

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, March 17, 2017/Phalguna 26, 1938 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers;
Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution;
Electronics and Information Technology; Food Processing
Industries; Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs;
Railways; Textiles)

Total number of questions — 160

Decline in sea catch

1757. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE
AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased
to state:

- (a) whether sea catch is declining every year; and
- (b) if so, the details of sea catch, sector-wise, year-wise during the last three years?

Implementation of crop insurance scheme

1758. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE
AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased
to state:

- (a) whether various farmers' organisations have registered their anguish with the Government regarding non-coverage of all crops for universal crop insurance against all forms of damages to their crops;

(b) if so, the details of remedies that has been initiated to overcome the deficits; and

(c) whether Government has analysed implementation of the scheme, the number of farmers who have been benefitted under the scheme along with the number of States which are not doing better and have not implemented the scheme properly so far?

Advantages of organic fertilizers

1759. SHRIMATI JAYA
BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS
WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the type of organic fertilizers used in agriculture;
- (b) whether organic fertilizers have scientifically been proved to be effective in agriculture, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the advantages of organic fertilizers in comparison with inorganic fertilizers;
- (d) whether Government is aware that many organic fertilizers are sold at exorbitant prices in the market; and

(e) if so, whether Government has taken any measure to control their price and for manufacturing of organic fertilizers in the country, if so, the details thereof?

Legislation to protect farmers' rights

1760. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would bring a pro-farmer seed legislation to regulate monopolies, ensure price control and protect the right of farmers to grow, sow, re-sow, save, use, exchange, share or sell their farm seeds and planting materials and fix liabilities for crop loss as well as blacklist the erring companies; and

(b) if so, when such legislation would be brought and whether the same is being brought after detailed discussions with various Kisan organisations in the country?

Dry land farming

1761. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes like dry-land farming, micro irrigation, National Horticulture Mission and market Infrastructure Support;

(b) the present status of these schemes, State-wise; and

(c) the details of funds earmarked for these schemes in the current year?

Loss in production of milk

†1762. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether our country is the largest milk producing country in the world, if so, the percentage of our share in milk production at global level;

(b) whether a report suggests that the loss in annual milk production is likely to be 30 lakh tonnes by 2022, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has made any analysis of the problem likely to be faced by consumers and milk producers due to the expected loss; and

(d) whether any steps have been taken by Government to deal with this problem, if so, the details of steps taken in this regard?

Opening of more KVKs

1763. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) functioning in the country at present, State-wise, especially in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether Government proposes to open more such Kendras in each rural district of the country, if so, the details thereof along with the time by when these KVKs are likely to function; and

(c) whether Government also proposes to increase the financial assistance being provided to these Kendras, if so, the details thereof?

Ban on mechanised butcheries

†1764. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of mechanised

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

butcheries operating in various States of the country; and

(b) whether Government proposes to place permanent ban on the mechanized butcheries?

Cultivation of oil palm

1765. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of investments received in oil palm plantation after Government's decision to allow 100 per cent FDI in it;

(b) the details of other measures taken by Government to reduce dependency on palm oil imports and increase its production domestically; and

(c) the limitations of expanding oil palm cultivation and the steps taken by Government to overcome them?

Remunerative prices to farmers for their crops

†1766. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers are not getting adequate prices for cash crops, especially for cotton in the country, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons for which cotton growing farmers could not get reasonable prices for their crop, the details thereof including loss incurred to cotton growing farmers in the last three years; and

(c) the names of the various campaigns being run to help the cotton growing farmers, the details of the number of beneficiaries including amount allocated and utilised under these campaigns?

Decline in quality of soil

1767. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad, the soil quality of Jharkhand has declined and more than 80,000 hectare land has become barren due to rain and flood during 2003-2011; and

(b) if so, how Government plans to tackle it, as its a matter of serious concern?

Pendency of proposals of Government of Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

†1768. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received by the Ministry for development works during the last three years from the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh and the amount involved therein, scheme-wise and the details of action taken thereon;

(b) the reasons for which proposals received from the State Governments are still pending;

(c) whether any time-limit has been stipulated for disposal of the proposals; and

(d) whether long time taken in the execution of proposals hampers the development works and how the cost escalations related to work is adjusted, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Cold storage units

1769. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cold storage units set up in the country during the last five years to prevent wastage of fruits and vegetables, State-wise;

(b) whether the current number of cold storage units are adequate to hold the large quantity of vegetables and fruits being produced in the country; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by Government to increase the number of cold storage units in the country and the funds allocated for this purpose in last three years and the coming year?

Incentives to farmers for using organic manure in cultivation

†1770. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of cultivation being done by using organic manure in the country as on date;

(b) the percentage of cultivation being done by using chemical fertilizers;

(c) whether Government is encouraging farmers to use organic manure by providing them incentives; and

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

Protection of poultry industry

1771. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that stealthy chicken germs are a risk for India's poultry industry, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to take all steps to protect the Indian poultry industry, if so, the details thereof?

Insurance of peanut crops in Andhra Pradesh

1772. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY);

(b) the details of crops covered under PMFBY;

(c) whether it is a fact that Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AICI) refused to insure peanut crop in Anantapuram, YSR Kadapa, Kurnool and Chittoor districts of Andhra Pradesh in spite of repeated requests from farmers of these districts, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any consultations have been held by the Ministry with the AICI, if so, the outcome thereof?

Setting up of new agricultural research centres

†1773. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various Agriculture Research Institutes established in various States, during last three years and the places where these institutes are located;

(b) whether Government is aware of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the fact that several States, including Madhya Pradesh have made great progress in agriculture production sector, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government is contemplating to establish new agriculture research centres in various States, including Madhya Pradesh, if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be opened?

Spoilage of milk

1774. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the major milk producing States in the country as per data available in the last two years and the current year;

(b) the details of spoilage of milk, State-wise and the estimated economic losses due to poor infrastructure in the said period; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to curb the spoilage of milk?

