period; and
- (d) the details of any other insurance schemes existing in various States?

MSP and procurement under Kharif and Rabi season

1464 Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya:

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

- (a) the total production under both Kharif and Rabi seasons and the quantity of procurement made, State-wise and crop-wise;
- (b) the MSP rate prevailing in the States and the amount released, State-wise and crop-wise;
- (c) whether the formula used to fix MSP is based on the recommendations of Swaminathan Commission, if not, the alternative formula used to fix the rates this year; and
- (d) the data on MSP rate prevailing in various States and the difference with the MSP announced by the Central Government?

Action plan to safeguard the livelihood of calamity hit farmers

1465 Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss:

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

- (a) whether the Central Government has any National, State, District level climate action plan to safeguard the livelihood of country's farmers and farm labourers from climate change induced famines, floods and droughts in all the States of the country, especially in the State of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise.;
- (c) whether the Central Government is aware of the recent floods and its impact on livelihood of farmers, farm labourers in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken thereof, district-wise?

Doubling farmers' income through export

1466 Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government to double the income of farmers by the year 2022 through export of agricultural products;
- (b) the increase in agricultural export and the income generated in the last three years; and
- (c) the contribution of State Governments in the same, State-wise?

Availability of high-yielding and disease resistant seeds

1467 **Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

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

- (a) whether high yield and disease-resistant varieties of seeds, cereals, oilseeds, vegetables, etc., would be available to the farmers in next three to four years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that even KVKs and District Agriculture Departments provide seeds developed a number of years ago by ICAR and other bodies to the farmers;
- (c) whether ICAR, Agricultural Institutions, outlets of National Seeds Corporation Ltd. and other Government controlled bodies do not have a proper mechanism to supply quality seeds to farmers; and
- (d) whether outlets of National Seeds Corporation keep stock of developed seeds?

Creation of corpus fund at NABARD for procurement

1468 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

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

- (a) whether any thought has been given for creation of a revolving or corpus fund at NABARD to help States to utilize the amount at zero per cent interest to take care of procurement operations that States undertake from farmers;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether any initiative has been taken under Budget presented for 2021-22;
- (d) if so, details thereof;
- (e) whether it is a fact that NABARD is now refinancing only 40 per cent for procurement and States are requesting for enhancing it to 75 per cent; and
- (f) if so, whether any thought has been given by Government in this regard?

Implementation of PM-KISAN in Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh

1469 **Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

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

- (a) the number of farmers receiving benefits under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme in Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh, district-wise in both States;
- (b) the number of instalments paid to farmers and total amount paid under the scheme since its launch in Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;
- (c) whether Government is aware that Andhra Pradesh Government is combining another scheme of its own called Rythu Bharosa with PM-KISAN, denying it credit;
- (d) if so, whether Government has sought any information from State Government in this regard; and
- (e) if not, whether Government would seek such information now from the State?

Shortage of cold storage facilities

1470 **Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar:**

Dr. Ameer Jainik:

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

- (a) whether there is a shortage of storage and cold storage facilities in the country, especially in rural areas;
- (b) if so, details thereof indicating the total available capacity and shortage of such facilities along with number of cold storage units in public, private and cooperative sectors,

State/UT- wise;

- (c) whether Government provides financial assistance to States to set up these facilities to solve problem of transportation of farmers' produces ; and
- (d) if so, the details of amount allocated, sanctioned and disbursed to the States during last three years and the current year for the purpose, year-wise and State-wise?

Suicide by farmers

1471 Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that at least 10,281 persons involved in the farm sector ended their lives in 2019, accounting for 7.4 per cent of the total number of suicides in the Country as per the Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India report 2019 of the National Crime Records Bureau;
- (b) if so, whether any study has been conducted into the factors behind the same;
- (c) if so, findings thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Easy access to organic fertilizers

1472 # Smt. Kanta Kardam:

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

- (a) the quantity of organic fertilizers and pesticides used in the country during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government proposes to stop the use of chemical insecticides/pesticides and if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken to enable farmers to access organic fertilizers easily and at local level?

Pre and post harvest loss to farmers

1473 # Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that farmers have to suffer huge loss due to various reasons such as natural calamities, before and after harvesting of crops and other issues, if so, the details thereof for the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the details of welfare schemes to deal with the said issues; and
- (c) the total number of affected farmers who have benefited under these welfare schemes, State/district-wise?

Formulation of farmers' reforms programme

1474 Dr. Subramanian Swamy:

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated a farmers' reforms programme and passed legislations for the same;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these reforms were submitted to any farmers' organizations;
- (d) if so, the names of the farmers organizations to which it was submitted;
- (e) whether farmers have made demands for amending these legislations; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Insurance cover to farmers in Tamil Nadu

1475 Shri Vaiko:

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

- (a) whether Government of Tamil Nadu has requested for extension of date for crop insurance by farmers in the month of November, 2021;
- (b) if so, the response of Government thereon;
- (c) whether Government would consider paying compensation to the farmers, irrespective of insurance cover in view of huge loss suffered by the farmers due to heavy rains and floods in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Rationalization of PMFBY

1476 Shri Vaiko:

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

- (a) whether there is any working group constituted to address the issues of implementation of crop insurance under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any alternative mechanism like risk pool would be created to cover the insurance in case of crop loss;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) by when the PMFBY would be rationalized to make it a fully integrated programme for the welfare of farming community?

Fair and remunerative price for sugarcane crops

1477 Shri M. Shanmugam:

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

- (a) whether the Consortium of Indian Farmers Association has requested Government to issue orders to pay 15 per cent interest to farmers if there is a delay of more than 14 days in payment after cutting the sugarcane;
- (b) whether the National Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices have recommended for extension of 14 days period for payment;
- (c) if so, whether the farmers have objected to it;
- (d) whether Government would hike the fair and remunerative price for sugarcane to ₹ 400 per quintal, in view of steep increase in prices of inputs in sugarcane production; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Subsidy for construction of cold storage

1478 Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder:

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

- (a) the criteria laid down to provide subsidy for construction of cold storage by National Horticulture Board (NHB);
- (b) whether NHB proposes to increase subsidy for construction of cold storage keeping in view the prevailing rates of building material;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons thereof?

