

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Monday, February 6, 2017/Magha 17, 1938 (Saka)*

**(Ministries : Coal; Drinking Water and Sanitation; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Mines; New and Renewable Energy; Panchayati Raj; Planning; Power; Road Transport and Highways; Rural Development; Shipping; Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation)**

**Total number of questions — 160**

#### **Plan to end dependency on coal imports**

317. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN:  
SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working on a plan to end dependency on coal imports in the next 3-4 months to facilitate consumption of the surplus fossil fuel produced by Coal India Limited (CIL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the CIL is facing problems to liquidate its surplus coal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Impact on operations of ECL due to absence of CMD**

318. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no regular CMD of ECL and if so, since when;

(b) whether it is also a fact that absence of regular CMD of ECL has made the company handicapped in dealing with issues of safety and other key areas for coalfield operations at the level of top management;

(c) whether the Ministry has made a determination of responsibility given the nature of the accident;

(d) what action has been taken against the delinquent officers of ECL; and

(e) what action has been taken against the outsourcing company?

#### **Action taken in Lalmatia coal mine accident**

319. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR  
BALMUCHU:  
SHRI D. RAJA:  
SHRI SANJIV KUMAR:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a coal mine had caved in at

Lalmatia mines in Jharkhand on December 29, 2016 wherein 23 workers were buried, if so, the details thereof along with the number of casualties;

(b) whether there has been laxity on the part of mine management, which rescue in country's worse mine disasters;

(c) whether any investigation has been conducted and if so, the details and action taken thereon and status of rescue operations;

(d) the details of compensation paid to dependents of deceased; and

(e) the number of employees of ECL and outsourcing agency and locals who were killed/missing?

#### **Steps taken to prevent coal mine accidents**

320. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the accidents in coal mines and loss of human lives in those accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the number of people killed in coal mine accidents during 2015 and 2016;

(c) whether any step has been taken by the Ministry to prevent coal mine accidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Special spot e-auction of coal by CIL**

321. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coal India Limited (CIL) has announced a one time offer of 20 million tonne of coal under special spot e-auction in the ongoing fiscal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the relevant modalities, coal company-wise tentative offer, registration modalities, schedule dates of the auction and other details will be available on the website of CIL; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **CAG report on shortcomings in coal allocation by auction**

322. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) in its report on the first two rounds of auctions, pointed out undervaluation to the tune of ₹ 382 crore in upfront payment that successful bids make to Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that allowing multiple bids by corporate *via* joint ventures have hit competition;

(c) whether the CAG has pointed out many shortcomings in the coal allocation by auction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Coal mine accident in Jharkhand and Bihar**

323. SHRI AJAY SANCHETTI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recent coal mine accident in Jharkhand and Bihar;

(b) whether mining is still the most dangerous profession in the country;

(c) if so, the details of coal mine and non-coal mine accidents during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to strengthen safety mechanism in mining operations in the country?

**Coal linkages to private companies for power projects**

324. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to provide coal linkages to private companies for new and upcoming power projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the price at which Government proposes to sell coal to these companies, company-wise and the period stipulated for the sale of coal at this price?

**Sharing of clean environment cess with State Governments**

325. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coal mining adversely affects the environment in the coal mining areas and causes other negative externalities;

(b) whether any State Government has requested the Central Government to share the 'Clean Environment Cess' with the State in which the cess has been collected;

(c) if so, what decision has been taken on such requests; and

(d) how much amount has been collected in different States as 'Clean Environment Cess' and for which States this amount has been sanctioned/utilised with State-wise details?

**Transfer of upfront payments for auctioned coal mines in Bengal**

326. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the entire amount received by the Centre on auctioning of coal mines in the State of Bengal has not been transferred to the State and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of amount received on auctioning coal mines in Bengal region-wise and also the respective amount transferred to the State; and

(c) the details regarding the life period of the above mines and the estimated revenue that it will generate?

**Report of study group on enhancing coal royalty**

327. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the study group constituted by the Ministry to consider revision of rates on royalty, has submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering a proposal for enhancing the royalty on coal; and

(c) if so, by when this decision will be taken?

**Impact of global coal prices on overseas Indian Assets**

328. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the spurt in global coal prices in the past six months is likely to put Indian companies' overseas coal assets back in focus, with talks over fresh plans for these assets now underway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the coal mines abroad are more attractive than the blocks allocated in India in terms of quality of coal, viability and economy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Decline in coal supply to power sector**

329. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coal supply to power sector declined by 2.9 per cent to 184.9 million tonnes in the first six months of the current fiscal even as demand for the fossil fuel has started picking up;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the dispatch of dry fuel by Coal India Limited (CIL) in the corresponding period of financial year was at 190.6 MT;

(c) whether in September CIL's coal supply declined by 11.4 per cent to 27.1 MT as against 30.6 MT the same month last fiscal; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### **Aligning domestic coal prices with international rates**

330. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government favours aligning domestic coal prices with international rates;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there has been severe opposition as they don't want markets to determine prices of coal in India;

(c) whether due to combination of lower international prices and inadequate

domestic production, the value of India's coal imports touched a high of US \$ 17.8 billion in financial year 2015;

(d) whether higher domestic production in financial year 2016 lowered imports to US \$ 13.7 billion; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **NRDWP allocation for Punjab**

331. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of funds allocated to Government of Punjab under the National Rural Drinking Water Supply Programme (NRDWP) during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the quantum of funds utilised by the State Government for the implementation of NRDWP in the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) whether any irregularities in the utilisation of funds or implementation of the programme been noted, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

#### **Chemical contamination of water in villages**

332. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 40 per cent of the villages in the country are affected by chemical contamination of water;

(b) if so, State and district-wise report therein; and

(c) the action taken and proposal details of Government to provide safe supply of domestic water?

**Piped drinking water supply to rural households**

333. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of piped drinking water connected to rural Indian households; and

(b) the State-wise details of households to be connected during the next three years?

**Recycling of water under drinking water schemes**

†334. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

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

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

**Status of installation of Amrit technology in UP and Bihar**

335. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not installing Amrit technology (Arsenic and Metal Removal Indian Technology) in worst affected States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar for treatment of arsenic and fluoride in drinking water, so far;

(b) by when Government would equip each district of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar with Amrit technology particularly, Ballia district; and

(c) the details of fund released and utilised for Amrit technology during current financial year, State-wise?