Impact of demonetisation on farmers

1775. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers across the country conducted a nation-wide protest to highlight their plight on account of demonetisation that brought down the prices of farm produces;

(b) whether farmers are of the view that the sixty days interest waiver announced by the Government for farm loans taken from district co-operative banks and societies will not help to compensate the losses suffered by them; and

(c) whether the delay in wheat sowing

is bound to affect productivity in the coming days, if so, the details thereof?

Increasing local breeds

1776. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to increase the local breeds of cow/bulls/buffaloes in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether many imported breeds are being developed in the country, if so, the reasons therefor?

Production of copra

1777. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of copra in the country;

(b) whether there is any export of copra, if so, the countries to which it is exported and the foreign exchange realized therefrom;

(c) whether there is any Minimum Support Price fixed for it by the Central Government; and

(d) whether Government has any proposals to procure copra from the cultivators for export purposes?

Central Agriculture University, Imphal

1778. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of the Central Agriculture University, Imphal; and

(b) the name of old and new colleges under the Central Agriculture University, Imphal, including the proposed six new colleges?

Funding for coconut seedling

1779. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state whether there will be increase of allocation for raising of coconut seedling funded through Coconut Development Board?

Farmers under coverage in crop insurance

†1780. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 50 per cent farmers in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Haryana are covered under the crop insurance, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that very less number of farmers are covered under the crop insurance in Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Odisha and Kerala, if so, the details thereof?

Impact of demonetisation on agricultural activities

1781. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the mode of monetary transaction in the four main areas of agriculture viz. sale, transport, marketing and distribution of ready produce; and

(b) whether there was any impact of demonetisation in these areas, if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of Soil Health Mission

1782. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soil Health Mission introduced by the Government is being implemented properly;

(b) the number of farmers being benefitted by the scheme, State-wise and whether the desired objectives have been achieved;

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

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for satisfactory implementation of the Mission?

Drought in Andhra Pradesh

1783. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh is in the grip of severe drought;

(b) whether any request has come for Central help from the State Government for taking up rural wage works; and

(c) if not, whether Government will *suo-moto* send a team to study the situation and provide assistance to the farmers in distress?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Drought in the country

1784. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that farming has been affected by severe drought in most parts of the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is planning to give financial assistance to the States hit by drought, if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of NCIP

1785. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers covered under the National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP), the details of the last two years;

(b) whether Government has made any assessment of the loss suffered by the farmers;

(c) how much compensation has been paid in various States with regard to NCIP; and

(d) the details of the amount disbursed to various States against the claims during each of the last three years and the current year?

Ban on pesticides

1786. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had set up an expert committee headed by a former professor of IARI to look into 66 pesticides which are banned or restricted in many countries, if so, the list of such pesticides;

(b) whether these pesticides were found to be highly toxic for human and other beings including water bodies and aquatic organisms; and

(c) whether all the pesticides recommended for ban have been banned with immediate effect, if so, the effective date of ban and if not, the reasons therefor?

Allocation of funds under MIS

1787. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government allocates funds to State Governments for procurement of agricultural and horticultural products under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS);

(b) if so, the details thereof including the funds allocated by the Central Government to various States for the said purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the commodities procured in various States, including Jharkhand and Gujarat under the said scheme?

Cold storages in southern States

1788. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of the 303 cold storage facilities approved for the year 2015-16, not more than 20 facilities were from the southern States, *viz.*, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

(b) if so why Government is not giving enough push to facilitate establishing cold storage in southern States despite the fact that climatic conditions in the south need more such facilities; and

(c) the details of measures taken by the Government to increase the number of cold storage facilities in the southern States, especially Tamil Nadu?

Milk production in the country

1789. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the storage of milk in the country and the per capita milk availability, State-wise;

(b) the efforts made the Government to boost production of milk to meet the shortage;

(c) the efforts made by the Government for setting up hi-tech dairies to boost milk production so far; and

(d) the details of mechanism available for ensuring availability of quality milk to the general public?

MSP for crops

1790. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to introduce MSP for all crops at a price fifty per cent more than the production cost;

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

(c) the list of production cost of all the crops for which MSP is given and MSPs given for those crops during the last three years?

Ban on Desi Mangur fish

1791. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether authorities have banned Desi Mangur fish due to wrong information whereas Government has banned only Thai and African Mangur;

(b) if so, whether there has been representation/demand from stakeholders to lift the ban on it;

(c) if so, whether ban on Desi Mangur fish has affected the livelihood of a large number of fishermen in the country;

(d) if so, whether Desi Mangur has been cleared by laboratory testing and fishermen of West Bengal and Mumbai have been paying taxes on it; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to lift the ban on Desi Mangur fish?

Review of Crop Insurance Scheme

1792. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Crop Insurance Scheme introduced by the Government is fulfilling the needs of farmers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the precautions being taken by the Government to make the scheme more advantageous to the farmers from getting out of the burden of premiums and crop losses;

(c) whether abnormal delays are taking place in settlement of claims of farmers, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by the Government for early settlement of claims and avoiding losses to the farmers?

Growth in farmers' income

1793. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) what has been the growth of farmers' income since 2000 ;
- (b) how much has the nominal income grown since then;
- (c) how much has the real income grown; and
- (d) the income referred to when Government talks of doubling the farmers' income by 2022?

**Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya
Janaushadhi Kendras**

1794. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) are being set up to provide affordable quality medicines to all citizens;
- (b) if so, the details of the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP);
- (c) the names of Medical and Pharma sector entrepreneurs who are presently supplying and will be supplying the quality medicines to the Janaushadhi Kendras in future; and
- (d) the State-wise number of such Janaushadhi Kendras in the country at present along with the details of the proposal to set up such Kendras in a time-bound programme?

Revival of BCPL

1795. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to close down Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (BCPL);

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

(c) whether Government has any revival plans for the company, if so, the details thereof?

**Establishment/Promotion of Meditech
Parks**

1796. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposals from State Governments for assistance to develop/establish Meditech Parks;

(b) if so, the number of proposals received and the status thereof; and

(c) whether there is any policy/scheme for assistance to promote/establish Meditech Parks in States, if not, whether Government is planning/considering to declare the same?

