

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, March 12, 2018/Phalguna 21, 1939 (Saka)*

**(Ministries : Defence; Drinking Water and Sanitation; Earth Sciences;
Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Information and
Broadcasting; Mines; Panchayati Raj; Road Transport and
Highways; Rural Development; Science and Technology;
Shipping; Textiles; Water Resources, River
Development and Ganga Rejuvenation)**

Total number of questions — 160

JVA for procurement of Rafale aircraft

1761. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Joint Venture Agreement (JVA) regarding Rafale Jet was signed between its developer, Dassault Aviation, and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, and was subsequently annulled;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the earlier clause for manufacturer outsourcing 50 per cent of the total deal amount from an Indian PSU has been removed in the new JVA; and

(c) if so, the reasons for recall of the JVA with a PSU and reasons for signing the agreement with a private company *i.e.* Reliance Defence Ltd. which has no experience in defence sector?

Empanelment of hospitals for ECHS facilities

1762. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRA-SEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to re-enroll/re-empanel the 169 hospitals that have withdrawn Ex-Servicemen Contribution of Health Scheme (ECHS) facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) steps taken by Government to ensure that the ECHS empanelled hospitals' capacity for veterans across the country is being maintained adequately for complete access to good medical facilities?

Grant of pay parity and NFU

1763. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRA-SEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has moved for stay on the Armed Forces Tribunal order granting pay parity and Non-Functional Upgradation (NFU) to Defence personnel in the Supreme Court; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

Budget allocation for armed forces

1764. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the budget allocation for Defence has been significantly reduced and is the lowest since 1962;

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

(c) whether Government has done any study to replenish and modernise the armed forces, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the low budget allocation will hinder the Government's efforts to modernise the armed forces, thereby causing national security concerns, if so, details thereof?

Shortage of arms in Army

†1765. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the shortage of arms in Indian Army has not been met;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the countries with which treaties have been signed to meet the shortage of arms during the last three years and the arms received therefrom?

Transfer of technology in Rafale deal

1766. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH

VERMA:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether transfer of technology under Rafale aircraft deal would be done by France;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for compromising the deal; and

(d) the cost of each aircraft as per the deal?

Privatization of defence production

1767. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH

VERMA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to privatise defence production in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has withdrawn the public investments and is contemplating to allow foreign companies in defence production;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for compromising the national security?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Strategic Partnership Model in
Defence Acquisition**

1768. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Defence Acquisition Council has recently cleared the Strategic Partnership Model (SPM);

(b) if so, to what extent SPM will help in quickening the Defence procurement;

(c) when the SPM would go before the Cabinet Committee on Security for its approval;

(d) whether SPM is different from the existing Defence Procurement Procedure 2016;

(e) if not, whether they will contradict each other; and

(f) how SPM will push 'Make in India' initiative and the amount of investment and employment opportunities it is likely to create?

**Impact of civilian houses adjacent to
Army camps**

1769. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction of civilian houses adjacent to Army camps, built 'with permission', creates problems in Army operations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the solutions being worked out by Government in this regard?

Women in Military Police

1770. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Army is mulling to induct women into Military Police;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the criteria for inducting women into the Military Police; and

(d) whether the Ministry will give adequate representation to each State?

**Provision of equipment, food and
clothing for soldiers**

1771. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether budgetary allocation for Ministry has been made keeping in mind the collusive threat from China and Pakistan;

(b) if so, what special provisions have been made to improve the combat conditions on both the borders;

(c) whether fighting forces in these areas are being provided with nutritious food and clothing suitable for weather conditions to keep them fighting fit; and

(d) measures Government is adopting to keep the morale of the fighting forces high which has been badly hit by the ill effects of the recommendations of the Seventh Central Pay Commission?

**Loss of jobs for Ordnance Factory
employees**

1772. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Ordnance Factories that will be affected by the proposal to award licences to private players for manufacturing items previously manufactured by the Ordnance Factories (OFs);

(b) whether such a move will lead to job losses for those employed in OFs;

(c) if so, whether Government is taking steps to prevent loss of jobs;

(d) whether unions representing these employees have communicated their objections to the Ministry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and steps being taken by Government to address them?

Corporates with NPAs in Defence manufacturing

1773. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any corporates, which have NPAs with banks, are being approved for Defence sector manufacturing; and

(b) if so, the names of such corporate entities which were approved for Defence sector manufacturing?