**Steps taken to reduce water borne diseases**

336. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reduction in the water borne diseases during the last three years, in view of article 21 which entitles every Indian citizen right to get safe drinking water;

(b) the statistics related to water borne diseases; and

(c) action taken by Government to reduce the water borne diseases that is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality in India?

**Pilot project for drinking water security**

337. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether people are getting contaminated water supply for quenching their thirst in many States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has set up any pilot project for water security in water stressed and quality affected areas, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government proposes to include more blocks/units under the pilot project for providing drinking water security;

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) if so, the details thereof and the funds earmarked for the purpose, State/ UT-wise including Himachal Pradesh; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Adoption of waste disposal models under SBM**

338. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to adopt the waste disposal models of States like Jharkhand and Gujarat under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to incentivize these States while adopting their waste disposal models; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Arsenic contamination in drinking water**

†339. DR. VINAYP. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to resolve the problem of drinking water in cities/towns/areas where water is found to be contaminated with arsenic;

(b) the policy decisions taken by Government for its eradication during the year 2014-2016 and the steps taken by Government for creating country-wide awareness about the same;

(c) the details of the States/Union Territories/districts/towns/cities/areas that are in the grip of arsenic contamination; and

(d) the details thereof?

**Schemes for providing drinking water to households by 2030**

340. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to implement any new scheme to provide drinking water to all households by 2030 in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of existing schemes for providing drinking water to households and their implementation status so far, scheme/ State-wise?

**Boron and arsenic contamination in groundwater in NCR/Uttar Pradesh**

†341. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to light in a research that the high contents of boron element and arsenic are found in groundwater of National Capital Region (NCR) and various parts of Western Uttar Pradesh and their level is continuously increasing;

(b) whether according to experts industrial waste and waste coming through drains are main reasons of increase in rising levels of boron;

(c) the steps taken to purify drinking water supplied to NCR and Western Uttar Pradesh so that the quantity of this element

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

remains within permissible limits in drinking water; and

(d) the details thereof?

**Provision of safe drinking water at public places under Panchayats in Maharashtra**

342. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that under National Rural Water Drinking Programme (NRDWP), it was envisaged that safe drinking water shall be provided at all public places under each Panchayat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of Panchayats in Maharashtra that have been provided with the facility of safe drinking water at public places under the scheme and what special efforts are being made to achieve the target by 2017?

**Chemical contamination in drinking water**

343. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:  
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of those 100 districts of India where drinking water is highly contaminated;

(b) the States to which these districts belong;

(c) whether the water in these districts is not suitable for drinking due to natural

factors or due to excess use of pesticides, GM seeds, fertilizers, etc. in those areas;

(d) the chemicals which have been found in excess quantity in drinking water in these districts; and

(e) the steps taken to purify the contaminated water?

**Supply of pure drinking water and sanitation for all**

‡344. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise, rural and urban area-wise and year-wise details of the target set and achieved during the last three years including year 2016-17 for supply of pure drinking water and sanitation in the country; and

(b) the action plan and effective measures for making sources of drinking water pollution free and targets set for providing pure drinking water to all?

**Estimates and enquiries on forest fires**

345. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of forest fires, the area affected in hectares and the loss in terms of money, during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether frequency of forest fires in States like Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh have increased, if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether an enquiry has pointed out

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

that miscreants purposefully caused fire to encroach upon forest land, if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal to constitute an independent agency to estimate the losses in real terms and earmark budget for compensation; and

(e) if so, the details of Government's response?

**Environmental impact of destruction of forest cover**

‡346. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:  
SHRI VISHAMBHAR  
PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of research studies have proved a point that an indiscriminate destruction of forest cover has led to two billion tonnes of extra carbon dioxide getting released into environment each year and resulting in a massive depletion of Ozone layer;

(b) the action plan formulated by the Ministry to deal with the looming threat over various Indian cities, in the wake of melting glaciers and steadily rising sea water level, owing to the phenomenon of global warming; and

(c) the details thereof?

**Dumping of sewage and dead bodies in rivers**

347. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one billion litres of raw, untreated sewage and

hundreds of dead bodies are dumped in rivers on a daily basis, and the level of Coliform bacteria is over 2800 times the level considered safe by the WHO; and

(b) if so, the details of its present condition and by when Government would improve the same?

**Ban on diesel vehicles in Delhi-NCR area**

348. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has any plans to ban old diesel vehicles in Delhi-NCR area to address air pollution problem;

(b) if so, whether any study has been done to determine that diesel vehicles are more polluting than petrol and CNG vehicles; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

**Air pollution in places other than mega cities**

349. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by the Ministry to address the problem of air pollution in places other than mega cities like Delhi;

(b) whether Government would consider setting up of an environmental police to take immediate action against barbecues, garbage incineration, burning of wood and other biomass;

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(c) whether any official study has been done on air pollution in various parts of the country other than Delhi; and

(d) if so, what are the recommendations and how many of them have been implemented?

#### **Air pollution due to cutting of trees**

‡350. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether increase in air pollution due to emissions from factories, and cutting of trees poses a serious threat to human life;

(b) if so, the number of people who have died due to air pollution in cities and metro cities during the last three years;

(c) the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to check and reduce air pollution in cities and metro cities?

#### **Release of funds to States under CAMPA**

351. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is due to release funds to States under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how the States are utilising the funds released under CAMPA and expenditure against the releases, State-wise?

#### **IT enabled monitoring of river pollution**

352. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any concrete plans for IT enabled monitoring of the river pollution in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Reduction in use of plastic**

353. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to reduce unnecessary use of plastic and promote increase in the use of biodegradable plastic;

(b) the details and statistics of use of plastic and the magnitude of garbage creation by plastic during the last three years; and

(c) the percentage that was recycled during the last three years?

#### **Industrial garbage in major rivers**

‡354. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding abundant industrial garbage in major rivers of the country;

(b) the names of the States which are affected with problem of garbage in the rivers;

---

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government is giving any guidelines to the States to deal with the problem of such garbage affected rivers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Kasturirangan Report on Western Ghats**

355. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features and recommendations made by the High Level Working Group under Dr. Kasturirangan on the eco-sensitive areas in the Western Ghats;

(b) whether Government has decided to proceed with the recommendations of the report presented by the Committee; and

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations that have been adopted, along with the proposed timelines for the implementation of the same?