Agricultural condition in north eastern region

1479 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

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

- (a) whether North Eastern Region is known for diversified agro-climatic conditions, diverse soil types and irregular physical conditions, if so, strategy to introduce modern agricultural inputs there;
- (b) whether the region was one of top regions in agricultural production and had not imported food items till 1950, if so, reasons it has slipped to the bottom now;
- (c) whether Government has completed formulating State specific land and water use policy in the region;
- (d) comparative productivity of land of various States of the region; and
- (e) number of small and marginal farmers along with total area of land used for cultivation in the region?

Demand and production of pulses

1480 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

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

- (a) the total production, consumption and demands of pulses in the country;
- (b) the rate of growth of pulse production since last five years;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Kharif pulses production (tur, urad, moong) which account for 40 per cent of the country's total pulses production has been worse than that of rabi pulses (Chana, masoor);
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the rate of increase in land under pulse production since 1951 to 2020; and
- (f) whether that the crop of tur dal has lost to the most to soyabean and if so, the ratio between tur dal to soyabean?

Funding pattern under PMFBY

1481 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

Dr. Amar Patnaik:

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

- (a) whether Government would revise the funding patterns under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to 60:40 ratio between the Centre and State like other Central Sector Schemes for all the suggested components;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government would take steps to incentivize States for capturing (CCE) data through Mobile Apps;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government would take steps to include inundation peril for paddy in localised calamities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Research and development for increasing agriculture production

1482 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to undertake research and development works and develop new range of crops in order to increase agricultural production and minimize the losses in agricultural productivity;
- (b) if so, the details of the research centres/projects being run/implemented under the auspices of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in various States;
- (c) the amount sanctioned by Government to these research institutes/universities for research work;
- (d) whether Government plans to open a new research centre in various States; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Market facilities to farmers for agricultural produces

1483 Dr. Amee Yajnik:

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

- (a) the details of agricultural marketing formulated by Government in the last three years to facilitate farmers;
- (b) whether Government has any plan for farmers to reduce their dependency on local traders and middlemen for the disposal of their farm produce at very low price; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Importance of crop diversification for resolving water crisis

1484 Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:

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

- (a) whether Government agrees with the view that crop diversification without compromising national food security is the single most important step in resolving country's water crisis;
- (b) if so, the measures being taken by Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Storage facility for agricultural produces

1485 Smt. Mamata Mohanta:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to provide adequate storage facility for agricultural produce and if so, the action taken thereon;
- (b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that farmers are facing difficulties due to lack of storage facility and if so, the action taken thereon;
- (c) whether Government proposes to construct sufficient storage facility in the country considering the demands of farmers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, particularly in Odisha;
- (e) whether Government proposes to provide interest-free loans to farmers for building sufficient storage facility; and
- (f) if so, the details of the action taken thereon?

Implementation of SHMS

1486 Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:

Shri Sanjay Seth:

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

- (a) whether Government has started Soil Health Management Scheme (SHMS) to provide

Soil Health Cards (SHC) to farmers;

(b) if so, details thereof and total number of farmers provided with SHCs and challenges faced by Government while implementing SHC, SHMS during last three years, State/UT-wise;

(c) the number of Soil Health Testing Laboratories set up for soil testing across the country, State/UT-wise;

(d) whether SHMS has increased agriculture production across the country after introduction of SHC during last three years;

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

(f) steps taken by Government to improve agricultural productivity?

Restricting FDI inflows from China in the strategic sector

1487 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

(a) the details of FDI inflows from China in various sectors for the last three years; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Ministry to restrict FDI inflows from China in the strategic sector?

Top export districts in the country

1488 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

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

(a) the details of top 30 export districts in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of products that the above districts have exported in the last five years, year-wise and district-wise;

(c) the other products that have export potential from the above 30 districts, district-wise; and

(d) the efforts being made by the Ministry to add more districts and push more exports from the above 30 districts?

Support to small tea growers in Assam

1489 **Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya:**

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

(a) the percentage contribution of small tea growers in the overall productivity of the country, with special reference to Assam;

(b) the kind of financial and other support Government is extending and proposes to extend towards enhancing quality production by small tea growers in Assam;

(c) the major constraints of small tea growers in their rapid growth and sustenance; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to mitigate their problems?

Increase in export of non-basmati rice

1490 **Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

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

(a) whether the export of non-basmati rice has increased to more than double in 2020-21 (April-January) in comparison to the previous year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the countries that have majorly imported non-basmati rice;

(c) whether Government has made any realistic assessment of demand for non-basmati rice in the international market and made efforts to avail the opportunity; and

(d) the steps Government has taken to increase production of red rice (non-basmati) organically for domestic use and export?

Raw material produced in rubber cultivation

1491 # **Shri Vinay Dinu Tendulkar:**

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

- (a) the gap existing between production and consumption of raw material produced by rubber cultivation;
- (b) the difference between the quality of raw material produced domestically from rubber cultivation and that of imported one;
- (c) whether the raw material produced in the country is also exported, if so, the names of those countries;
- (d) whether Government imports finished goods from the same countries to whom it exports the raw material; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Criteria under ODOP

1492 **Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

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

- (a) the criteria being employed to select the one product per district to be promoted under the One District One Product (ODOP) scheme;
- (b) the employment generated by ODOP scheme from its inception till date, the details thereof, district-wise, particularly in Karnataka;
- (c) the investments attracted by the districts from the inception of the scheme till date, the details thereof, district-wise;
- (d) the steps being taken, if any, to enhance technological capability in districts to make the product competitive with domestic and international markets; and
- (e) the steps being taken to ensure quality of products under the scheme?

Registration of foreign companies under AatmaNirbhar Bharat Mission

1493 **Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

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

- (a) the number of foreign companies which have been registered under AatmaNirbhar Bharat Mission; and
- (b) the total promised Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), as of August 31, 2021, under the AatmaNirbhar Bharat Mission?