Grant of Military Service Pay

1774. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to grant Military Service Pay (MSP) equally to all ranks in the light of Hon'ble High Court's direction in writ Petition No. 6607/2017 of 'Voice of Ex-Servicemen Society'; and

(b) whether Government contemplates to remove discrimination of MSP being paid at different rates, as MSP is a compensation to Armed Forces personnel as a recognition of special conditions of their service and superannuation of Defence personnel, particularly other ranks of younger age, is also a factor for grant of MSP?

Welfare of family members of Armed Forces personnel

†1775. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to formulate a special scheme for the welfare of Armed Forces personnels and their family members so that the Armed Forces personnel deployed on border remain assured about the security of their families;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any budgetary provision has been made for the proposed scheme under the budget for the financial year 2018-19; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Chinese made steel bullets

†1776. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China-made steel bullets can pierce the bullet proof jackets provided to the armed forces;

(b) if so, the number of jawans, so far martyred due to these bullets; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

Price of Rafale Jets

1777. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the previous Government had negotiated a \$10.2 billion deal for acquiring 126 Rafale Jets, whereas the present Government has finalized the purchase of 35 Rafale Jets for \$8.7 billion, without the provision for transfer of technology;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the detailed reasons as to why there has been an escalation from ₹ 526 crore per Jet as negotiated by the previous Government, against ₹ 1,570 crore per Rafale Jet, as has been negotiated by the present Government; and

(c) whether approval of the CCS was Sought at the time of announcement of the deal in France?

Women in Armed Forces

1778. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the actual strength of women personnel in the three services of the Armed Forces and ratio of male to female officers;

(b) the details of women officers recruited during the last three years, category-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether Government proposes to induct women officers in the Armed Forces for combat duties and if so, the details thereof, indicating the steps taken/being taken in this regard;

(d) whether any policy has been framed for induction and employment of women in the armed forces including the status of grant of Permanent Commission to women officers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Establishment of Defence University

1779. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish a University to impart training and education exclusively on defence and strategic matters;

(b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof, including the Act/Rules under which it will be established;

(c) the details of the expenditure likely to be incurred on setting up of the said University; and

(d) the time by which the academic session of the said university is likely to commence?

Fluoride and Iron removal plants in Chhattisgarh

†1780. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether villages in the tribal dominated areas like Bastar of Chhattisgarh are affected with high levels of Iron;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any proposal from the State Government for setting up repair of Fluoride and Iron removal plants in these areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the proposal is still pending with Government, if so, the reasons therefor and by when it is proposed to accord approval to the same?

Performance of TSCs in West Bengal

1781. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

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

(a) the number of projects being run in West Bengal under the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC);

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the number of persons benefited therefrom during each of the last three years;

(c) whether any target has been fixed under TSC for the forthcoming years and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the details of parameters adopted for fixing the targets?

Setting up of Fluoride and Arsenic Mitigation Centres

1782. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals from various States/UTs to set up Arsenic and Fluoride Mitigation Centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether Government has also constituted Expert Committees to prepare terms of reference for setting up of Arsenic and Fluoride Mitigation Centres;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the details of terms of reference recommended by the said committee; and

(e) the action taken by Government thereon?

Drinking water crisis in the country

1783. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the States where drinking water is being supplied through water tankers;

(b) whether the crisis of drinking water is looming large in Gujarat State;

(c) the details of villages in Gujarat where drinking water is supplied at present; and

(d) the steps taken by the States so far in this regard?

Piped water supply scheme under SAGY in Chhattisgarh

†1784. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to approve the water supply scheme for those villages covered under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) and those affected by Fluoride, Arsenic and heavy metal contamination in Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether it is also a fact that piped drinking water has to be supplied to every household in every village besides the aforesaid villages; and

(c) whether the Central Government would provide financial aid to the State of Chhattisgarh where the percentage of domestic piped water connections is less than the national average?

Supply of piped water to all households

1785. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan to provide piped water to all rural households;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the number of rural households which have been provided piped water till date, State-wise; and

(d) the details of measures taken to achieve the objective of providing piped water to all rural households in a time bound manner?