**Utilisation of forest land by Karnataka Government**

356. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the proposal received from Karnataka Government under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act for utilizing forest land to provide electricity connections to 23 forest villages/hamlets and construction of Upper Tunga Project; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Ministry, so far, to give forest clearance?

**Regulation of pet business**

357. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan to reign in growing pet business which is mushrooming with little or no accountability;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to have a regulatory framework for the pet business including defining of space requirements for various pets kept in pet shops in order to save these animals from cruelty?

**Installation of air quality forecasting systems by PCBs**

358. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to instruct various Pollution Control Boards (PCBs) in the country to install air quality forecasting systems in various cities of the country, falling under their jurisdiction, so that people could know about the level of the quality prevalent in that city at a particular time;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Schemes for managing unproductive and stray animals**

359. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Animal Welfare Board is implementing schemes for managing unproductive and stray animals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons as to why it is under the purview of this Ministry and not the Department of Animal Husbandry?

**Data on recyclable waste in metro cities**

360. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that data regarding recyclable waste generated in metro cities is not available;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) in the absence of this data how an effective waste management planning is possible; and

(d) the details of steps being taken in this regard?

**Environment clearance of projects pending in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**

361. SHRI C.M. RAMESH:  
SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN  
REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 16 projects from Andhra Pradesh and 9 projects from Telangana are pending for environment clearance in the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of each of the projects, submitted for clearance, since

when they are pending, the reasons for such pendency and the efforts made to clear the projects, project-wise;

(c) whether clearance of cases has come down now to 192 days against earlier 600 days;

(d) if so, the details of projects pending for more than 200 days; and

(e) by when the above projects are going to be cleared by the Ministry?

**Research work on GM medicinal herbs**

362. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research work has been carried out to genetically modify the medicinal herbs that have proven to be beneficial in the treatment of terminal illness;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether the Minister would consider initiating research work in the line of medicinal herbs for the benefit of millions suffering due to non-availability of suitable medicine?

**GM mustard varieties**

363. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN  
REDDY: Will the Minister of  
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND  
CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which the Ministry says that GM Mustard will not cause any ecological damage and is superior to conventional mustard varieties;

(b) whether it is a fact that three different GM varieties have been developed by Delhi University;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the basis on which the Ministry is coming to the conclusion that GM varieties could give better yield than the conventional one; and

(d) what are the reasons that a fixed format has been given to public for giving their feedback?

#### **Views of stakeholding States on Kasturirangan Report**

364. SHRI JOY ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the stakeholding States in the Western Ghat region have submitted their final views on the draft notification regarding Kasturirangan Report;

(b) if not, the names of States which have not submitted their final views on the draft notification yet; and

(c) the proposed date for issuance of the Central Government's final notification on the said report?

#### **Non-release of funds to Similipal Biosphere Reserve**

365. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for non-release of funds in favour of Similipal Biosphere Reserve in Odisha during 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 and whether an adverse impact would be created on protection and conservation of wildlife and livelihood of local inhabitants; and

(b) if so, how it would be mitigated?

#### **Transfer of ad-hoc CAMPA funds to States**

366. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received annual plans of operation from all States/UTs over the last two years;

(b) the details of funds that have been released to all States/UTs including West Bengal during the last two years;

(c) whether the Central Government has any specific plans to earmark a certain amount from this ad-hoc CAMPA fund directly to the local communities, like tribals living in forests; and

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

#### **Deaths due to air pollution**

367. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 20 most polluted cities in the country, where nearly 12 lakh deaths take place every year, due to air pollution and none of the 168 cities, assessed complies with air quality standards prescribed by the World Health Organization (WHO);

(b) if so, Government's views and reaction thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for controlling the air pollution in the country?

**Inventory of flora and fauna of  
Western Ghats**

368. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would initiate complete documentation on the inventory of flora and fauna of the entire 1,500 km. stretch of Western Ghats so that its rich biological diversity can be preserved and protected; and

(b) whether Government would also initiate and collect exact specific data of the forest cover of Western Ghats to prevent its decline?

**Environmental impact of cyclone  
Vardah**

369. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any study to assess the environmental impact on Chennai city and its neighbouring areas, due to cyclone Vardah which devastated the whole area;

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

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to reduce the environmental impact and to sustain the environment like planting of trees?

**Rehabilitation of families living in  
Wayanad Animal Reserve**

370. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a few hundred families living in Wayanad Animal Reserve area are being rehabilitated in areas outside it;

(b) whether a comprehensive proposal to this effect was submitted to the Central Government for cooperation, approval and help; and

(c) whether Government would give its approval and render assistance to shift people from interior forests to areas outside by sanctioning equal area of land outside and the amount needed for rehabilitation as proposed by the State Government?

**Pollution mitigation in cities of  
Rajasthan**

†371. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the average pollution level prevailing in major cities of Rajasthan *i.e.* Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Ajmer, Udaipur and Bikaner;

(b) the steps being taken by the Central Government to make the said cities of Rajasthan pollution-free; and

(c) the total number of deaths which have occurred due to pollution in the said cities during the last three years, the details thereof?

**Loss of tigers and cubs in the country**

372. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the loss of tigers including cubs in

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the country, State-wise and year-wise during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that Madhya Pradesh lost maximum tigers in 2016 which is double the average figure;

(c) if so, whether any study or analysis was made for the high mortality and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to conserve wild animals including tigers and to reduce mortality by various measures including anti-poaching drive, vigil on killing tigers through poisoning or electrocution, etc., with details thereof?

**Animals barred from exhibition in public**

373. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to review the list of animals that are not allowed to be exhibited in public;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposals to include elephant in the lists as so much cruelty is being done to that animal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Air pollution in metro cities**

374. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the level of air pollution in all the metro cities of the country as on December, 2016;

(b) the names of the metro cities which are following the basic guidelines to prevent further pollution of the air;

(c) the details of steps being taken to contain various types of pollution taking place in the cities; and

(d) what action is being stipulated to contain pollution?

**Ratification of international protocols concerning environmental liabilities**

375. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has not yet ratified the Doha Amendment to Kyoto Protocol and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether chronologically, India should have ratified the Doha Amendment before ratifying the Paris Agreement as Doha Amendment governs liabilities of countries till 2020 and Paris Agreement beyond that;

(c) if so, whether India is considering to ratify the Amendment anytime soon; and

(d) what international agreement would govern India's emissions between the period 2015-2020 if India does not ratify Doha Amendment and how does it hope to fulfil its obligations under the Paris Agreement?