**Cost analysis of coronary stents by
NPPA**

1797. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has undertaken a cost analysis of coronary stents and found that the existing prices of stents were irrational and exorbitant resulting in heavy profiteering by every player involved in the trade;

(b) whether NPPA also alleges involvement of hospitals in hiking the prices of stents though they do not contribute to its value additions to any extent; and

(c) whether NPPA cost analysis exercise found that the margins on stents at the level of manufacturers and importers were modest but somewhere in the middle of supply chain the prices get inflated?

Establishment/promotion of Plastic Parks

1798. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from the State Governments for assistance to develop/establish Plastic Parks;

(b) if so, the number of proposals received and the status thereof; and

(c) whether there is any policy/scheme for assistance to promote/establish Plastic Parks in a State, if not, whether there is any planning/consideration to declare the same?

Reopening of closed units

1799. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of all fertilizer units in the country, including closed/sick units;

(b) whether it is a fact that Central Government has not yet handed over the units and lands with infrastructure of PSUs closed for more than ten years to the respective State Government;

(c) whether Government has received any proposal to restart the closed units on PPP model; and

(d) if so, the proposal details including the terms and conditions and financial terms and the status thereof?

PCPIR in Andhra Pradesh

1800. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Final Master Plan for Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemicals Investment Region (PCPIR) being established in Andhra Pradesh has not been approved even after signing the MoU in 2009, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) and public hearing have been completed for the project, if so, the details thereof?

Buildings for CIPET centres

1801. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many centres of the Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology (CIPET) do not have their own building, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive plan to accommodate them in their own buildings in a time-bound manner, if so, the details thereof?

Slashing the prices of coronary stents by NPPA

1802. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD:
SHRI DHARMAPURI
SRINIVAS:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:
DR. PRADEEP KUMAR
BALMUCHU:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to limit the prices of stents at a reasonable rate and slashed the present prices by about 85 per cent, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has also been advised to bring out a notification in this regard, the details thereof?

Fixation of price of stents

1803. SHRID. RAJA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "The cuts that complicate efforts to cap stent price", appearing in a leading English Daily dated 4, January 2017, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the measures being taken by Government to fix a reasonable price for the stents, so as to save patients from paying exorbitant prices?

Decline in the use of postal services

1804. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various services provided by the Department of Posts in the country and the revenue being earned by each of these services over the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been a declining trend in the use of various postal services; and

(c) if so, the service-wise details thereof over the last three years?

IVRS to obtain feedback of subscribers on call drops

1805. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has rolled out an Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) to obtain a feedback from the subscribers on the issue of frequent call drops;

(b) the action proposed to be taken against the service providers who are found to be indulging in creating deliberate call drop in order to earn extra profit; and

(c) whether Government will ask all those service providers found to be guilty to give call credit to its subscribers who had to pay in excess due to call drops?

Digitally connecting rural post offices of the country

†1806. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to connect all rural post offices of the country digitally;

(b) if so, the number of rural post offices digitally connected and number of post offices yet to be connected in Chhattisgarh and by when these post offices are targeted to be connected;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government is also considering to equip all post offices of the country with core Banking, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the State-wise number of A.T.Ms. proposed to be established to facilitate the consumers of post office saving Bank including Chhattisgarh?

Pending landline applications with BSNL

1807. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether over 12,000 applications for landline connections remain pending with BSNL;

(b) whether many areas are technically non-feasible, and due to unavailability of underground cable, it is not possible to provide landline connections;

(c) whether 84 per cent of the waitlisted applications are from urban areas; and

(d) whether another reason stated by BSNL is that laying of cables is not economically viable because local bodies impose right of way charges, if so, the details thereof?

Recommendations of TRAI on M2M

1808. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether TRAI has sent its recommendations, sought on three aspects related to the Machine to Machine (M2M) communication, to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which the same are likely to be received;

(c) whether the recommendations

received have been accepted by the Government;

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

(e) the further steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government thereon?

Policy for protection of private contents

1809. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has asked the Government and TRAI to frame a policy to protect the privacy of contents and regulate commercial exploitation of private communications through social network sites; and

(b) if so, by when the policy would be conceptualised and if not, the reasons therefor?

Internet penetration in the country

1810. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly a billion Indians do not have internet connections;

(b) whether it is also a fact that with internet penetration increasing in the country, the access to affordable broadband, smart devices and monthly data package is required to spread digital literacy to make their ends meet;

(c) whether the existing Government infrastructure access should be further leveraged for provision of digital services at remote locations; and

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

Opening of India Post Payments Bank in Villupuram

1811. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has planned to open India Post Payments Bank in the Villupuram District of Tamil Nadu in the current financial year; and

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

BharatNet programme in North-East region

1812. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the BharatNet programme implementation is running far behind its schedule in the North-East region of the country;

(b) if so, how many Gram Panchayats in the North-East region have been connected through BharatNet as on date; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Ministry to expedite the programme?

Bandwidth available for internet

1813. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the present bandwidth for internet available in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that digital payment system requires special bandwidth, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State/UT-wise details of the supportive bandwidth which is available, if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the system failure due to high online traffic from 8 November, 2016 till date; and

(e) whether Government is planning to enhance the present bandwidth to make the country totally cashless economy, if so, the details thereof?

Skill development for telecom sector

1814. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any measures to accelerate skill development for the telecom sector;

(b) if so, the target and success rate of these programmes so far;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the specific domains of telecom sector in which the skill development is being provided and the demand and supply gap for skill development in telecom sector?

Number of postmen and postwomen under Department of Posts

1815. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of postmen and postwomen currently under the permanent employment of the Department of Posts;

(b) the number of temporary postmen and post women working and their future prospects; and

(c) whether Government has ever undertaken any capacity building programmes for these postmen/women, if not, the reasons therefor if so, the details of such programmes during the last ten years?

Free high-speed Wi-Fi in cities and towns

1816. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government will provide free high-speed Wi-Fi connectivity in all cities and towns across the country over the next three years; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said plan will be implemented by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, if so, the details thereof?