India – USA trade deal

1494 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

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

- (a) the recent updates on India-USA trade pact and negotiations;
- (b) the possible implications of this deal on small and medium businesses in India; and
- (c) how would it affect our trade surplus with USA and the impact of the same on the services sector?

Access of global markets to industries and farmers

1495 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the credibility and demand of Indian products is increasing in the global market, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps being taken to provide access of global markets to industries and farmers, including the schemes being proposed by Government; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to make the provision of easy accessibility of global markets to domestic industries and agriculture, if so, the details thereof?

Non payment of dues to pharmaceutical companies and suppliers by Pakistan

1496 **Dr. Subramanian Swamy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that some pharmaceutical companies and suppliers have supplied lot of pharmaceutical items to Pakistan;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that many of the manufacturers and suppliers have not been paid for the goods exported to Pakistan;
- (c) whether Government is aware of such incidents;
- (d) whether Government has a list of such companies/manufacturers who have to be paid by the Pakistani importers, their names and amounts due from Pakistan; and
- (e) the steps Government has taken to ensure that the Indian exporters get their dues from Pakistan?

Revival of USA-India TPF

1497 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

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

- (a) whether Government has recently held discussions to revive USA-India Trade Policy Forum (TPF);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there was any visit in the recent past by USA high level delegation representing TPF; and
- (d) the mutual agreements arrived at?

Shortage of containers

1498 # **Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that exporters in India are also facing problems due to shortage of containers around the globe; and
- (b) if so, whether any action plan or scheme has been prepared by Government to allay the problem of containers?

Trade negotiations with European Union

1499 **Shri K.J. Alphons:**

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

- (a) the status of trade negotiations with European Union (EU);
- (b) the reasons for non-conclusion of negotiations which have been going on for a long

time; and

(c) the areas in which there is no meeting of minds?

ODOP in Rajasthan

1500 # **Shri Om Prakash Mathur:**

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

- (a) whether a scheme named 'One District One Product' (ODOP) is being implemented under AatmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the work of identifying and promoting one product from all districts of Rajasthan is under progress under the said scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Decision of WTO panel on export schemes

1501 **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

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

- (a) the reasons, according to WTO panel, for the inconsistency of - Export Oriented Units Scheme, Electronics Hardware Technology Parks and Biotechnology Parks Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, SEZ Scheme and Duty-Free Imports for Exporters Schemes, with WTO norms;
- (b) the details of norms that the above schemes are violating;
- (c) whether it impacts various sectors like steel, pharmaceutical, chemical, IT, textiles, etc.; and
- (d) the way out that Government has proposed in light of the above decision of WTO?

Import policy

1502 **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

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

- (a) the countries that do not allow the import of goods manufactured in India, as of 2020-21; and
- (b) whether India accepts imports from these countries and if so, the name of such countries?

Grant of initial investment to NIMZ in Odisha

1503 **Shri Subhash Chandra Singh:**

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

- (a) whether the first phase of National Investment and Manufacturing Zone (NIMZ) in Kalinganagar, Jajpur district, Odisha has been granted the initial investment from the Centre;
- (b) if so, the details of the initial amount released for avenues of investment; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Assistance for timber industry

1504 # **Shri Naresh Bansal:**

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

- (a) whether any assistance and guidance is being provided separately for setting up timber

industry in the country;

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

(c) whether there is any plan to expand the timber industry of Uttarakhand, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Measures to improve MSME sector exports

1505 **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

(a) the proportion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector in the total exports from the country, the details thereof, sector-wise;

(b) the incentives being provided to the MSME sector to increase export production, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken further by Government to diversify India's export basket; and

(d) whether Government is planning to include sectors like steel, pharma and chemicals for rebate under the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Gati Shakti Scheme

1506 **Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla:**

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

the steps taken to integrate infrastructure plans and schemes of State Governments in Gati Shakti Scheme in order to have coordinated planning and execution of infrastructure projects?

Decentralisation of exports under ODOP

1507 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had launched One District One Product (ODOP) scheme under AatmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, especially in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how it would be helpful in decentralisation of exports to boost local production and make districts active stakeholders in driving export growth of local products?

Fisheries subsidies agreement at WTO

1508 **Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that India has refused to enter into the fisheries subsidies agreement at the World Trade Organisation (WTO);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to protect Indian interests in this regard?

Loan through IPPB

1509 # **Shri Ram Shakal:**

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

(a) whether Government would provide loan from the Department of Posts through India Post Payments Bank (IPPB); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Free Wi-Fi access to primary schools

1510 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

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

- (a) the number of Gram Panchayats that have access to broadband under National Broadband Mission, the details thereof;
- (b) whether connectivity to all 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats, as was proposed under the National Optic Fibre Network, has been achieved, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is providing free Wi-Fi access to all primary schools in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

BharatNet project in Andhra Pradesh

1511 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- (a) whether BharatNet project, the world's largest broadband project to provide internet services to Gram Panchayats of the country, is progressing as scheduled, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the status of the project in the State of Andhra Pradesh, as on date;
- (c) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to release sufficient funds to complete the project, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

Broadband connections in Odisha

1512 **Shri Prashanta Nanda:**

Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

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

- (a) the number of broadband connections that are working in the State of Odisha;
- (b) the action being taken for providing broadband facility to all Gram Panchayats under Phase-I of the project;
- (c) the number of Gram Panchayats in Odisha under BharatNet project that have been provided with infrastructure to provide high speed broadband connectivity;
- (d) the details of poor utilisation under Phase I of the BharatNet project;
- (e) whether Wi-Fi technology, that is widely used in rural areas in the State, would be provided under the BharatNet project; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Free internet service to families below poverty line

1513 # **Shri Brijlal:**

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

- (a) whether Government is considering any scheme to provide free internet to those families which are below poverty line and are not able to afford to use internet;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether such a scheme could be deliberated upon in future?