**Minerals used in cement manufacturing**

376. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that minerals for manufacturing of cement are available in

abundance in Meghalaya, if so, the names of those minerals mined along with their quantity;

(b) to what extent such minerals are exported and to which countries and the quantity of such minerals being exported to Bangladesh; and

(c) whether there is a policy to promote greater use of such minerals for manufacturing cement within the country and if so, what has been its impact, so far?

#### **Encouragement of roof-top solar systems**

377. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan and earmarked any funds to encourage individuals to install roof-top solar system in their houses and utilize the power generated from it for exclusively house hold requirement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Setting up of solar energy plants**

378. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL : Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of solar energy plants set up or being set up along with their installed capacity during the last three years and the current year in the country, State/UT-wise;

(b) the details of funds sanctioned/ released and spent for the purpose during the above period, scheme-wise and State/ UT-wise;

(c) whether Government proposes to grant certain incentives to the private sector who have shown interest in this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to popularize the utilization of solar energy in the country?

#### **Family size bio-gas plants under NBMMP**

379. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of family size bio-gas plants set up under the National Biogas and Manure Management Programme (NBMMP) during the last three years;

(b) whether Government provides any financial and technical assistance for setting up family size bio-gas plants;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the nodal agencies to be approached for the purpose, State-wise; and

(d) the fresh steps taken by Government to set up such bio-gas plants at large scale especially in rural areas of the country?

#### **Development of Solar Cities Programme**

380. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of 'Development of Solar Cities Programme';

(b) whether it is a fact that Mahabubnagar in Telangana has been identified under the programme;

(c) to what extent a solar city helps in reducing consumption of energy from fossil fuels; and

(d) how much money was sanctioned, released and spent on the above city since its declaration as solar city?

**Waste-to-energy plants at  
Visakhapatnam**

381. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that waste-to-energy plants with a proposed capacity of 15 MW at Visakhapatnam is under construction;

(b) if so, the details and progress of the construction;

(c) whether there are any other such plants in Andhra Pradesh under construction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof with anticipated date of completion of the projects?

**Different types of new and renewable  
energy projects**

382. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any studies on introduction of different types of new and renewable energy projects with foreign collaboration and funding during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any plan to introduce latest state of the art

technology in harnessing the new and renewable energy sources in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the list of NRE projects implemented during the last three years in various States/UTs of the country; and

(e) the details of funds provided to such projects, year-wise and State-wise?

**Popularization of solar plants**

383. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent study made by Centre for Science and Environment has found that cost of using solar plants is less than half of diesel generation sets;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to popularize more and more solar power generation in the country;

(c) whether publicity campaign in the media, including SMS messages would be considered for using solar roof-top units in large apartment complexes in metropolitan cities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Repowering of wind energy projects**

384. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched a framework policy for repowering of existing wind energy projects to optimally utilize the wind energy resources in the country;



(b) whether Government has analyzed the capacity of the grid to accommodate higher power evacuation with repowering of wind sites, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has plans to introduce new incentives for wind energy sector to achieve 60 GW by 2022, if so, the details thereof?

**Current solar power generation cost and possibility of its reduction**

385. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present solar power cost has reduced substantially in comparison to that in 2010;

(b) if so, what is the current cost on solar power generation and distribution;

(c) what steps Government plans to take to reduce the generation and distribution cost further; and

(d) whether Government has tied up with other countries to borrow latest technology in solar power sector?

**Training and capacity building of elected members of PRIs**

†386. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government for the training and capacity building of elected members of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) of Chhattisgarh and other States of the country;

(b) the details of amount spent by Chhattisgarh and other States for this

purpose during the current year and the last three years; and

(c) whether steps have been taken to measure the effectiveness of training programmes initiated by Government?

**Transfer of powers to Panchayats**

†387. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether States have been given discretionary powers with regard to transfer of powers to Panchayats due to which there is no uniformity in schemes prepared by Government along with implementation and monitoring of these schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government is taking any initiative to bring about uniformity in formulation, implementation and monitoring of schemes related to development of Panchayats in States; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

**Development support to successor States of Andhra Pradesh**

388. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether NITI Aayog has prepared any report on development support to successor States of Andhra Pradesh under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of implementation of recommendations made by NITI Aayog in the report?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Regional imbalances in the country**

‡389. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted or intends to conduct any study to find out the regional imbalances in the country;

(b) whether regional imbalances prevalent among various States of the country have not been removed in spite of several Central and centrally sponsored schemes; and

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to increase the funds allocations in those schemes for the backward districts of these States?

**Mapping of skill requirements and gaps in training**

390. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether NITI Aayog proposes to map skill requirement and gaps in training in the country;

(b) if so, the details of sectors that have been identified for the purpose;

(c) whether more than 10 crore work force would enter the labour market and would require skill training by 2022 as per 68th round of National Sample Survey; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by Government in this regard?

**Criteria for identification of people below poverty line**

‡391. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:  
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is working on any action plan to prescribe criteria for identification of people living below poverty line, after considering all aspects, to bring schemes to the poor;

(b) if so, the aspects covered therein and by when its report is likely to be presented so that benefit of schemes could be provided to poor persons by identifying them;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is shying away from identifying people living below poverty line due to which the matter is being delayed; and

(d) the details thereof?

**Financial allocation for programmes and schemes**

‡392. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:  
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken for financial allocation for various programmes and schemes prior to the end of Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(b) the extent of success achieved in fulfilling the targets set under Twelfth Five Year Plan during the last three years; and

(c) the details thereof?

---

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Increase in power generation**

‡393. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been substantial increase in generation of thermal, solar, nuclear and hydro-power during the last five years and if so, the details thereof, year-wise; and

(b) whether various development oriented schemes have been proposed for these power sectors at national level and if so, the details of the schemes proposed towards generation of power, State-wise, source-wise and capacity-wise?

### **Progress of rural electrification**

‡394. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been remarkable progress in electrification of rural areas in the country during the last two and a half years and if so, the details thereof *vis-à-vis* preceding three years; and

(b) the details of progress made, targets fixed regarding electrification in rural areas of Jharkhand during last two and a half years and the future plans in this regard?

### **Estimates of electrical energy consumption**

395. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has estimated the State-wise consumption of electrical energy if all households of the country are connected to grid power;

(b) if so, the details of power required, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the details of the plan to meet the

targeted requirement of electrical energy?