**Drinking water crisis in
Maharashtra**

1786. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of villages in the country including Maharashtra are facing a severe water crisis;

(b) if so, the details of districts and villages facing crisis in Maharashtra;

(c) the details of the measures taken to meet the situation;

(d) whether a long term plan exists for ensuring equitable distribution of water in that State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Safe piped water for rural population
under NRDWP**

1787. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to restructure the National Rural Drinking Water Programme(NRDWP) intended for providing safe and sustainable piped water through household connections to the rural population of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Clean drinking water to under
Swajaldhara Scheme**

1788. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government will launch six pilot projects for clean drinking water supply in villages under Swajaldhara Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government will bear 90 per cent of the total cost and concerned panchayat will bear the remaining 10 per cent;

(d) whether it will be extended to all 115 backward districts identified by Niti Aayog; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Scarcity of drinking water in
Rajasthan**

1789. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a serious drinking water crisis and a major quality problem in the urban and rural areas in the State of Rajasthan due to scarcity of water resources;

(b) whether any step has been taken by Government to solve the scarcity of water problem;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cleanliness of religious places under SBM

1790. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reviewed the progress of cleanliness in all religious places of the country under Swachh Bharat Mission(SBM) and if so, the outcome thereof;

(b) whether pilgrims have to face several difficulties due to the garbage in and around the religious places; and

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

Clean drinking water in rural areas

1791. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is laying a special emphasis on providing clean drinking water to people in rural areas;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken during the last three years in this direction; and

(c) the break-up of financial assistance provided to the States or other concerned agencies to improve the quality of drinking water in the rural areas of the country?

Implementation of SBM in UP

†1792. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of toilets constructed under the Swachh Bharat Mission in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether water connections have been provided to the toilets constructed under the above Mission for their use; and

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

Piped Water Supply Scheme in Odisha

1793. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Gram Panchayats in the country in the State of Odisha where facility of Piped Water Supply Scheme (PWSS) has been provided by Government, State-wise;

(b) the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised for PWSS during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether Government is considering to provide or revise the allocation for the States to cover more villages with PWSS; and

(d) the time by which the above facility is likely to be provided to include uncovered habitations within the ambit of supply of safe drinking water through PWSS?

Reduction of funding for SBM components

1794. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reduced its allocations under the Information, Education and Communication component of Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether reduced funding had adversely effected the success of the scheme; and

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

Unutilized toilets due to non-availability of water

1795. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 60 per cent toilets constructed under Swachh Bharat Mission remained unutilized due to non-availability of water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that even in rural areas, inspite of having toilets people prefer open defecation; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to address the issues mentioned under (a) and (c) herein?

R&D to tackle climate change

1796. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that soils can serve as a sink for carbon dioxide and be helpful in tackling climate change;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps for research and development (R&D) towards this initiative; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether Government would take steps to start the much needed research under their Atmosphere and Climate Research—Modelling, Observing Systems and Services (ACRMOSS) scheme?

Initiatives for medium range weather forecasting

1797. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps for research in medium range weather forecasting;

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

(c) whether Government has made any allocation for this purpose in the recent budget;

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

(e) whether initiatives in medium range weather forecasting will strengthen the existing mechanism for drought forecasting in vulnerable areas such as Rajasthan; and

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

Telephonic alerts regarding weather forecast

1798. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to issue telephonic alerts to farmers, fishermen and other citizens along with advance weather forecasts;

(b) if so, the details of facilities of system to be introduced and result of any pilot project therefor; and

(c) infrastructure development with India Meteorological Department (IMD) to expand high-tech services therein?

Compensatory Afforestation Fund

1799. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that draft rules for the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act have been delayed since long;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for such delay; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for expediting the matter?

Funds for NAPCC

1800. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sufficient fund has been provided to meet the targets under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the additional steps suggested under the current Five Year Plan and other environmental initiatives would require more resources than allocated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

People killed by elephants in Chhattisgarh

1801. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people killed by

elephants in Chhattisgarh during the last three years;

(b) the details of compensation paid to the families of the deceased; and

(c) the action taken by Government under Project Elephants Reserve to ensure elephants are confined to the area/reserve?

Conservation of flora and fauna in Manipur

1802. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Central Government to save Sangai (brow antlered deer), Nongin (Mrs. Hume Pheasant) and Shirui Lily flower found in Manipur;

(b) the details of funds made to the State for conservation of the above during the last three years, year-wise and project-wise;

(c) whether objectives of the above could be achieved, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether poaching of Sangai was detected frequently, if so, the details thereof and the details of penal action taken against the culprits?

Bio-piracy by Monsanto

1803. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an ongoing case related to biopiracy by Monsanto in a High Court, under the National Biodiversity Act's clauses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if so, implications the proposed acquisition of Monsanto by 'Bayer' will have, in terms of its liabilities being passed on to 'Bayer'?