Telecommunication connectivity in Odisha

1514 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

Shri Sujeet Kumar:

Shri Subhash Chandra Singh:

Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

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

- (a) whether there are specific plans to improve connectivity for the States like Odisha that have low tele-density in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps that are being taken by the Central Government to provide mobile connectivity in uncovered villages;
- (d) whether the Ministry has any proposal to improve the quality of data connectivity in rural areas, especially in LWE districts; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Vacancies of Gramin Dak Sevak in Karnataka

1515 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

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

- (a) the number of Gramin Dak Sevaks (GDS) in Karnataka;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there are 3,500 GDS posts lying vacant in Karnataka;
- (c) if so, the details of vacancies, district-wise; and
- (d) the steps being taken to fill up the vacancies?

Interception of messages under Indian Telegraph Act

1516 **Shri Jawhar Sircar:**

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

- (a) whether reasons are invariably recorded in writing and orders taken from the competent authorities before intercepting any message under Section 5 of the Indian Telegraph Act;
- (b) whether Government is aware of any 'unlawful learning of the contents of any message' under Section 23 of the Act;
- (c) whether Government is aware of any authorised official unlawfully intercepting any message in terms of Section 26 of the Act; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken thereof?

Complaints against Telecom Service Providers

1517 # **Shri Vinay Dinu Tendulkar:**

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

- (a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has received complaints from customers against Telecom Service Providers in each of the last three years and the current year, the service provider-wise details thereof;
- (b) whether service providers have been found guilty of not redressing the complaints against their network signaling problems in NCR and Delhi in an effective and time-bound manner;
- (c) whether TRAI has any mechanism to monitor the efforts made by service providers for redressal of customer complaints; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Connecting villages with optical fibre

1518 # **Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

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

- (a) whether Government has started the work of connecting all the villages of the country with optical fibre in the next 1000 days;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and the State-wise funds to be spent for the said work, including Rajasthan;
- (c) whether Government has banned the use of 4G equipment manufactured by China, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government is going to provide mobile connectivity in villages which are located in strategic and border areas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and by when the connectivity is likely to be provided in said areas?

Mobile and internet connectivity in Post Offices

1519 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

Shri Sujeet Kumar:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there are Post Offices, especially in areas with difficult terrains, without a mobile network or internet connectivity;
- (b) the State-wise details of such Post Offices in the country, including Bihar and Odisha;
- (c) the losses incurred by the Post Offices due to this;
- (d) the steps that Government has taken to ensure that network connectivity reaches such Post Offices; and
- (e) whether Government has set any deadline for ensuring network connectivity in such areas?

Computerisation and modernisation of Post Offices

1520 # **Shri Rajendra Gehlot:**

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

- (a) whether Government has started any programme for the computerisation and modernisation of Post Offices in the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof, particularly in Rajasthan;
- (c) the number of computerised Post Offices in every State, particularly in Rajasthan; and
- (d) whether any time line has been set for computerising the rest of the Post Offices, if so, the details of the set time line?

Mobile connectivity issues in Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Delhi

1521 **Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that frequently, mobile phones in Maharashtra/Rajasthan/Delhi are not easily within reach from outside these States;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that communications could not be reached for a number of days from other States to Delhi;
- (c) whether the operational flaws have been noticed by the Department of Telecom;
- (d) the steps that are proposed to attend to and rectify such flaws in the telecom sector; and

(e) the safeguards that would be instituted to improve the mobile network in the country?

Cancellation of ration cards due to non linking biometrically with Aadhaar

1522 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

Smt. Mamata Mohanta:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any measure to circumvent the problem faced by disabled persons and senior citizens in using ePoS systems at PDS shops;
- (b) if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;
- (c) whether ration cards of three to four crores of citizens including tribal and poor people have been cancelled due to non linking biometrically with Aadhaar in different States;
- (d) if so, details thereof and measures taken by Government to include them in PDS to facilitate their access to PDS; and
- (e) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

Expenditure on transportation and commission in delivery of foodgrains under NFSA

1523 # **Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:**

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

- (a) whether the expenditure on transportation and commission on delivery of foodgrains distributed to the families included under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 has been decided by Government in the year 2014;
- (b) whether the expenditure is increasing in terms of transportation and distribution of foodgrains due to inflation and the increase in prices of diesel during the last five years; and
- (c) if so, whether Government would increase the transportation charges and commission, if so, the time by when it would be done and if not, the reasons therefor?

Changing the type of rice in PMJY/MDMS scheme

1524 **Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

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

- (a) whether Government has received request from the Government of Kerala for changing the type of rice in PMJY/Mid Day Meal scheme (MDMS); and
- (b) if so, the progress made thereon?

Information for products about manufacturing countries

1525 # **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the consumers are not being provided information about the manufacturing countries for the products, as per rules, which are being sold by e-commerce companies; and
- (b) if so, the details of action taken against the complaints received in this regard?

Amending of Legal Metrology Rules -2011

1526 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

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

- (a) whether Government has recently amended the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules 2011 for enhanced protection of consumer rights;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this move would remove the confusion in declaration of quantity sold by number in pre packed commodities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Payment of overdues to sugarcane growing farmers

1527 **Shri Deepender Singh Hooda:**

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

- (a) the payment overdue to sugarcane growing farmers by sugar mills during the last five years including current year, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether the sugar mills are not paying the dues to sugarcane growing farmers year-by-year and as a result, the outstanding amount is increasing continuously;
- (c) the reasons for the increasing arrears and unprecedented delay in payment to sugarcane growing farmers; and
- (d) if so, the steps Government has taken/is planning to take to ensure the payment of dues by sugar mills to the sugarcane growing farmers on time and the outcome thereof?

Procurement of paddy below the MSP

1528 **Shri Deepender Singh Hooda:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the complaints by paddy growing farmers, especially from Haryana about the procurement of paddy below the Minimum Support Price (MSP);
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action Government has taken to ensure procurement of paddy at MSP; and
- (c) the target for procurement of paddy in Haryana for Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2021-22, the details thereof?

Implementation of ONORC scheme

1529 **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Shri Subhash Chandra Singh:

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

- (a) the status and progress of implementation of One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme in the country and estimated date of rollout of this scheme;
- (b) whether the ONORC scheme implementation has covered maximum number of beneficiaries across the country;
- (c) whether Government has reviewed the progress of implementation of this scheme and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken to eliminate bogus, ineligible ration cards, prevent leakage and diversion

of foodgrains during transportation to make the Public Distribution System (PDS) better?