### **Payment of outstanding dues for works under RGGVY**

396. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 566 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st November, 2016 and state:

(a) whether Government is aware that contracts awarded under RGGVY had been distributed on sublet basis *vide* letter no. FLCL/MPMKVVCL/ERECTION/2010-11, to smaller companies for erection of material/equipments of various materials for HVDS work in MPMKVVCL-Bhopal circle under Pipariya;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware that awardee companies have arbitrarily withheld the outstanding dues of smaller companies for the said site inspite of completion of work; and

(d) if so, the details of the action Government would take in this regard against the erring companies?

### **Power generation in the country**

397. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:  
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total power generated from various sources in the country during the last three years, source-wise, year-wise and State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether there has been acute shortage of power in various parts of the country resulting in various industries being at the verge of closure;

---

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken to meet the situation?

#### **Coverage of DDUGJY**

398. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of un-electrified villages to be covered under the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY);

(b) the total number of BPL households being covered under DDUGJY;

(c) the total number of projects for un-electrified villages under DDUGJY; and

(d) the total cost of projects under DDUGJY?

#### **Electricity generation and losses**

399. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of electricity generated, distributed, sold and lost in the country during last three years; and

(b) the measures/schemes taken by Government to minimize the transmission and distribution loss of electricity?

#### **Acceptability of LED bulbs**

†400. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether LED bulbs are becoming better and acceptable all over the country for domestic lighting due to its lower energy consumption and good quality;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there has been substantial reduction in prices of LED bulbs during the last two years and further reduction is also expected; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Stressed power projects**

401. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified stressed power projects of various public and private sector companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof State/UT-wise, company-wise and project/capacity-wise along with the amount stuck in these projects, as on date;

(c) the number of such projects acquired by public and private sector companies during each of the last three years and the current year, company-wise and project-wise;

(d) whether Government has asked banks and cash rich public sector companies to float reconstruction fund to buy stakes in such stressed power projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the response of these Banks/Companies?

#### **Coverage of Street Light National Programme**

402. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched Street Light National Programme (SLNP) in the country;

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the programme is being implemented in a few States only at present, and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and by when all the States would be covered under the programme along with the details of targets fixed and the achievements made, so far?

#### **Power saving technology for buildings**

403. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any feasibility studies on introduction of green buildings and building management projects with foreign collaboration and funding during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government plans to introduce latest state-of-the-art technology of LED lights and power saving technology based building management solutions in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the list of projects implemented during the last three years in various States/UTs in the country; and

(e) the details of the funds provided for such projects, year-wise and State-wise?

#### **Demand for State -specific norms under UDAY**

404. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether Government has thought of inefficiency and lack of vision in insisting the same set of conditions on all States having very different economic,

developmental and implementational environments;

(b) whether Government realises that various electricity boards in different States confront grossly different problems; and

(c) whether in this background, Government would review its stand of insisting the very same set of norms regarding UDAY and sympathetically consider the request of the Kerala State Electricity Board Ltd. to allow it to draw short term loans to overcome its losses?

#### **Shifting of Mannavaram Project**

405. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating on shifting of NTPC-BHEL Power Project Ltd. located at Mannavaram in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh out of that State and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether any representation has been received from the local people requesting not to shift the project from Chittoor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to execute the project at the earliest and quantum of funds released/being released to complete the project in a particular time-frame?

#### **Power situation in the country**

406. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand of power is constantly increasing leading to an acute shortage in the country;

(b) if so, the details of demand and

supply of power during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details of power generation from various sources during the last three years; State-wise;

(d) the details of structural reforms undertaken to improve power situation along with the success achieved as a result thereof?

#### **Status of power generation capacity and demand**

407. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority had made an observation in its draft National Electricity Plan that the peak power demand would be around half of the installed generation capacity by 2022;

(b) whether, with the low demand weighs heavily on every part of the power supply chain and there has been no effort to mobilise investment in conventional power generation;

(c) whether Government expects the Plant Load Factor (PLF) of thermal power units to come down to around 55 per cent in next five years from the current 69 per cent; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Toll collection on Ahmedabad-Vadodara toll road**

†408. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any data of toll tax

collection on Ahmedabad-Kheda-Nadiyad-Anand-Vadodara toll road and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether vehicle-wise and year-wise accounts of toll receipts is maintained in respect of this toll road and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Construction of ROBs, flyovers and under bridges on NHs in Tamil Nadu**

409. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study on the requirements of Road Over Bridges (ROBs), flyovers and under bridges in various National Highways passing through Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the list of projects underway and to be undertaken during the next two years; and

(c) the details of the funds earmarked and allocated for such projects during the last three years, year-wise and NH-wise?

#### **Funds for development of National Highways**

410. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has earmarked ₹ 8,000 crore for development of highways in States and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the length of National Highways proposed to be developed by Government and the length of National Highways completed, so far; and

(c) the details of highways being taken

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

up for development in the Andhra Pradesh under this proposal?

#### **Status of ring road in Jaipur**

†411. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has urged the Central Government to complete the ambitious ring road project in Jaipur, which has been lying incomplete, within a fixed time period; and

(b) if so, the action plan formulated by the Central Government for completion of this project and by when the said project would be completed?

#### **Regulation of electrical vehicles**

412. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether electrical vehicles are exempted from registration in transport authorities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether many mishaps/accidents happen due to e-rickshaws or electric vehicles;

(d) whether there are any mechanism/guidelines to trace the vehicle for violation of law; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Char Dham highway**

413. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to upgrade highway connecting Char Dham;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the estimated project cost and by what time the work would be completed; and

(d) whether measures like landslide protection, paved shoulders would be taken to make it all weather road and landslide free highway for pilgrims and for movement of defence forces and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Rebidding of stalled highway projects**

414. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to re-bid some of the stalled highway projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details of these projects and the loans provided by banks for these projects;

(c) whether banks are reluctant to finance these projects again; and

(d) if so, how Government expects to finance these projects now?

#### **Opposition to automation of vehicle fitness centres and hike in other charges**

†415. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several States are opposing the automation of vehicle fitness centres and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the State Governments are also opposing the increase in charges of driving licences, registration certificate, fitness certificate, etc. and if so, the details thereof; and

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the details of efforts being made by Government to reduce charges and to resolve other conflicts considering the opposition of State Governments?

#### **Cashless toll plazas at National Highways**

†416. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that toll plazas at National Highways could not be made cashless despite all the claims;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the details of toll plazas that have been made cashless?