Ground water contamination in Delhi

1804. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether researchers of Jamia Milia Islamia gave a report stating that improperly-handled electronic waste is contaminating a section of Delhi's ground water and soil;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether heavy metal contamination in ground water samples has been detected in some areas of Delhi; and

(d) action taken for remedy of the situation in view of the fact that long-term consumption of these metals can cause physical, muscular and neurological degenerative disorders and details thereof?

Pollution due to vehicular emission

†1805. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage increase in global warming on account of carbon emission from diesel and petrol vehicles every year in India;

(b) the efforts being made by Government to check pollution caused by two wheelers and four wheeler vehicles; and

(c) the number of deaths taking place during last three years due to air pollution

and efforts being made by Government to check this?

Projects awaiting clearance in Chhattisgarh

†1806. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects of Chhattisgarh, including Mongra barrage project of Rajnandgaon district, which are pending for approval with the Ministry;

(b) the reasons for delay in granting approval to the projects; and

(c) by when the above projects relating to the development of Chhattisgarh will be approved?

Utilisation of CAMPA fund

1807. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rules governing the CAMPA fund have not yet been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for delay; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for proper use of CAMPA funds for implementation of agro-forestry in non-forest land, to compensate for felled forest across the country?

Loss of GDP due to air pollution

1808. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a study report

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

released by World Bank estimated a loss of 5 per cent of India's GDP due to air pollution and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry has identified the top sources of air pollution in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of number of people who have died due to air pollution in the country over the past three years, city-wise; and

(d) details of amount allocated and spent on initiatives taken up by Government to curb air pollution in the past three years?

Shifting of Headquarter of AWBI

1809. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to shift Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) from Chennai, Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Tamil Nadu State Government has provided permanent infrastructure to AWBI; and

(d) if so, whether Government will compensate the State Government for providing infrastructure?

Forest cover in India

1810. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, contrary to the common perception that mining and timber mafia are causing severe deforestation, the 'India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2017'

released recently has revealed that India's forest cover is increasing and India stands at 10th rank in the world;

(b) whether India's total forest and tree cover stands at around 8 lakh sq. kms, which is 24.39 per cent of its total geographical area; and

(c) if so, whether this finding augers well for the protection of wild life and botanical wealth and endorses its commitment to ecological conservation benchmarked by the UN?

Fund allocation for 'Project Tiger'

1811. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) amount of funds sanctioned/released under the project 'Save Tiger' during last three years;

(b) State-wise, national park/reserve-wise details;

(c) whether Government is satisfied with the progress of the project; and

(d) State-wise details about the population of the tigers, and increase witnessed during last three Tiger Censuses and increase expected in the ongoing census?

Hosting of Environment Day Celebrations, 2018

1812. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and the United Nations have announced that India will be hosting the global Environment Day

celebrations on 5th June, 2018 entitled "Beat Plastic Pollution";

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government, industry, communities and individuals have been exhorted to come together and explore sustainable alternatives and reduce the production and excessive use of single use plastic polluting our oceans, damaging marine life and threatening human life; and

(d) if so, whether school/college students have also been reigned in this drive?

Allocation for National Coastal Management Programme and Central Schemes

1813. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) reasons for reducing budgetary allocation of National Coastal Mission (EAP and non-EAP) by 63 per cent in 2018-19, compared to 2017-18;

(b) measures taken to ensure livelihood security of coastal communities and funds released to coastal States, State-wise, in last three years;

(c) reasons for non-utilisation of 26.5 per cent of funds on Central Sector Schemes related to environment, forest and climate change in 2017-18 and 34 per cent shortfall in its budgetary allocation in 2018-19; and

(d) State-wise details of funds released under various Central Sector Schemes related to environment, forest and climate change, in last three years?

Disposal of Bio-Medical Wastes

1814. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prescribed any standards for treatment and disposal of Bio-Medical Wastes;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether any complaints regarding violation of standards by hospitals has been reported to the Government;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) details of the steps taken by Government on receiving such complaints?

Adverse effects of global warming

1815. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether global warming is having an adverse impact on the lives of human beings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any study in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the number of deaths reported during the last three years in the country due to direct impact of global warming, State-wise; and

(f) the funds allocated to combat global warming in the country, State-wise?

Waste management capability

1816. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that we are unable to manage the different kinds of waste in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) which category of waste is managed the least; and
- (d) the legal and financial support needed to handle wastes effectively/efficiently?

Projects pending environmental clearance

1817. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) projects pending for environment clearance from different States and from Odisha in particular, project-wise;
- (b) whether Government has taken any effective steps to clear these projects; and
- (c) the reasons for such pendency of projects awaiting environmental clearance?