Finalisation of agenda by TRAI of important issues for 2017-18

1817. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has finalised the agenda of important issues for the year 2017-18, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether all stakeholders were or are being consulted before finalising the agenda;

(c) whether Interconnection User Charges (ICU) regime and tariff structures charged by service providers would also be included in the agenda in view of price war among them, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the agenda would include best services practiced all over the world?

Mechanism to procure bumper crops

†1818. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers are continuously yielding bumper produces of many crops;

(b) if so, names of the crops which have a bumper yield during last three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that whenever there is a bumper crop, farmers have to sell it at throwaway prices due to dearth of buyers and Government agencies like FCI and other agencies don't show interest in buying the whole quantity of crops; and

(d) if so, whether Government proposes to develop any mechanism meant for buying the entire produces, if so, the details thereof?

Shortage of storage capacity

†1819. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 6.7 crore tonnes of foodgrains are wasted every year due to lack of storage facility in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that huge quantity of foodgrains gets spoiled in rain, etc. due to absence of sheds for storing foodgrains in the markets;

(c) if so, whether Government would construct cold storages equipped with modern technology for storage purposes; and

(d) whether Government would also take help from industrial sector so that cold storages are constructed expeditiously?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Wastage of foodgrains

†1820. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of foodgrains that rotted in the last three years in FCI godowns and outside the godowns;
- (b) the quantity of foodgrains that rotted due to lack of shade arrangements in the mandis out of the foodgrains brought by farmers there;
- (c) the method adopted by Government for disposal of rotten foodgrains and the total expenditure thereon; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to prevent wastage of the foodgrains in future?

Implementation of NFSA

1821. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total population of rural and urban areas covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), category-wise viz., all category SC, ST, OBC and State-wise;
- (b) the number of States that have implemented the NFSA so far along with the reasons for non-implementation of the Act in the remaining States; and
- (c) whether Government has urged the States to speed up implementation of the Act in their respective States and if so, the response of the respective State Governments thereto ?

Non-procurement of rice by FCI in Chhattisgarh

†1822. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether FCI is not procuring rice from rice mills in Dhamtari district of Chhattisgarh due to a dispute with rice mills, due to which the mills are left with excessive stocks of rice and are under pressure of maintaining and storing the same leading to their being on the verge of shutting down owing to the lack of space; and
- (b) whether due to the above dispute, workers are becoming jobless and direct procurement of paddy from farmers has almost, stopped due to the non-availability of space which is affecting the farmers?

Procurement of wheat

1823. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a decline in the procurement of wheat by FCI;
- (b) if so, the decline in procurement in metric tonnes and the reserve stock available with FCI in 2017 as compared to 2016; and
- (c) the volume of wheat procured in 2015-16 and 2016-17, respectively?

Stagnation in storage capacity of FCI

1824. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the storage

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

capacity of Food Corporation of India (FCI) is almost stagnant over the last few years;

(b) if so, the details of storage capacity that has been augmented during the last five years; and

(c) whether Government has any proposal to tide over the constraints being faced in public sector storage capacity, if so, the details thereof?

Printing of consumer helpline and complaint number on packaged food items

1825. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to make it mandatory for all packaged food items to have consumer helpline number and complaint number printed on their packaging details;

(b) if so, by when Government is planning to do so; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Release of funds to Rajasthan under NFSS

1826. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds released under Central Share for distribution of foodgrain under National Food Security Scheme in 2015-16, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has received any proposal from Government of

Rajasthan to release the amount under NFSS *vide* their letters dated 20th April, 2016 and 3rd June, 2016; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon; and if no action taken, the reasons therefor?

Restarting of closed sugar mills in Maharashtra

1827. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills in the country, State-wise;

(b) how many of these are operational and closed at present;

(c) the details of the reasons for their closure;

(d) whether Government of Maharashtra has decided to restart sugar mills closed last year; and

(e) if so, the details of those sugar mills in Maharashtra, district-wise?

Setting up of National Test House

1828. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to increase the number of National Test House (NTH) across the country in order to protect the interest of consumers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any proposal is pending with the Government to establish NTH in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Benefit of PDS through Aadhaar-linked biometric authentication system

1829. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the Supreme Court judgement in 2015, making Aadhaar optional;

(b) whether Public Distribution System (PDS) data from Rajasthan and Jharkhand show that up to 30 per cent of beneficiaries are not being able to receive entitlements through the Aadhaar-linked biometric authentication system; and

(c) whether Government has made it mandatory to possess an Aadhaar number for accessing subsidised foodgrains under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), if so, the reasons therefor?

Cash transfer to accounts of beneficiaries for food security

1830. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state the details of the total number and percentage of accounts in which cash transfers have been made for the purpose of food security, State-wise?

Buffer stock of pulses

1831. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a buffer stock of pulses in our country this

year, if so, whether the storage capacity of Food Corporation of India at present is adequate to keep stocks of pulses; and

(b) the total quantum for buffer stock of pulses that Government has created and the present stock available, variety-wise, State-wise?

Changes in cyber security laws

1832. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the changes, if any envisaged in cyber security laws in view of recent breach of ATM card data of 3.2 million customers stolen last year from a network of Yes Bank Ltd. ATMs;

(b) the steps taken to set up/improvise legal redressal mechanisms in cyber security issues;

(c) whether any report of enquiry was submitted with regard to this incident, if so, the steps taken based on these reports, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of policy changes, if any, envisaged by Government with respect to security of digital payments interfaces?

Opportunities under rural digital programme

1833. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to join an American multi-national technology company to explore opportunities in the areas such as rural health and employment under rural digital programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made by Government in this regard?

e-Literacy in rural India

1834. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to increase e-Literacy in rural India, the details thereof; and

(b) the outcomes of e-Literacy drives, viz., the data which shows the percentage shift from offline to online platforms for services and commerce by individuals, especially in rural India, the details thereof?