#### **Steps to reduce road accidents**

417. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to reduce the number of road accidents by half, by 2019;

(b) if so, whether Government has decided to reach out to the corporate sector to achieve this target;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this direction?

#### **Road Research Institutes**

418. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Road Research Institutes in the country;

(b) the details of the areas of research undertaken at these institutes and the major feats achieved by them;

(c) whether Government proposes to establish Central Road Research Institute-like institutions in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, along with the proposed sites, timelines and cost estimates?

#### **New Construction Index for determination of toll rates**

419. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the New Construction Index that NHAI is proposing to determine toll rates;

(b) whether some of the toll plazas have been removed, like the toll plaza on NH-8 in Gurgaon and DND Flyway in Delhi;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) how Construction Index helps in keeping toll rates reasonable, transparent and justified?

#### **Effect of demonetisation on toll collection**

420. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of toll plazas across the country and the total toll collection per day;

(b) the details of losses incurred due to exemption of toll, post demonetisation and whether Government would bear this loss;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(c) the details regarding toll plazas which started cashless system post demonetisation, State/UT-wise and date-wise, if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether FASTag is only available on 180 toll plazas alongwith the details regarding new additions, State/UT-wise and date-wise and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of availability of functional RIFDs to read FASTags and the timeline to introduce this system across the country?

**Penalising pedestrians for violation of traffic rules**

421. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any law or guidelines to fine or penalise a pedestrian for crossing the road in violation of traffic rules;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry would consider enacting a Central law or guideline to penalise a pedestrian for crossing the road in violation of traffic rules; and

(d) the details of deaths of pedestrians during the last five years, State-wise?

**Funds for repair and maintenance of highways**

422. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and length of highways passing through West Bengal;

(b) the details of funds allocated by the

Central Government for maintaining and repairing these highways during the last three years;

(c) whether States are not allocated the required amount of funds to maintain and repair the highways;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the proportion in which the States are allocated funds as per Ministry's Maintenance Norms *vis-a-vis* their demand for funds?

**Cashless treatment to road accident victims**

423. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched a pilot project to provide cashless treatment facility to accident victims on National Highways in the country;

(b) the salient features and the extent of coverage of the said project; and

(c) the number of such victims that have been provided cashless treatment since inception of the project?

**Expert panel to fix fading paint menace on NHs**

424. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has constituted an expert panel to find a lasting solution to the fading paint menace identified as a major cause for alarmingly high road fatalities;

(b) whether all options on the table are being explored by the Committee;

(c) whether Government is considering alterations in road building contracts to make builders liable for deterioration in road markings, testing paint quality in real world conditions instead of laboratories and tougher tests for driving licences to educate motorists about the meaning of road signs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Four laning of NH-87**

‡425. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to convert the Rampur-Kathgodam National Highway No. 87 into four lanes;

(b) if so, when was this decision taken and the details of the progress made, so far, in this regard;

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed for converting it into a four lane highway; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Hike in fees for driving licences etc.**

426. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN:

SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently hiked the various charges/fees for the services of issuing driving licences, etc. and authorized the States to charge an additional fee for conducting driving tests;

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

(c) whether this has been done on the basis of the recommendations of the S.K. Sharma Committee; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to provide expeditious services to the applicants for these services?

#### **Work on Pathalgaon to Jashpur National Highway**

427. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work for National Highway from Pathalgaon to Jashpur (Shank Border) has been tendered and by when the work would start and by when it would be completed; and

(b) whether a bypass at Jashpur was proposed and whether it would be made?

#### **Reduction in passenger vehicles**

428. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to tackle the problem of increasing pollution and traffic congestion as a result of increasing sales of passenger vehicles in India;

(b) the details of quality of air in the country during 2010—2016, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government has devised a policy to reduce the sale or ownership of passenger vehicles to reduce pollution and traffic congestion and if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Status of Hajipur-Muzaffarpur  
National Highway**

‡429. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of the National Highway from Hajipur to Muzaffarpur in Bihar remains incomplete;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time-limit fixed for the construction of this National Highway and the reasons for which the construction work has not been completed till now?

**Speed governors in public transport**

430. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes that speed governors would be made mandatory in all public transport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the speed limits on National Highways for all vehicles; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Vehicle scrapping policy**

431. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had proposed a draft vehicle scrapping policy, aimed at dumping vehicles more than 15 years old;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when vehicle scrapping policy would be finalized and put into operation;

(d) whether any incentives would be given to owners of dumped vehicles; and

(e) the details regarding using recycled parts of such vehicles by the industry?

**Stalled highway projects**

432. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than ₹ 8600 crore worth of National Highway projects have turned chronic with most of them impacted by environmental and forest clearances, local issues and aggressive bidding by overzealous companies;

(b) whether banks are reluctant to finance these contracts again, fearing non-performing assets on their books; and

(c) whether, last year, foreign institutional investment in the infrastructure sector has seen a pullback, adversely affecting the work on major on-going contracts?

**Slowing down of employment creation  
under MGNREGA**

433. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had sent messages to States on WhatsApp to slow down employment creation under MGNREGA and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether, from 2014 the work provided under MGNREGA is 54.8 million days, which is less than what had been planned and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any instances have been recorded where the workers were paid less

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

than the minimum wage and if so, the details thereof?

**Remuneration structure for Assistants and Community Resource Persons**

434. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to offer performance based remuneration structure for the 6,50,000 odd personnel employed in rural areas as Assistants and Community Resource Persons;

(b) whether bulk of these persons assist in MGNREGA for preparing muster rolls and other official errands designated as Gram Rozgar Sevaks or Sahayaks; and

(c) whether there are around 3,00,000 other Community Resource Persons like bank-sakhis and pashu-sakhis?

**Steps by NMC to help dalits in Pydipaka, Andhra Pradesh**

435. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Monitoring Committee (NMC), is aware that the Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 is not being applied particularly to dalits in Pydipaka in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether dalits must get "land-for-land" when their land is acquired;

(c) what steps NMC would take to enquire and discuss the issue with the evicted dalits in Pydipaka; and

(d) the steps proposed to enforce the law to help dalits in Pydipaka and landless labourers?

**Guidelines for involvement of MP (RS) in PMGSY works**

436. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any guidelines for involving Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) in laying foundation stone and or in inauguration of PMGSY roads as applied in the case of Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether the Ministry would take steps to involve Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) in laying foundation stone and or in inauguration of PMGSY roads as applied in the case of Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)?