Studies on adverse effects of climate change

1818. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted

any study or commissioned any study to determine whether climate change will adversely affect India, if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government has recognised that some areas/regions of the country are more vulnerable to negative effects of climate changes, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) details of how Government plans to tackle such adverse effects on certain areas and details thereof?

Programmes for air pollution abatement

1819. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to launch a dedicated air pollution abatement programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the aims and objective;
- (c) the number of cities to be covered under this programme;
- (d) the criteria fixed by Government to select cities for this programme;
- (e) whether Government has set any target to reduce pollution level in these cities;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) other steps taken by Government to achieve the target fixed under National Clean Air Programme?

Compliance certification of GPIs

1820. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) State-wise details of the number of industries identified as Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) during 2014-15 to 2017-18;

(b) details of the number of compliance verifications of GPIs conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) during 2014-15 to 2017-18; and

(c) what action has Government taken against non-compliant industries?

Transfer in IIS

1821. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that mass transfers of senior officers among IIS have taken place;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether due care has been taken as regards posting of senior officers, so that their services can be utilised; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Review of RNUs

1822. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Regional News Units (RNUs) of All India Radio, which were shifted from New Delhi to their respective States, are performing upto the expectation;

(b) if so, whether any review or monitoring of these regional news are being done regularly; and

(c) whether the remaining language news units namely Punjabi, Nepali, Kashmiri, Urdu will be shifted to their respective States or not?

Press meetings conducted by PM

1823. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of press meetings conducted by Hon'ble Prime Minister during 2014-15 to 2016-17; and

(b) the number of television interviews given by Hon'ble Prime Minister during 2014-15 to 2016-17 and names of the channels thereof?

Appointment of journalists in Prasar Bharati

1824. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry had proposed the Prasar Bharati to hire two journalists by fixing a very high monetary emolument, which is unprecedented in the history of Prasar Bharati; and

(b) the reasons that the Ministry has proposed the Prasar Bharati for hiring the two journalists at such an exorbitant high monetary emolument?

Guidelines to curb fake news

1825. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in consumption of fake news in the country;

(b) whether Government has taken measures to curb the spread of false content or fake news, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government plans to draft a policy regarding guidelines to detect fake news or hold the content generators responsible for spreading fake news, if so, the details thereof?

Termination of contractual employees

1826. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector broadcaster Prasar Bharati has vetoed a proposal in the form of a resolution by Government to terminate the services of all contractual employees of Prasar Bharati;

(b) whether Prasar Bharati has also turned down Government's proposal to hire two senior journalists on grounds of exorbitant emolument packages, appended to the proposal; and

(c) if so, the reasons attributed for the rejection of both proposals of Government by Prasar Bharati?

Release of Padmaavat film

1827. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has adhered to the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding the release of 'Padmaavat' film in the different States of the country;

(b) whether there were so many incidents in some States disrupting the law and order situation and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the direction of Central Government to maintain law and order situation in the States?

Viewership of Doordarshan

1828. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that viewership for Doordarshan has reduced drastically, due to introduction of many private TV channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has formulated any plan to arrest this trend and make Doordarshan a popular channel among the public;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Status of the Sam Pitroda Committee's recommendations

1829. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken measures to address issues of financial and administrative autonomy of Prasar Bharati as per the recommendations of the Sam Pitroda Committee; and

(b) whether Government plans to transfer ownership of assets and management of assets and human resource to Prasar Bharati?

Monitoring contents on news channels

†1830. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism to monitor the contents of the broadcasts of news channels;

(b) whether Government takes cognizance of such programmes aired on news channels which abet superstition and unscientific temper; and

(c) if so, the action taken against such channels, if not, the reasons therefor?

Data on mine workers

1831. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data on the workers working in mines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Illegal mining in Andhra Pradesh

1832. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the Indian Bureau of Mines, illegal mining cases in Andhra Pradesh have gone up from 7692 in 2013-14 to 9703 in 2016-17;

(b) if so, the details thereof and mines that have been illegally mined, district-wise;

(c) the status of illegal mining in 2017-18;

(d) whether only three FIRs have been filed, six court cases have been registered and only two vehicles have been seized;

(e) if so, reasons therefor; and

(f) whether the Ministry would ensure that all illegal mining cases are brought to their logical conclusion?