Objections on draft Consumer Protection e-commerce rules

1530 **Shri Anand Sharma:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there have been objections by many e-commerce companies to some provisions of the draft Consumer Protection e-commerce rules that could derail the growth in this sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that other Ministries/Departments of Government have also raised objections to some provisions of the rules;
- (d) if so, the details thereof? (e) whether steps have been taken to resolve these objections; and
- (f) whether inter-Ministerial consultations were made at the time of drafting the rules?

Draft Amendments to E-Commerce Rules

1531 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has undertaken consultations with experts and industry stakeholders on the Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the persons and/or entities consulted with, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time-line by which Government will notify and implement the amendments to the Rules?

Non functioning FPS in Puducherry

1532 **Shri S. Selvaganabathy:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the Fair Price Shops (FPS) in Puducherry are not functioning for years;
- (b) if so, the remedial action taken by Government to restore the functioning of FPS there; and
- (c) the number of ration cards available under red category and yellow category in Puducherry?

Implementation of DBT scheme

1533 **Shri S. Selvaganabathy:**

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

- (a) the number of schemes, Government has announced related to Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) and recommended it to the States;
- (b) the number of States that have accepted the scheme in toto or in part, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any State or UT has sought exemption under the scheme for distribution of free

rice; and

(d) whether considering the woes of the female members of the family wherein the heads of the families abuse the bank deposited money, would Government allow the distribution of rice instead of cash, atleast for BPL families?

Procurement of wheat, paddy and other commodities at MSP

1534 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

- (a) the details of procurement of wheat, paddy and other commodities covered under Minimum Support Price (MSP) in the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the steps being taken to increase/improve procurement from the ten States where the procurement is minimum; and
- (c) the details of the average, Government is expecting to increase procurement under MSP in next five years, especially from these ten States?

Irregularities in distribution of ration under PMGKAY

1535 # **Shri Digvijaya Singh:**

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

- (a) the details of distribution of foodgrains under the Pradhan Mantri Gareeb Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) during the years 2020-21 and 2021-22, State-wise and foodgrain-wise;
- (b) whether Government has monitored the foodgrains distributed under this scheme;
- (c) if so, the States from which complaints have been received and the action taken therefor; and
- (d) the number of complaints received from the State of Madhya Pradesh where irregularities have been noticed in ration distribution under this scheme?

Rotting of foodgrains at FCI godowns

1536 **Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that rotten foodgrains are stored for years without any movement in many godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI);
- (b) if so, whether Government has asked the FCI to come out with details of such rotten foodgrains stored in their godowns across the country with reasons, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to improve the storage facilities in view of the rotting of foodgrains?

Distribution of foodgrains during COVID-19 pandemic

1537 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

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

- (a) the list of foodgrains along with quantity distributed across States during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) whether the existing systems were capable enough to handle the heavy workload of

- disbursal of free foodgrains to over 70-80 crore people under AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan;
 (c) the major challenges that were faced in this colossal task; and
 (d) whether any quality checks were performed while procuring huge stocks of foodgrains?

Rise in prices of edible oil

1538 Dr. C.M. Ramesh:

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

- (a) whether prices of various edible oils in the country have increased manifold, if so, the details thereof during the last six months, State-wise;
 (b) the steps taken by Government to reduce the prices of edible oils in the country; and
 (c) whether Government proposes to import edible oils to check the spiralling prices of edible oil, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Setting up of Consumer Courts in Delhi

1539 Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are massive vacancies of judges in South Delhi District Consumer Court;
 (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
 (c) whether it is also a fact that senior citizens above the age of 70 years are facing a lot of hardship as their cases in Courts are pending for several years; and
 (d) if so, whether Government is contemplating to establish at least one Consumer Court in South Delhi for senior citizens above 70 years for expeditious resolution of their cases?

Implementation of NFSA

1540 Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:

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

- (a) whether Government has finalised the list of eligible households under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) taking into account COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown of the economy resulting in dislocation of families, reverse migration and change in income level of many families in various States/UTs across the country; and
 (b) whether Government has put in place measures to ensure strict compliance by States/UTs to the directions under Section 38 of the NFSA which prescribes disability as a separate criterion within the eligibility criteria to be identified by all States/UTs for inclusion of persons with disability?

Prices of edible oils in the domestic market

1541 # Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the retail and wholesale prices of domestic edible oils have come down in spite of higher prices of edible oils in the international market; and
 (b) the efforts being made by Government to bring down the prices of foodgrains also in the domestic market, the details thereof?

Hiring of private godowns by FCI

1542 **Shri K.J. Alphons:**

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

- (a) whether government has a blue print on the maximum quantity of foodgrains that would be stocked by Food Corporation Of India (FCI);
- (b) whether FCI need to stock such vast quantity of foodgrains;
- (c) whether FCI hires private godowns when they run short of space;
- (d) whether Government has laid down guidelines for hiring of private godowns; and
- (e) whether it is a fact that sometimes private godowns which are hired are under utilised, if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of PMGKAY

1543 **Shri Prakash Javadekar:**

Shri Derek O' Brien:

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

- (a) the details of benefits and total expenditure incurred on Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY);
- (b) the outflow of foodgrains under this scheme, to each State and quantity of foodgrains distributed;
- (c) the number of people who have been benefitted from this scheme in each State; and
- (d) whether Government has made arrangements for the continuation of this scheme beyond November, 2021 in the light of the ongoing economic and unemployment crisis amongst the poor?