**Implementation of MGNREGA in Jharkhand**

437. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many man-days of employment were given under MGNREGA during the financial years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 in Jharkhand;

(b) whether there have been large scale delays in payment of wages under MGNREGA to beneficiaries in Jharkhand;

(c) whether there has been cases of exaggerated completion rate of works shown in official records; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to address these widespread concerns at the ground level in implementation of MGNREGA in the State?

**Demand reduction under MGNREGA post demonetization**

438. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether MGNREGA had suffered significant demand reduction post demonetization;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details regarding expenditure on MGNREGA, including the amount sanctioned to the States and utilization thereof during November, 2016 to January, 2017?

**Aadhaar for MGNREGA benefits**

439. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Aadhaar has been made mandatory to avail the benefits of MGNREGA;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Ministry is cognizant of the decision of the Supreme Court wherein it has been categorically stated that Aadhaar cannot be made mandatory for any welfare scheme; and

(d) if so, the reasons for taking a policy decision contrary to Supreme Court directives?

**Changes in population norms for road construction under PMGSY**

†440. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the roads being

constructed under PMGSY in rural areas of the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the roads cannot be constructed in villages with low population density due to existing rules of PMGSY and if so, the number of such villages, at present; and

(c) whether Government proposes to relax the norms on population for construction of roads under PMGSY in villages located in Scheduled Castes' dominated areas and if so, the details thereof?

**Status report on NRLM**

441. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any status report about the implementation of National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) in various States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

**Lack of funds for MGNREGA**

442. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether MGNREGA is not being implemented properly in many States due to lack of funds;

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

(c) the reasons why Government has stopped releasing funds to such States under MGNREGA; and

(d) the time by which Government intends to release adequate funds under

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

MGNREGA to such States including Himachal Pradesh?

**Utilization of funds allocated under MGNREGA**

443. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of funds earmarked under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for the States and Union Territories during the current Five Year Plan;

(b) whether States have utilized the funds allocated to them under MGNREGA during the last two years;

(c) if not, the names of States which could not utilize the allocated funds; and

(d) whether unutilized funds would be added to the funds to be allocated later?

**Houses constructed under PMAY-G**

444. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the data of houses built under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Ministry is planning to increase its target this year and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the deadline for the completion of the annual target?

**Scrapped job cards under MGNREGA**

445. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the data of job cards scrapped under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) due to reasons like fakes, misappropriation, wrong allocation and deceased, State-wise;

(b) the data of active workers under MGNREGA during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the data of Panchayats with nil expenditure under MGNREGA, State-wise?

**Directions for timely payment of wages under MGNREGA**

†446. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued directions to the States, not to delay payment of wages under MGNREGA;

(b) if so, whether State Governments have started to comply therewith; and

(c) if so, the States which have followed the guidelines and the States which have not taken any action thereon?

**Rise in demand for MGNREGA jobs post demonetization**

447. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to massive unemployment caused on account of retrenchment post demonetization in cities, there has been a sharp increase in demand for work under MGNREGA;

(b) if so, the details of the increase in demand of work under MGNREGA post demonetization, State-wise; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the steps taken by Government to address the situation?

**Modified guidelines and criteria for PMGSY**

448. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of modified guidelines and criteria of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b) the schemes/projects/village roads to be constructed under PMGSY in the States of North-Eastern Region, State-wise; and

(c) the targeted year of completion of all PMGSY schemes?

**Use of Bhuvan platform by the Ministry**

449. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is using Bhuvan platform of ISRO for the monitoring of its ongoing projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the procedural framework and its benefits at ground level so far?

**Implementation of people on SECC**

†450. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:  
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experts have submitted a report on Socio, Economic and Caste Census (SECC) to the Ministry and on the basis of that it has been advised to provide benefits under various schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of steps taken in this direction;

(c) the number of people living below the poverty line and the number of poor households who require houses alongwith the number of people coming forward for pension and other facilities due to this report; and

(d) the quantum of extra burden that would be borne on implementation of various schemes according to report?

**Construction of PMGSY road in Ram Nagar panchayat in Bihar**

†451. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of PMGSY road from Ram Nagar turn to Pakdiya and Bairiyahi *via* Sudiya village in Ram Nagar Panchayat of Phulparas block in Madhubani district of Bihar had remained incomplete for almost four years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any time limit was fixed for the construction of the above road under PMGSY;

(d) if so, whether any action was taken against the contractor who did not complete the construction of the road in time; and

(e) if so, the details of the action taken?

**Implementation of SAGY**

†452. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) the details of action plans implemented in the villages adopted by Members of Parliament under the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY);

(b) the details of schemes proposed for villages adopted by the Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha from Delhi and the quantum of work carried out in them; and

(c) the details of works accomplished so far to convert 'Aali Gaon' adopted by me under SAGY into an ideal village till now?

#### **Implementation of land reforms in States**

453. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has examined the land reforms of different States;

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

(c) whether Government has given any directions to implement the land reforms expeditiously; and

(d) if so, the details of guidelines, if any, issued in this regard?

#### **Green highways**

†454. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government as well as the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) have introduced the Green Highways scheme in the country;

(b) the details of plantation done thereunder during 2016, State-wise; and

(c) the details of highways in Gujarat without service roads?

#### **Proposal for development of seaport at Tadadi (Karnataka) on PPP mode**

455. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) when was the first proposal mooted to develop seaport at Tadadi on Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode;

(b) since how long the proposal is pending with the Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Ministry; and

(c) what efforts have been made by the Ministry to clear the above proposal?

#### **Revenue loss to cargo companies due to demonetization**

456. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the cargo booked by Indian cargo movers since 2014, till date;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been 15 per cent revenue loss to cargo companies after the 8th November, 2016 and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details about the fall in the cargo bookings and yearly contracts by various cargo companies in the country post demonetization?

#### **Proposal of starting dry ports in Telangana**

457. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals from Telangana Government to start dry ports in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(c) the present status of the proposal and likely date of commencement of project?

**Progress in the Nationalization of rivers in the country**

458. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any progress in development of any of the 111 rivers proposed to be nationalized by Government;

(b) the names of the rivers which have been taken for development;

(c) what are the developments proposed or carried out with respect to these rivers;

(d) whether it is a fact that political parties and other groups have opposed nationalization of six rivers in Goa;

(e) what are the objections to the nationalization of these rivers; and

(f) the details of the discussions that Government has held with Goa Government, Mormugao Port Trust and local associations?