Utilisation of DMF funds under PMKKKY

1833. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of funds collected through District Mineral Foundations (DMF) for the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) since its launch, year-wise;

(b) the quantum of funds utilised under the scheme since its launch, year-wise; and

(c) the purposes for which these funds have been utilised, specifying the number of projects sanctioned and completed?

Incidents of illegal mining

1834. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any inquiry into the incidents of illegal mining;

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

(c) the details regarding States which have recorded maximum number of such cases;

(d) the details regarding such cases in Rajasthan and its position *vis-a-vis* other States; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken in such cases?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Powers of Panchayati Raj Institutions

†1835. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider granting panchayats the status of peoples' representative in the future as they are the pillars of Democracy in India but the representatives elected in them do not have the status of peoples' representatives;

(b) whether Government, in view of the fact that the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) are not been granted all the constitutional rights would make efforts in this direction; and

(c) whether Government is formulating any plan to financially empower the Panchayats and rural panchayats in particular to make them financially independent?

Digitization of Panchayats in the country

†1836. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to totally digitize all the panchayats of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the panchayats which have been selected for this purpose in State of Chhattisgarh;

(c) whether Government has requested all the States including Chhattisgarh for ascertaining necessary basic infrastructure for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of all other States including Chhattisgarh with regard to this; and

(e) by when all the panchayats of the country are likely to be digitized?

Review of work of PRIs

1837. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to review the work of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) as they are completing twenty five years of existence;

(b) whether there has been any decentralization of powers and resources as envisaged;

(c) whether it has been possible to mobilize people's power through PRIs; and

(d) whether Government has inspired and helped PRIs to meet demands of people by developing and implementing their own plans or projects?

Control of road accidents

1838. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the maximum number of deaths in road accidents in the world occur in India;

(b) the total number of deaths in road accidents in the country during the last two years, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has taken steps or made any action plan to control the road accidents and deaths due to non-availability of timely treatment; and

(d) the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Road projects in Telangana

1839. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has sanctioned several road projects in Telangana State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of each project along with estimated cost, amount already released, expenditure and likely date of completion of the project?

National Highways in Madhya Pradesh

†1840. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the number of routes and their distances proposed for the National Highways in Madhya Pradesh and the status of approvals for each route and by when would the NHs be approved?

Construction of NH-23 and NH-42

1841. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the stretches of NHs Odisha have been entrusted to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for improvement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the improvement work of NH-23 and NH-42 could not be awarded even after repeated bidding; and

(d) if so, the action taken by NHAI/ Ministry in the matter?

Corporatisation of NHAI

1842. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to corporatize the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) under the Companies Act, 1956;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that any such move will badly affect the ongoing set up of NHAI and the road construction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Roads construction using solid waste

1843. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a technology has been developed to use solid waste in construction of roads;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has prepared any action plan to use this technology in road construction by using huge amount of solid waste accumulated at the landfill sites of Mumbai and the National capital; and

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

Road accidents in Madhya Pradesh

†1844. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who were killed in road accidents every year on the Ujjain-Aagar-Jhalawar route in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years, and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

presently what is the breadth of this road and how small is this single way road as per standard parameters and the reasons therefor and the extent upto which traffic pressure is there; and

(b) by when would this road be converted into a National Highway?

Allocation of funds for Bharatmala projects

1845. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had approved a mega plan to build 83, 677 kms. of highways by March, 2020 at a cost of about ₹ 7 lakh crore, which includes the ambitious Bharatmala project at a cost of about ₹ 5.35 lakh crore;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to realize the much required fund for this mega plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Pending accidents claim cases

1846. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1506 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 2013 and state:

(a) the updated status of amendment to certain Sections of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988;

(b) the number of accident claim cases pending in the country, State-wise, and how many of them are more than five years old;

(c) the action taken by the Ministry for speedy disposal of long pending accident cases before Motor Vehicle Accident Claim Tribunals; and

(d) whether Government has taken or contemplates to take any affirmative action to facilitate early disposal of claim cases by the Insurance Companies by suitable amendments in law, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Construction of bypass from Dhanbad to Raipur

†1847. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme for construction of an express highway from Dhanbad to Raipur under Sagarmala scheme is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, by when project would be commencing and completed;

(c) the length of the road to be constructed in Jharkhand under this scheme, name of the cities through which this road would pass and name of cities where bypass road would be constructed; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to provide benefits to the farmers, entrepreneurs and unemployed people through this corridor?