Supply of foodgrains to States under PDS

1544 **Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder:**

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

- (a) whether some States have requested the Central Government to release foodgrains from the Central pool as per the total requirement under Public Distribution System (PDS) in view of the drought and flood situation prevailing in the said States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the quantum demanded by each State; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Gradual introduction of cash transfers in PDS

1545 **Shri Subhash Chandra Singh:**

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government regarding gradual introduction of cash transfers in Public Distribution System (PDS) as recommended by the High Level Committee (HCL) on restructuring of Food Corporation of India (FCI) in 2015;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Growth of Indian food industry

1546 Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

Shri Neeraj Dangi:

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

- (a) the details of the total export and growth rate of the Indian food industry;
- (b) the details of their total turnover for the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether the State industries participated in the World Food Programme 2019, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Compliance with Supreme Court guidelines in “In Re: Problems and Miseries of Migrant Labourers”

1547 Shri Derek O' Brien:

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

- (a) the quantity of foodgrains that has been released to each State in accordance with the Supreme Court guidelines in “In Re: Problems and Miseries of Migrant Labourers” and the proposed programme for further release of these foodgrains;
- (b) the measures undertaken to reassess eligible beneficiaries of the Public Distribution System (PDS) and time line envisaged for further evaluation of beneficiaries; and
- (c) the measures undertaken to release foodgrains to States for running of community kitchens for the poor along with quantity of foodgrains released to each State for this purpose?

Law for cybersecurity in the country

1548 Shri Y. S. Chowdary:

Shri M. Shanmugam:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering stand-alone law for cybersecurity in the country to cater to the new age cyber crimes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the proposed policy would keep in mind the emerging technologies in the cybersecurity;
- (d) if so, whether any study has been conducted to review the policy, the details thereof; and
- (e) by when the draft policy would be ready for public scrutiny?

Cyberattacks on Government and Non-Government organisations

1549 Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has noted certain cyberattacks in the country on organisations including Government and Non-Government organisations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including conspiracy involved; and
- (c) the steps taken to avoid such attacks in future?

Revival of exports

1550 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

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

- (a) whether there are any signs of revival of exports of the country, which was adversely affected due to several reasons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken by Government during the last three years to boost the dwindling exports and the results achieved therefrom?

Complaints on privacy violation

1551 **Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

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

- (a) the number of complaints received by Government on privacy violations during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the details of action taken by Government in this regard, if any; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government for ensuring privacy violations?

Implementation of DEDS

1552 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- (a) whether the attention of Government is drawn to the Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) aimed at promotion of entrepreneurship development and employment generation in the field of animal husbandry and dairy industry in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of entrepreneurs that availed the opportunities in the last three years, particularly in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) the quantum of financial assistance being given under this scheme, the details thereof; and
- (e) the status of the programme as on date?

Economic welfare of fishermen

1553 **Shri P. Wilson:**

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

- (a) the rehabilitation measures and financial assistance against the COVID-19 pandemic, disasters including cyclones and floods for fishermen;
- (b) the measures taken post-harvest as exporters, traders, auctioneers, and small-scale fish vendors were equally affected and lost out due to dwindling markets and transport facilities;
- (c) whether any plan is in place for avoiding the depleting resources for fishermen in the Indian region including sensitising farmers using highly exploitative fishing nets, bottom trawling and rehabilitating fishermen and their families from Sri Lankan Navy atrocities at the maritime borders; and
- (d) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

Inland fisheries and aquaculture

1554 **Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:**

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

- (a) the details of the steps taken for the development of inland fisheries and aquaculture in the country;
- (b) the details regarding the allocation of funds in this regard, State-wise;
- (c) whether there is underutilization of funds; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of action taken in this regard?

New Food Processing Policy

1555 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

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

- (a) the details of critical gaps that the food processing sector is plagued with;
- (b) how the proposed New Food Processing Policy aims to address the critical gaps which are hampering the growth of food processing sector;
- (c) the key objectives of the proposed policy; and
- (d) by when the proposed policy is going to be unveiled?

FPI proposals for Jharkhand

1556 # **Shri Deepak Prakash:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up any new Food Processing Industry (FPI) in Jharkhand during the current financial year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of proposed incentives for industrialists who are interested in setting up such industries?

Setting up of FPIs in rural areas

1557 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

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

- (a) the details of schemes being run for setting up of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) particularly in rural areas of the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of funds allocated, released and utilized during 2021-22 till date, State-wise and scheme-wise; and
- (c) the details of funds yet to be released and utilized, State-wise and scheme-wise?

Approved crops/foods under ODOP

1558 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has approved crops/food articles for Uttar Pradesh and Bihar under One District One Product (ODOP) scheme run by the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and
- (c) the details of funds allocated, released and utilised for the same during 2021-22 till date, district-wise?

Setting up of charging stations for electric vehicles

1559 # **Shri Deepak Prakash:**

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

- (a) whether any charging stations for electric vehicles have been set up in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the objectives of Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (FAME II) Scheme and National Auto Policy;
- (c) whether it is a fact that at present, private companies cannot set up 'charging stations' in the country as sale of electricity is a licensed activity and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the efforts made by Government to encourage setting up of charging stations for electric vehicles in the country?

Launch of technology innovation platforms

1560 **Shri John Brittas:**

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

- (a) whether Government has recently launched six technology innovation platforms for development of technologies for globally competitive manufacturing in India; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Boosting of automobile sector

1561 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

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

- (a) whether there is an acute shortage of semiconductors in the country as well as globally, which has hit the automobile sector in the country, the details thereof; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government in this regard to boost the automobile sector, the details thereof?

Manufacturing of hybrid and electric vehicles

1562 **Smt. Ambika Soni:**

Shri Ramkumar Verma:

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

- (a) the present status of the manufacturing of hybrid and electric vehicles in the country;
- (b) the reasons for very slow pace of implementation of Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (FAME) Scheme; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government to bring down the cost of electric/hybrid vehicles at par with those of internal combustion engines (ICEs)?

Petrol stations having alternative charging mechanisms for EVs

1563 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

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

- (a) the number of petroleum vending stations having an alternative charging mechanism for electric vehicles (EVs) in the State of Maharashtra and the country; and
- (b) the steps Government has taken to increase the penetration of EV charging stations in the country?