Supreme Court's orders on Aadhaar

1835. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 373 given in the Rajya Sabha on 18 November, 2016 and state:

(a) whether Government acknowledges that the violation of the Supreme Court's orders on Aadhaar dated 11 August, 2015 and 15 October, 2015 by Government agencies amounts to an infringement of Fundamental Rights of citizens under Article 21 of the Constitution;

(b) whether Government proposes to examine and address the unresolved concerns under the Aadhaar programme, including the use of Aadhaar as ID and KYC, data security and privacy concerns and the data integrity of the Aadhaar database; and

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

Reporting of unusual digital payment activities to CERT-In

1836. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has asked all digital payment agencies to report to CERT- In any unusual activity they see on their platforms;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is undertaking a massive programme to create awareness among administrators, Judges, etc; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that to strengthen cyber security, Government has approved various new posts in CERT-In and State CERTs, if so, the details thereof?

Review of I.T. Act

1837. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to review more than 15 year old Information Technology Act to strengthen cyber security infrastructure, following the push for digital payments post demonetization;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a closed group has been set up to look into various aspects of the Act in line with the changing times; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has issued advisories to all digital payment agencies including banks and e-wallet providers to harden the security walls?

Review of policies to bolster IT sector

1838. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is mulling a review of policies which could bolster the Information Technology (IT) sector's sagging fortunes;

(b) whether Government is considering to set up a committee to study the factors affecting the IT industry and give its recommendations on the possible measures that the Government could take to contain the situation; and

(c) whether with the international revenues stagnating, Government feels that some policy measures can be taken to kick start domestic demand which will makeup for losses, if so, the details thereof?

Increase in cyber crimes

1839. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details regarding number of cyber crimes reported during the last three years and how many of them are financial in nature;

(b) the percentage increase in such crimes during the said period, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to tackle cyber crimes more stringently to make online financial transactions foolproof and if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Unauthorised authentication and impersonation by illegally storing Aadhaar data

1840. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that there have been attempts of unauthorized authentication and impersonation by illegally storing Aadhaar biometric data;

(b) the details of the number of cases of intentionally copying Aadhaar data provided under Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016; and

(c) whether the Ministry is taking steps to ensure data protection and encryption, if so, the details thereof?

Use of domestic parts in manufacturing of mobile and telecom instruments

†1841. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made the use of domestic parts mandatory for manufacturing of mobile and telecom instruments for exporters who get subsidy on the export of mobile and telecom instruments, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the year-wise details of total number of exporters in the country who have been given 3 per cent subsidy during the last three years?

Aadhaar Payment service

1842. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to introduce Aadhaar Payment Service system to enable people to make

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

their payments or receipts through Aadhaar Unique Identity Number, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether all people in the country have been issued Aadhaar cards, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when this system will come into force; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to complete the distribution of Aadhaar cards to enable people adapt to the system?

R&D in Food Processing sector

1843. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to promote Research and Development (R&D) activities in the Food Processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether Government is providing any investment-linked incentives for in-house R&D expenditure incurred by the companies in the sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

Growth of Food Processing Industry

1844. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the cumulative growth of the domestic Food Processing Industry (FPI) in the country in the last three years; and

(b) whether demonetisation has adversely impacted the FPI in the country, if so, the details thereof?

Setting up of small food processing units

1845. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry proposes to set up 200 small food processing units in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof with particular reference to Telangana;

(c) the facilities and benefits to be extended to these 200 units;

(d) whether in the absence of cold chain bogies to at least superfast express trains, food processing sector is not able to speed up food processing in the country;

(e) if so, whether any consultations have been held with Railways in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, whether the Ministry would consult Railways in this regard?

Separate Court for appeals of High Courts apart from Supreme Court

1846. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to create a separate Court to handle all appeals of High Courts and to make the Supreme Court only a Constitutional Court, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of total number of cases pending before the Supreme Court and the number of cases pending which are appeals of lower court verdicts;

(c) whether Government is planning to create regional benches of the Supreme Court in places like Kolkata, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details regarding status of commercial/fast track courts?

Repeal of outdated laws

1847. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has recommended for scrapping of outdated laws from the statute book, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) by when Government proposes to scrap these redundant laws?

Time taken by courts for disposal of cases

1848. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the time taken for disposal of cases in our country is more than the time taken by the Courts of developed countries;

(b) if so, whether any comprehensive assessment has been made in this regard;

(c) the factors responsible for the delay in disposal of cases in our country; and

(d) the efforts made by Government for quick disposal of cases pending in various courts?

Proliferation of law colleges

1849. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM:
Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recently released list of law colleges in the country, prepared by the Bar Council of India, reveals that there has been a proliferation of new law colleges coming up in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether this has raised concerns in the legal and judicial fraternity about the quality of hundreds of advocates passing out through these institutions; and

(c) whether elite or well known universities like Allahabad, Banaras Hindu and Aligarh Muslim Universities have just one or two colleges affiliated with them to ensure quality education to their students?

Appointment of independent regulators for professional services

1850. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is seriously considering to appoint independent regulators for professional services, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the effect thereof on the existing regulators like MCI for medicine, AICTE for technical education, ICAI for chartered accountants, BAC for lawyers, etc; and

(c) the details of appointments of independent Directors, regulators, etc., made in various Ministries/departments since May, 2014, Ministry/Department/Institution-wise?

Vacancies of Judges

1851. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Judges in the country;

(b) the sanctioned strength of Judges in the Supreme Court, High Courts and District Courts and Subordinate Courts;

(c) the working strength of Judges in the Supreme Court, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts; and

(d) the vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts?

Cases pending in Family Courts

1852. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of functional Family Courts all over the country;

(b) the number of cases pending in these Courts as on 31 March, 2016, State-wise data pertaining to number of Family Courts and cases pending;

(c) the top five States where the proportion of cases pending for adjudication is the highest as also the five States where it is the lowest; and

(d) the data pertaining to the increase or decrease in the number of cases registered across the States during the last five years?

All India Judicial Service

1853. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reopened the proposal to have an All India Judicial Service to appoint District Judges through a process conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC); and

(b) whether any discussions have been held inside or outside the Ministry on this subject, if so, the details thereof?

Gram Nyayalayas

1854. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States which have set up Gram Nyayalayas for timely delivery of justice in rural areas;

(b) whether the delivery of justice through Gram Nyayalayas is faster than ordinary courts, if so, the details thereof in respect of Rajasthan;

(c) the funds allocated and released to the States for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas in the country, State-wise; and

(d) the other steps being taken to provide speedy justice in rural areas?