Toilet facilities on NHs

1848. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked its officials and others in-charge of National Highway (NH) stretches to ensure that in the next three months each fuel station along with National Highways have

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

adequate toilet facilities for men and women;

(b) whether the toilets provided at fuel stations are smaller in size and cannot cater need of road users; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the toilets are in unhygienic condition and are not accessible for road users or are kept under lock and key?

Target for construction of National Highways

1849. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during April-November, 2017 work for only 2927 km. was awarded, which is about half of the stretches awarded during the same period in 2016-17;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has floated a large number of tenders and has assured Government that it would meet the target of awarding works for 10,000 km. by the end of March, 2018; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Delay in NHAI projects

†1850. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of delayed projects of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), the details thereof along with the reasons therefor, State-wise;

(b) the increase in the project cost on account of delay, the details of the old and new cost of the delayed projects;

(c) the details of the allocated budget and the additional budget required at present for the each delayed project; and

(d) whether Government has formulated any time-bound action plan for early completion of the projects, the details thereof?

Training programme for drives of extra large vehicles

†1851. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to conduct a special training programme for the drivers of extra large vehicles;

(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?

Highway capacity manual on expansion of highways

1852. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has released the country's first ever highway capacity manual which sets objectives and norms for assessing the performance of roads and specify, when to start their expansion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this will make an end to undue priorities being given to certain roads for expansion under compulsion; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

National Highways in Odisha

1853. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY:
Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT
AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total length of National Highways in Odisha;
- (b) the details of the existing National Highways in Odisha, lane-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Ministry to expand National Highways in Odisha?

Compensation for deaths in road accidents

1854. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:
Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT
AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that one death occurs every three minutes in road accidents, in the country but only half of them receive compensation;
- (b) whether there is any road safety policy in vogue, if so, how many States have such a safety policy;
- (c) whether the Centre is planning to have an uniform road safety policy for the entire country for the benefit of the road accident victims and their kith and kin; and
- (d) how does Government propose to increase the awareness of such policy amongst the general public?

Toll charges for commuters on National Highways

1855. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA:
Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT
AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of toll collected by Government on various National Highways

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

- (b) whether there is any plan/proposal to suspend collection of toll charges from the commuters till the condition of fog improves in North India; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Linking of highway corridors to international trade points

1856. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to link highway corridors to international trade points for ₹ 25,000 crore;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that about 2,000 kms. of highways would be constructed to link major highway corridors to international trade points; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Target fixed for construction of National Highways

1857. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the pace of National Highways (NHs) construction, during April-November, 2017 increased by 23 per cent over the same period last year;
- (b) whether Government is hopeful of crossing 9,000 kms. this fiscal to register the highest ever construction of highways, though it would be less than the ambitious target set by Government at 40 km. per day;

(c) whether the construction and widening of 4942 kms. of NHs was completed by November 30, 2017, which is about 20.5 km. per day; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Launching of new App for Toll collection at toll gates

1858. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is about to launch a new "Toll App" to do away with the problems of toll payment/ collection at toll gates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the App would be enforced, the details thereof?

SAGY in naxal affected States

†1859. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 731 proposals of road construction in 29 blocks of naxalite affected districts of Chhattisgarh have been sent to the Centre;

(b) by when the sanction will be accorded by the Centre to the said proposal; and

(c) by when the work will be completed on the dilapidated access roads under the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) in Chhattisgarh?

Bharatmala projects for coastal areas

1860. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is launching Bharatmala highway programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to connect and improve all coastal areas of the country through such projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the pattern of funding for such projects?

Status of Road/Highways projects in Punjab

1861. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the projects undertaken by the Ministry in Punjab;

(b) the number of the on-going/under construction and sanctioned projects; and

(c) the status of each project?

Sethu Bharatam Programme in the country

1862. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has started Sethu Bharatam Programme and started construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) at various level crossings of the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that seventeen such ROB's identified in Karnataka to be constructed;

(c) if so, the details of each level crossing where ROB are proposed to be constructed; and

(d) the present status of each of the seventeen ROB's proposed?

Conversion of State roads into NHs

1863. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new State road is likely to be converted into a National Highway in Kerala State;

(b) whether Kerala Government has requested in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Reserve lane for vehicles

†1864. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to reserve lanes for various types of vehicles;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps in this regard till date; and

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

Four laning of NHs

†1865. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

has decided to convert several National Highways in the country from two lane to four lane;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any decision to convert National Highway in Bihar from Hazipur to Tejpur *via* Mahua into four lanes; and

(d) the number of National Highways in Bihar converted into four lanes from two lanes, the details thereof?