Applications for investment and induction of modern rakes

1564 **Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Ministry has invited applications for investment and induction of modern rakes on select railway routes through Public Private Partnership(PPP);
- (b) if so, the details of the applicants, railway routes and trains likely to be operated by private players;
- (c) whether the train fares are likely to increase as a result of privatisation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the fares of trains on these routes;
- (f) whether subsidies will be retained for passengers from various categories in Railways; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Railway Workers Unions

1565 # **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

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

- (a) whether the tenure of the recognised Railway Workers Unions stands expired since April, 2019;
- (b) the reasons for keeping the election process of said unions pending;
- (c) when the secret ballot election would be held for the said unions;
- (d) the reasons for not holding elections for the said unions and the way in which the loss having occurred due to the same is being compensated;
- (e) whether Railway administration has abolished the process of secret ballot election forever; and
- (f) whether the facilities continue to be provided to the unions even after the expiration of the tenure of recognised associations/unions?

Free land for construction of new railway projects

1566 **Shri Prashanta Nanda:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the different States have agreed to provide free land for construction of new railway projects; and
- (b) if not, the details of such land commitments State-wise, project-wise and its present status?

Setting up of container manufacturing facility in AP

1567 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that Andhra Pradesh (AP) has a 170 million tonne cargo turnover through Railways which is second only to Gujarat in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government has any plans of setting up a container manufacturing facility in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Nashik Semi High Speed Rail Corridor

1568 Shri Sanjay Raut:

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

- (a) the current status of Nashik Semi High Speed Rail Corridor project (234.60 km), passing through the districts of Pune, Ahmednagar and Nashik;
- and (b) whether any target has been set for the completion of this project?

Change in Mumbai-Hyderabad HSR Corridor

1569 Shri Sanjay Raut:

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

- (a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested for changing the alignment of Mumbai-Hyderabad High Speed Rail (HSR) Corridor via Jalna-Nanded instead of Pune and has suggested a new HSR route between Pune and Aurangabad; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

Modification of existing trains

1570 Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to modify many existing trains;
- (b) if so, how many have been modified and how many have been identified for modification in the near future to make train journey easy and comfortable in Indian Railways, particularly in Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Fuel usage in trains

1571 Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the trains are running with diesel and electricity in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) how many litres of diesel is required for trains in a day; and
- (d) how much electricity is consumed in all trains in a day in the country?

Railway land

1572 Shri K. Somaprasad:

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

- (a) whether the Railways is preparing any plan for the transfer of its land to private parties all over the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the land and its value thereof;
- (c) the process by which the surplus land would be disposed off; and
- (d) the likely amount to be generated as a result thereof?

Indian railway station redevelopment project

1573 # **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

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

- (a) the number of railway stations proposed to be redeveloped across the country under station redevelopment projects, name-wise details thereof;
- (b) the number of railway stations in Bihar selected under this project, name wise;
- (c) the amount of expenditure to be incurred on the redevelopment of each station; the details thereof;
- (d) the number of stations for which tender has been invited and by when the tender for remaining stations would be given;
- (e) whether funds would be raised through PPP model or directly from Railway Budget for the said work; and
- (f) the time-frame for construction of the same?

Broad gauge construction in ECR

1574 # **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

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

- (a) the cost of construction of broad gauge railway line from Darbhanga to Forbesganj of East Central Railways (ECR) and the funds spent till date;
- (b) the details of its physical and financial progress thereof;
- (c) the railway stations which are included under this railway section;
- (d) the distance that would be reduced from Hajipur to New Jalpaigudi with this construction; and
- (e) the targeted timeline for the completion of this work?

Railway projects in NMP

1575 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

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

- (a) whether the Railways is part of National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP);
- (b) if so, the details of the asset monetisation plan estimated and the strategic plan for next five years; and
- (c) the details of the investment expected from private and public sector?

State of the art railway stations

1576 # **Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

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

- (a) the number of projects that have been approved for the expansion of railway lines and making State-of-the art railway stations in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha during the last five years and the names of schemes proposed for the said States in future;
- (b) the total financial allocation of the sanctioned projects and the quantum of work completed under the said allocation, project-wise details thereof; and
- (c) the financial allocation approved for future projects and the name of places along with the details of works for which the same has been approved, project-wise details thereof?

Revenue loss during pandemic

1577 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

- (a) the number of trains which have resumed services and are currently running daily, including mail and express trains, passenger trains, suburban trains as well as special fare trains;
- (b) the time frame in which the railway services in the country are expected to resume full operation; and
- (c) the details of fall in revenue and total financial loss from passenger fares and services during the COVID-19 pandemic, because of the nationwide lockdown and various travel advisories issued by Government?

Railway projects in Tamil Nadu

1578 **Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware about zone-wise, route-wise and project-wise pending railway projects in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is aware of the reasons behind the pendency of Dharmapuri Morappur railway project; and
- (d) if so, the details of completion of this project thereof?

Opening of fertilizer rake points with necessary infrastructure

1579 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

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

- (a) the number of existing and full functional railway rake points in the State of Odisha;
- (b) whether all the existing railway rake points in Odisha are modernised;
- (c) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has any pending proposals for the construction of three new railway rake points from the State of Odisha; and
- (e) if so, details thereof?

Lack of funds for railway projects

1580 # **Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

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

- (a) whether various projects including new railway lines in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and NCR region are pending for a long time due to lack of funds;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;
- (c) whether sufficient funds have not been allocated for the said pending railway projects, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) by when the railway line from Dausa to Gangapur City in Rajasthan which has been pending for the last twenty years, would be completed ; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by Government to complete the pending projects of other States including Rajasthan?

Semi High Speed Rail project

1581 **Shri John Brittas:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Semi High Speed Rail project by Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL) is pending with Railways for approval;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the stand of Railways with regard to the project?

Chhitauni-Tamkuhi Road railway line

1582 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

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

- (a) the current status of the Chhitauni-Tamkuhi road railway line project inaugurated by the Minister of Railways in the year 2007;
- (b) whether it is a fact that no progress of work is visible there even after so many years; and
- (c) by when this project would be completed?

Semi High Speed Railway project in Kerala

1583 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government of Kerala has approached the Central Government of India with a Semi High Speed Railway project "Silver Line" between Thiruvananthapuram and Kasaragod;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the estimated cost of the project and source of funding?