Appointment of Notaries

1855. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government issues orders for appointment of advocates as Notary in all Courts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of number of Notaries appointed during last three years, State/Court-wise;

(c) whether services of Notaries are for a specific period/years and are to be renewed after their term ends, if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of Certificates of Notaries renewed during the last year and the current year, State/Court-wise; and

(e) the number of requests for renewal of such Certificates pending with Government for approval/renewal, Court/State-wise?

Complaints regarding EVMs

1856. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a large number of complaints about Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) in the recent elections in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government regarding reliability of EVMs in the country?

Report of Twentieth Law Commission

†1857. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the terms of reference of the 20th Law Commission and the remedial recommendations made by the Commission in respect of them;

(b) whether the recommendations made by the 20th Law Commission have been implemented/are to be implemented, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the 21st Law Commission has been constituted, if so, the terms of reference assigned to the Commission on which remedial recommendations are to be made?

Repeal of obsolete laws

1858. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of colonial era laws which are yet to be repealed by Government;

(b) the reasons for not repealing the obsolete laws; and

(c) whether Government has drawn up a time-frame by which all such laws will be repealed?

Checking use of money and muscle power in elections

1859. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to designate malpractices, such as, bribing voters and paid political news, as specific crimes, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the concrete steps taken by Government to check use of money and muscle power during elections?

Sittings of Parliament

1860. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of scheduled sittings of Parliament have decreased in the last two years, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government proposes to increase the number of sittings?

Railway line and other development projects in Jharkhand

1861. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria Railways adopt for its expansion in a State and whether Jharkhand fits into the same;

(b) whether Jharkhand generates highest revenue in proportion to the length of the railway line; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, whether, in view of high revenue generation from Jharkhand, Railways intend to give preference to it in various railway line and other developmental projects, the details thereof?

Sabotaging of railway tracks by terrorists

1862. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether terrorists have sabotaged railway tracks and carried out explosions to derail trains, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has ascertained the reasons for derailment of a train near Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh recently, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether teams from Japan, South Korea and Italy have visited the site of derailment and if so, the details of their findings; and

(d) the measures taken to prevent train mishaps due to fractured tracks?

Conduct of apprenticeship by Railways

†1863. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways conduct apprenticeship in various trades wherein thousands of youth are being trained in many trades under skill development;

(b) if so, the Zone-wise details of such

courses conducted by Railways and the number of youth who have got training during the last three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that earlier, Railways used to absorb such trained youth in the department and at present, the absorption has stopped which is rendering most of the youth jobless after getting training; and

(d) whether Railways would consider absorbing such youth, the details thereof?

Railway project proposals by Government of Maharashtra

1864. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals submitted by Government of Maharashtra for the widening of existing lines, construction of new lines and doubling of existing railway lines in the State during the last three years, project-wise;

(b) the action taken by Government thereon;

(c) whether many previous railway projects are running slow for want of funds or for any other reasons, if so, Government's response thereto; and

(d) the time by which such pending proposals are likely to be implemented completely?

Implementation of TCAS and TPWS to prevent train accidents

1865. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of train accidents in last three years;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government plans to implement the recommendations of Anil Kakodkar Committee on railway safety, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of measures taken by Railways to improve the railway safety and whether the continuous decline in railway depreciation fund has impacted the efforts to improve the railway safety scenario; and

(d) whether the pilot implementation of Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) and Train Protection Warning System (TPWS) was successful in terms of preventing accidents and train collisions, particularly in recent railway derailments?

Rail track sabotage cases

1866. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rail track sabotage is on the rise in the country;

(b) the number of rail track sabotage cases and the number of deaths due to such sabotages in the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the immediate action in place and the steps taken by Government to protect rail tracks in the country, the details thereof?

Three recent major train accidents

1867. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three major train accidents have taken place due to derailment in two months, causing large number of deaths and serious injuries and also resulting in cancellation and re-routing of several trains;

(b) whether all divisions of Railways are short of a huge number of personnel as against the total sanctioned manpower, especially in safety-related wings; and

(c) the details of the three train accidents, number of casualties—deaths and injured and the compensation offered to the victims?

Social service obligations of Railways

1868. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the social service obligations borne by Railways in the past five years;

(b) the major components of social service obligations of Railways; and

(c) whether Railways have received a reply from Ministry of Finance apropos reimbursement of cost on social services?

Separate Railway Zone in Andhra Pradesh

1869. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee was constituted to study setting up of a separate Railway Zone in Andhra Pradesh as per the mandate of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act;

(b) if so, the details of each of the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) whether Railways have studied the recommendations; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken on each of the recommendations made by the Committee?

Railway projects sanctioned on cost-sharing basis with Government of Maharashtra

1870. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sanctioned three railway projects in Maharashtra on cost-sharing basis with the State Government, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether share of funds has been released by Government for implementation of the projects; and

(c) if not, by when the share of funds is likely to be released by the Government to Maharashtra Rail Infrastructure Development Company (MRIDC)?

Delay in constitution of Railway Committees

†1871. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the Railway Committees constituted at DRM and other levels have not been constituted, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons for which these Committees, that include MPs, public representatives, Government representatives and Railway officials, have not been constituted and since when these have not been constituted, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is contemplating any scheme to enhance the honorarium and allowance given per meeting to the members of the above Committees and to provide them free railway passes, the details thereof?

Extension of jurisdiction of East Coast Railway

1872. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the Ministry is considering for extension of the jurisdiction of East Coast Railway to include Banaspani-Padapahar, Rupsa-Bangirposi and Bhadrak-Laxmannath Road sections and to set up a new railway division with headquarters at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road?

Action against perpetrators of train sabotage

1873. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents/derailments in the last three years and the current year in the country and the number of casualties occurred;

(b) the major findings of the investigations carried out into these mishaps;

(c) whether any case of sabotage has been found, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the perpetrators?