**Development projects proposed for Mormugao port by Government**

459. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of development projects proposed by Government for the Mormugao port;

(b) the number and names of projects already approved and in various stages of implementation;

(c) the cost estimated in case of each projects proposed and/or are in various stages of implementation;

(d) the mode of financing each of the projects and details of the participating partners in case of each of the projects; and

(e) the benefits likely to accrue, to Mormugao Port Trust, the Central Government and State Government, on implementation of the projects?

**River front development in Delhi and other metro cities**

460. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to develop banks of river Yamuna in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereon including the time it is likely to take; and

(c) which are the other metro cities in the country identified for river front development and by when the work is likely to commence?

**Draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016**

461. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has come out with a draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016 to provide a mechanism to develop and manage river basins in the integrated manner;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had consultations with the State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, their views in this regard?

**Pan Dhara Vikas component of PMKSY in Chhattisgarh**

†462. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the districts in Chhattisgarh where the Pan Dhara Vikas component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) has been started;

(b) by when the above scheme is likely to be started in all the districts of the State;

(c) whether any proposal has been received from Chhattisgarh State Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Inclusion of water in concurrent list**

463. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has planned a move to include the subject of water under the concurrent list of the Indian Constitution;

(b) whether a need to include the subject of water under the concurrent list arises considering that the Constitution (Entry 56, List-I seventh schedule) provides Centre the power to legislate on the issue; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Implementation of irrigation projects in Mission Mode**

464. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to implement 99 major and medium irrigation projects in Mission Mode across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) out of these irrigation projects how many of them will be implemented in the State of Tamil Nadu; and

(d) the details of funds allocated for the projects sanctioned for the State?

**Employment to displaced family members under National Water Project**

465. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a representation seeking employment to one member of every family displaced by the National Water Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has sanctioned any jobs under this category in the year 2016-17 and the names of projects which are implementing this policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Invalidation of Supreme Court  
judgement on Punjab Termination  
of Agreement Act, 2004**

466. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent judgement of Supreme Court which has invalidated Punjab Termination of Agreement Act, 2004 regarding sharing of water of two rivers with Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan;

(b) whether it is a fact that Punjab Government is still reluctant to comply with the Judgement of Supreme Court; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

**Cost escalation of Polavaram  
project**

467. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the original cost of Polavaram project;

(b) whether it is a fact that recently, project Authority of Andhra Pradesh Water Resources Department has increased Polavaram project estimates to ₹ 40,200 crores;

(c) if so, the details and the reasons behind this cost overrun;

(d) whether the Ministry has accepted the revised project cost;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Ken-Betwa Inter Link River  
Project**

468. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that work on Ken-Betwa Inter Link River (ILR) project has not yet started as the mandatory clearance from the National Board for Wild Life (NBWL) got stuck amid objections from environmentalist and wild life conservationists and its funding pattern;

(b) by when the project will be cleared by the NBWL, since the Ken-Betwa link project requires diversion of forest land of Panna Tiger Reserve and is one of the 30 inter linking of rivers; and

(c) a detailed report thereon?

**Implementation of the 'Namami  
Gange' project**

469. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Namami Gange' is a wastage of resources, according to people living around the river;

(b) whether Ganga water is getting dirtier day by day especially between Kanpur and Haridwar;

(c) whether small factories in the cities are throwing untreated waste directly into the river;

(d) if so, whether factories are being allowed to run their operations on the banks of Ganga and have not been closed down yet; and

(e) if so, what steps Government is taking to correct the mismanagement of the 'Namami Gange' project?

**Penal action for polluting Ganga**

†470. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating penal action against those polluting the river Ganga;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any step, so far, in this regard; and

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

**Loan agreement with ADB on irrigation projects**

471. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the projects/schemes under the loan agreement signed between Government of India and Asian Development Bank as on 14 July 2016 for 100 million USD, to strengthen irrigation system in Cauvery Delta Vennar basin; and

(b) whether any kind of work has commenced under the project and if so, the details thereof?

**Cleaning of river Ganga**

†472. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT

AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the places and extent of cleaning carried out so far in Ganga river from its point of origin to its end and the details thereof;

(b) whether this cleaning is being done by Government agencies or by private sectors, the details thereof; and

(c) the respective details of the expenditure incurred so far at different places for cleaning of Ganga river?

**Execution of Polavaram project by State Government of Andhra Pradesh**

473. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any request from Andhra Pradesh Government to allow the execution of Polavaram National Irrigation Project by themselves;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has allowed the execution of Polavaram by State Government, as the said project submerges the villages in other States;

(d) what is the total estimated cost of Polavaram Project at present rates; and

(e) how the State and Centre share the expenditure on Polavaram and how Government is providing funds to the State for completion of Polavaram?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Special scheme for restoration of  
ground water level**

474. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 16 States and 2 Union Territories fall under the 'over exploited' category in utilization of ground water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has formulated any special scheme to give special focus to these States, so that their ground water level is restored to reasonable levels; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Srisaïlam dam safety**

475. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is focusing on Srisaïlam dam safety, keeping in view the floods witnessed in

2009 and protect the dam from further damage;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Committee on dam safety is planning to discuss the matter in its forthcoming meetings, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to protect the dam?

**Fluoride contamination of water in  
Rajasthan**

†476. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of blocks in Rajasthan containing Fluoride in water, district-wise details thereof;

(b) the action plan being implemented by the Central Government to deal with the problem of Fluoride in water in the State; and

(c) the efforts made by the Central Government regarding these blocks to maintain the quality of water?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 31st January, 2017*  
Magha 11, 1938 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,  
*Secretary-General.*

**I N D E X**  
(Ministry-wise)

<b>Coal</b>	: 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330,
<b>Drinking Water and Sanitation</b>	: 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344,
<b>Environment, Forest and Climate Change</b>	: 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375,
<b>Mines</b>	: 376,
<b>New and Renewable Energy</b>	: 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385,
<b>Panchayati Raj</b>	: 386, 387,
<b>Planning</b>	: 388, 389, 390, 391, 392,
<b>Power</b>	: 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407,
<b>Road Transport and Highways</b>	: 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 454,
<b>Rural Development</b>	: 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453,
<b>Shipping</b>	: 455, 456, 457, 458, 459,
<b>Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation</b>	: 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476.