Gauge conversion of Jodhpur-Udaipur Junction

1584 # **Shri Rajendra Gehlot:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to change the remaining metre gauge portion of Jodhpur Junction to Udaipur via Marwar junction railway line into broad gauge;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has received any official or private proposal regarding the same, if so, the details; and
- (d) whether any action has been taken by Government on the proposals, if not, the details thereof?

Compassionate appointments

1585 **Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

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

- (a) how many cases of appointment on compassionate grounds are pending with Railways in the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) the details of pending cases; and
- (c) the cases which were rejected, with the reasons therefor?

Free Wi-Fi service in railway stations

1586 **Shri Prakash Javadekar:**

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

- (a) how many railway stations have been provided free Wi-Fi service across India;
- (b) how passengers and locals are benefiting because of this initiative;
- (c) how much is the data usage on these stations; and
- (d) how much is the expenditure for this scheme ?

Shortage in train services

1587 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that there are shortage of train services between Madurai and Bengaluru via, Hosur;
- (b) if so the reason therefor;
- (c) whether Government would start a new super fast day train between Madurai-Bengaluru due to heavy rush between two cities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if no, the reason therefor?

Ongoing/pending railway projects in Maharashtra

1588 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

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

- (a) the present status of various ongoing/pending railway projects in Maharashtra including the Marathwada region of the State;
- (b) the steps taken by the Railways to complete the said projects in a time-bound manner;
- (c) whether Government of Maharashtra has proposed to bear some cost of the said projects for their timely completion and if so, the details thereof and the response of Railways thereto; and
- (d) the number of railway projects in Maharashtra for which survey has been conducted and approved but work is not underway as yet, the details thereof?

High fare special trains

1589 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

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

- (a) whether the special trains charge higher fares than the regular train fares during the COVID period and if so, the total revenue generated by increasing the fares in these special trains;
- (b) whether any regular trains are also being operated during this period;
- (c) whether Government is planning to normalize the regular train service with the lifting of lockdown and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether only ready-to-eat items are being sold in trains and if so, whether there is any plan to restart full catering services in trains?

Outsourcing certain services to private players

1590 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

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

- (a) whether the proposal for outsourcing certain services to private players for railway operation has been under consideration;
- (b) if so, the details of the implementation of the plan including the services being outsourced;
- (c) whether there are select routes identified for the same; and
- (d) if so, the details of the routes and the reasons thereof?

Railway projects in Jharkhand

1591 # **Shri Samir Oraon:**

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

- (a) the number of railway projects on which Railways is working on in State of Jharkhand at present and the number of such projects which have been completed/are in a state of completion, the total cost incurred on the said projects;
- (b) the status of the proposed Tori-Gumla-Korba railway line project, whether the survey work for the said project has been completed, the amount of money spent on the same till now; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to run any next generation train through Jharkhand State?

Providing world class facilities at railway stations

1592 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

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

- (a) the number of railway stations developed by Government to provide world class facilities to passengers across the country so far, zone-wise;
- (b) whether Government has sought participation of private sector in modernization of railway stations across the country and if so, the details thereof along with the response of the private sector thereto;
- (c) whether Government has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with foreign countries in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

ROBs/RUBs construction in Bihar

1593 # **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

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

- (a) the number of Road Over Bridges (ROBs)/ Road Under Bridges (RUBs) proposed to be constructed during the current financial year in Bihar;
- (b) the place-wise details thereof and the current construction status thereof;
- (c) whether the construction work, of ROB at Itarhi water tower under Buxar railway station is also proposed to be undertaken; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that recently a foundation stone was laid there but the construction work thereon has not been started?

Production Linked Incentive scheme

1594 # **Shri Ram Shakal:**

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

- (a) whether Government has approved the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme to make the textile industry a global leader once again;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the impact of this scheme on the targeted districts of the country?

Status of cotton procurement from Odisha

1595 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) the details regarding quantity, price, and frequency of cotton procurement from Odisha in the last three years;
- (b) whether cotton procurement from Odisha matches the total production of cotton in Odisha;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any measures to reduce the delay and increase the price of cotton procurement from Odisha and if so, the details thereof?

Yarn price crisis in Tamil Nadu

1596 **Shri P. Wilson:**

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

- (a) the response of Ministry to the objections raised by Government of Tamil Nadu pertaining to the increase in yarn price from 60 percent to 70 percent over the past five months to Rs 345 per kg and the price of rubber yarn has almost doubled from Rs 420 to Rs 800;
- (b) whether Ministry has any proposal for National Textile Corporation (NTC) Ltd. to secure work to all employees by ensuring textile units in Tamil Nadu get yarn at a reasonable price so as to increase yarn production in Tamil Nadu; and
- (c) if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefore?

Traditional textiles of India

1597 # **Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated any special action plan to increase the production of traditional textiles of India such as Banarasi and clothes made of Kosa in the country and to get them recognition globally and also to promote export of the said textiles so that the economic condition of the weavers who are engaged in the production of said textiles may be improved;
- (b) if so, the nature of the said scheme; and
- (c) the number of weavers who got benefitted with the implementation of this scheme, directly or indirectly?

PM MITRA scheme

1598 **Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

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

- (a) the salient features of Prime Minister Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA);
- (b) the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under the PM MITRA scheme in States and UTs particularly in Karnataka, in the current year;
- (c) the FDI expected from seven PM MITRA Parks which Government has proposed under PM MITRA;
- (d) the salient features of Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme; and

(e) how PLI is going to effectively uplift the living standards of the backward areas?

Skill upgradation training to handloom weavers

1599 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

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

- (a) the details of schemes, including Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SAMARTH) for imparting need based skill upgradation training to the handloom weavers;
- (b) the details of the number of weavers who have been provided skill training during the last three years in various weavers service centres and other skill development centres, State-wise; and
- (c) whether any pilot study has been conducted to get the feedback and effectiveness of skill training for the weavers, if so, the details thereof?

PM MITRA Parks in Andhra Pradesh

1600 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has proposed to set up seven Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks across the country in the coming years;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to set up one such PM MITRA Park in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

New Delhi
The 3rd December, 2021
 12 Agrahayana, 1943 (Saka)

P. C. Mody,
 Secretary-General.

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