Indore-Patna Express train accident

1874. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received investigation report of the Indore-Patna Express train accident occurred near Kanpur, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Increase in incidents of crime in Railways

1875. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that incidents of crimes have increased in Railways in the last three years;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to stop these crimes against passengers;
- (c) whether the concerned State Governments are cooperating in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Smart railway stations

1876. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has allocated substantial funds for development of smart railway stations in the country, Tamil Nadu in particular;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the funds sanctioned in the last two years;
- (c) whether Central Government has signed any agreements or MoU with foreign countries/companies for infrastructure development of Railways and its related projects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, country-wise, company-wise?

Upgradation of Jammu Tawi railway station

1877. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH MANHAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the plan to upgrade the Jammu Tawi railway station under PPP model;

(b) the time-frame for completion of the project; and

(c) how much time will it take to complete the railway track from Katra to Banihal railway station?

Ongoing railway projects in Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka

†1878. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of ongoing railway projects in Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka;
- (b) whether all the ongoing railway projects are being completed within fixed time-frame, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether Government has found out the reasons for the projects not being completed in time;
- (d) whether new railway projects have also been started, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective action taken/proposed to be taken for the speedy implementation of these railway projects in Uttar Pradesh?

Rail coach manufacturing unit at Kolar

1879. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has proposed to set up a rail coach manufacturing unit at Kolar in Karnataka;
- (b) whether the factory is supposed to commence three years from the date of sanction; and
- (c) if so, the present status of the same and by when it is likely to commence its operations?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Yatri Mitra Sewa

1880. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Yatri Mitra Sewa, a battery-operated yatri sewa cab, is entirely a failed project of Railways, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) if not, the details of stations in the country which are facilitated with battery-operated car for the elderly people and the present status thereof; and

(c) the proposal of IRCTC to develop aged-friendly service thereof?

Vacancies in South Central Railway

1881. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are about 20,000 vacancies in South Central Railway and out of them, 3000 are for Gangmen and Trackmen, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this is the main cause of frequent train accidents, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to mitigate train accidents?

New MEMU trains in Telangana

1882. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is planning to introduce any new MEMU trains in Telangana in view of heavy demand for them; and

(b) whether any sectors have been identified in the State for these trains, if so,

the details thereof?

Compensation given to victims of train accidents

1883. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons died or injured due to train accidents in the last six months;

(b) the details of *ex-gratia* and compensation announced and paid so far for the victims/kin of victims;

(c) how many cases are still pending and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the reasons for the accidents have come out after the preliminary enquiry and if so, the details thereof, for each accident; and

(e) the steps taken by Railways to ensure passengers' safety and to infuse confidence among the travelling public?

Humsafar trains in Andhra Pradesh

1884. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have introduced Humsafar trains in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether these trains have been proposed to start in Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such trains being introduced in Andhra Pradesh, the details thereof, sector-wise?

Employees belonging to SC/ST category in Railway Board and Zonal railways

†1885. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of IRS officers of SC and ST category, including details of those working as Chairman and Members of the Railway Board, during the last ten years upto January, 2017, year-wise; and

(b) the number of persons belong to SC and ST category who are working as General Managers and Divisional Railway Managers in each of the Zonal railways at present?

Conversion of Kacheguda-Guntur passenger train into Express train

1886. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is committed to convert the Kacheguda-Guntur passenger train to Express train, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any requests have already been received in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

National Railway University in Gujarat

1887. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether country's first National Railway University is being set up in Gujarat, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any blueprint has been drawn in this regard, if so, the highlights thereof;

(c) by when this University would start functioning; and

(d) how far Railways would benefit from this University?

Cold storage facilities

1888. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are maintaining cold storage facilities in different parts of the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Railways are considering to set up more cold storage facilities for smooth movement of fruits and vegetables by rail, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Train accidents

1889. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fifteen per cent of all railway accidents across the world took place in India; and

(b) if so, the causes of the highest number of train accidents taking place in the country, along with the efforts made by Government to prevent them and to ensure security of railway passengers of the country?

Conspiracy in Kanpur train accident

1890. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kanpur train accident was a conspiracy from across the border, if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this accident; and

(c) when will the investigation report be made available to the Parliament?

Business done by Railways

1891. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the business done by Railways from 8 November, 2016 till 31 December, 2016 along with the form of payments received;

(b) whether there has been increase or decrease in freight by Railways, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the sector/month-wise details of incentives and offers announced by Railways to increase the freight business; and

(d) whether it is a fact that IRCTC is losing ₹ 2 crore a day post demonetisation due to the discontinuation of service charge on online ticket bookings, if so, the details thereof?

Survey on safety in railways

1892. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether authorities have recently carried out any survey on the safety in railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) the steps taken by Railways on improving passenger safety and passenger amenities in train services across the country; and

(d) the measures taken to improve the

safety and security of women passengers who are often harassed in suburban trains?

Making Aadhaar compulsory for concessionary tickets for senior citizens

1893. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the Supreme Court order dated 11 August, 2015 and 15 October, 2015 on Aadhaar;

(b) if so, whether making Aadhaar compulsory for concessionary tickets for senior citizens from April, 2017 is a violation of the Supreme Court order;

(c) if so, whether Government will consider revoking its decision and adhere to the Supreme Court order; and

(d) if so, whether Government will reconsider plans to make Aadhaar mandatory for booking tickets of any category?

Railway lines in Chhattisgarh

†1894. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway lines laid in Chhattisgarh as against other States in the country;

(b) whether Government has any policy in place to overcome the shortage of railway lines in the backward rural regions of Chhattisgarh, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the rural and tribal-dominated areas in Chhattisgarh which have been connected with railway lines by Government in the last three years?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Vacuum cleaning system

1895. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some students of Mumbai have developed a vacuum cleaning system and demonstrated it to the railway officials; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

Soiled toilets of trains

†1896. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that toilets of all kinds of trains are found utterly soiled;

(b) whether it is also a fact that toilets of Rajdhani Express trains are also found untidy and absence of sanitation also persists there; and

(c) if so, the details of steps being taken by Government for their better maintenance and improvement?

Catering units under Railways

†1897. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the catering service of Railways is not up to the mark, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the number of catering units operational in Indian railways currently;

(c) the Zone-wise names of the catering companies; and

(d) whether any ceiling has been fixed for allotment of such catering units and if so, the details thereof?

New catering policy

1898. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has announced new catering policy for popular trains by giving responsibility to the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC), if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Railways have made any survey about catering in the trains provided by private vendors; and

(c) if so, the success ratio and passenger satisfaction in this regard?

New and ongoing railway projects in Bihar and Jharkhand

†1899. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ongoing railway projects in Bihar and Jharkhand;

(b) whether all ongoing railway projects are getting completed as per schedule, if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government has ascertained the reasons for non completion of the projects as per schedule;

(d) whether new railway projects have been started in the States, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective action taken or proposed to be taken for speedy implementation of these projects in Bihar and Jharkhand States?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Routes of Talgo trains

†1900. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been reached with any foreign company to run Talgo trains in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the routes where Talgo trains are expected to be run;

(c) whether it would be considered to run Talgo trains from Delhi to Dehradun and Kotdwar and from Anand Vihar to Tanakpur and Haldwani; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Old currency notes as compensation to victims of train accidents

†1901. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that old currency notes were provided as compensation to the family members of people deceased and injured in Kanpur train accident;

(b) if so, the justification for providing old currency notes in view of the fact that notes of ₹ 500 and 1000 denomination were demonetised in the country;

(c) whether any action would be taken against the officials disbursing demonetised old currency notes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

New trains for Bihar

†1902. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new trains proposed to be run in Bihar during the current financial year;

(b) the number of trains whose destinations are decided to be extended during the said financial year;

(c) the number of new Shatabdi trains proposed to be run through Bihar in the current financial year; and

(d) whether Railways plan to run another Rajdhani train for Patna on the route other than the one on which one Rajdhani train already runs?

New technology for laying of railway tracks

1903. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways plan to introduce any new technology for laying of railway track of 9.5 kilometres per day during current fiscal year; and

(b) if so, the details of the new technology to be used for laying of railway track and whether any MoU has been signed with any country for the same, the details thereof?

Manufacture of Trainsets

1904. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have decided to go ahead with manufacture of 160 kilometre per hour Trainset, eliminating the need for locomotive, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it will have all facilities including bio-toilets;

(c) by when the rakes will be ready; and

(d) the amount earmarked for the project; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) in what sectors it is likely to be operational, the details thereof?

Train accidents and improvement in speed of late running trains

†1905. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite all claims, neither the number of train accidents have come down nor there is any improvement in the speed of trains running late, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) if not, the steps taken to check train accidents and improve the condition of trains running late; and

(c) the number of train accidents which took place in the last two years and the number of casualties in such accidents, the details thereof?

Job Guarantee Scheme in Textile sector

†1906. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating or proposes to enforce Textile Job Guarantee Scheme to help the rural families living below the poverty line, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action plan of Government to enforce this policy in the backward regions of various States of the country to improve the economy of those States?

Functional and sick textile units

†1907. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile units which are

functional and are producing textiles as on date;

(b) the number of sick and closed textile units, respectively;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to revive the closed and sick units; and

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

Integrated Skill Development Scheme

1908. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of students placed under the Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) after completion of their courses, State-wise;

(b) the funds disbursed towards ISDS;

(c) the income generated so far under the above-mentioned Scheme;

(d) the success of Northern India Textile Research Organisation in carrying out the work delegated to it as an implementing agency of the ISDS; and

(e) the status of implementation of ISDS in Karnataka in the last three years?

Profit making by NIFT

1909. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether Government has any data of National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) making profit, if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Skill development programmes for
North Eastern State handicrafts**

†1910. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether Government has any proposal for skill development programme for North Eastern State handicrafts, if so, the details thereof?

Textile and apparel exports

1911. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) how far it is a fact that the textile and apparel exports from India contributed majority to its total export in the last three years, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government proposes to give required push to the Textile industry to increase textile and apparel export to more than double in future, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to achieve this target?

**Setting up of Textile Park in
Himachal Pradesh**

1912. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up a Textile Park in Himachal Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has finalized the site therefor, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the Textile Park is likely to be set up?

Production of textiles

1913. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the volume of production of textiles during the first three quarters of the current financial year compared to the last year;

(b) the production, particularly of hosiery, readymade goods and such MSME products; and

(c) the exports of this year compared to the last year?

Development of Textile sector

†1914. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any ambitious programme to develop infrastructure in Textile sector;

(b) whether employment opportunities will be generated with the commencement of this programme;

(c) whether Government would take care of the financial aspect completely; and

(d) whether Government will be able to earn foreign exchange when it becomes fully functional?

**Awards for innovative design and
branding in Handloom sector**

1915. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

is considering to institute awards for innovative design and branding initiatives in Handloom sector, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the proposed award has been given from this year; and

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

Integrated Spentex Park in Telangana

1916. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) when was the Integrated Spentex Park announced for Ranga Reddy district in Telangana;

(b) the status of the project; and

(c) by when it would become fully operational?

NEW DELHI;
The 11th March, 2017
Phalguna 20, 1938 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	: 1757, 1758, 1759, 1760, 1761, 1762, 1763, 1764, 1765, 1766, 1767, 1768, 1769, 1770, 1771, 1772, 1773, 1774, 1775, 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779, 1780, 1781, 1782, 1783, 1784, 1785, 1786, 1787, 1788, 1789, 1790, 1791, 1792, 1793,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	: 1794, 1795, 1796, 1797, 1798, 1799, 1800, 1801, 1802, 1803,
Communications	: 1804, 1805, 1806, 1807, 1808, 1809, 1810, 1811, 1812, 1813, 1814, 1815, 1816, 1817,
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	: 1818, 1819, 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, 1824, 1825, 1826, 1827, 1828, 1829, 1830, 1831,
Electronics and Information Technology	: 1832, 1833, 1834, 1835, 1836, 1837, 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842,
Food Processing Industries	: 1843, 1844, 1845,
Law and Justice	: 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859,
Parliamentary Affairs	: 1860,
Railways	: 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905,
Textiles	: 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916.