Steps to curb road accidents

1866. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons as to why, in spite of advancements made in road construction, signalling system and sensitizing the citizens of the country, seventeen deaths on Indian roads took place every hour during the last year;

(b) to what extent use of mobiles contribute to accidents;

(c) whether it is a fact that new vehicles are to be blamed for involvement in most of the accidents; and

(d) the concrete action plan the Ministry has to curb accidents and to what extent the proposed Motor Vehicles Bill would help in this regard?

Black Spot Project report from Himachal Pradesh

1867. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

received bridges and road project reports and improvement of Black Spot Project reports from Government of Himachal Pradesh for approval;

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

(c) the current status of these proposals alongwith the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved;

(d) whether Government has detected any flaws in any of these proposals; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, proposal-wise, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Utilisation of funds under CRF

1868. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to shift the Central Road Fund (CRF) from National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to another Ministry for better implementation and fund utilisation for development of the country;

(b) if so, the total projects approved, started, completed and the budget utilisation for the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the details for infrastructure development on change-over of control therein; and

(d) the total projects/proposals pending with Government for the last three years, State-wise?

Motorable roads in Uttarkashi

†1869. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that villagers of

six Gram Panchayats situated in Gangotri National Park area located under Mori Development Block, Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand, have to walk upto 26 kilometers to reach their houses;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has received any proposal to connect these villages with motorable roads;

(c) if so, whether sanction has been accorded for such a proposal, if so, the places which are likely to be connected through such motorable roads; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Projects funded by Asian Development Bank

1870. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of road construction projects in India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal in progress;

(b) whether these projects have been funded by Asian Development Bank;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the present status of these projects; and

(d) the extent to which the completion of the projects would give a boost to trade and business between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries?

Status of SAGY

1871. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the status of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY), since 2014 till date, constituency/MP-wise;

(b) the details of funds allocated under SAGY, along with its utilisation, year-wise;

(c) the details regarding the improvements brought in adopted villages in comparison to situation before and after being adopted;

(d) the details of the various phases under SAGY, with the modification from Phase-I to latest phase, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether the adopted villages have benefited, by neglecting the other villages, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Delay in MGNREGA payments

1872. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI:
Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of pending wages yet to be sanctioned for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) Scheme since 2013-14, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether Government had identified the reasons for delays in payments to the workers of MGNREGA; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken to speedy clearance of payments?

Job for MGNREGA card holders

†1873. SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that job card holders of various States including Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh are not getting adequate work under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA);

(b) whether it is also a fact that lackadaisical approach is being adopted by local administration in uploading information on the website of MGNREGA according to its guidelines due to which workers could not get timely payment;

(c) whether various irregularities have surfaced in the information available in the website of MGNREGA; and

(d) the details of the action taken regarding misleading information?

Participation in SPMRM

1874. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to invite Expression of Interests (EoIs) from the corporate and foundations to participate in Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) to develop 300 Rurban clusters;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outlay provided in the Budget during the last two years and the amount spent year-wise; and

(d) the progress made in developing "smart villages" and by what time, the projects would be completed?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Progress under RURBAN Scheme

1875. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects initiated under RURBAN Scheme, State-wise, phase-wise and theme-wise;

(b) the details of funds allocated State-wise, year-wise and phase-wise;

(c) whether as per scheme guidelines, projects initiated have to be completed within three years, if so, the details of progress on completion of projects initiated so far;

(d) whether scheme allows for convergence of existing schemes to undertake projects, if so, the details of existing schemes converged and funds taken from those schemes project-wise; and

(e) whether only new projects have been initiated under this scheme or existing projects have been linked, if so, the details thereof?

Progress of SAGY

1876. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has evaluated the progress of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY);

(b) if so, the progress made, State-wise;

(c) whether actually any transformative changes have taken place in selected villages under SAGY;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds for PMGSY

1877. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has reduced the allocation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for the States by reducing the Central share for this project;

(b) if so, the percentage of share of Central and State Government for PMGSY at present; and

(c) the reasons for reduction of the fund?

Construction of roads for LWE affected districts

1878. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated for construction of roads for Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) since 2014, State-wise, district-wise and year-wise;

(b) the details of physical and financial targets, as well as achievements of the scheme since 2014, year-wise and district-wise; and

(c) the details of new projects sanctioned under PMGSY during the last year, district-wise?

Construction of roads under PMGSY

†1879. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

has decided to connect every village of the country through metalled road under “Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana” (PMGSY);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such incomplete roads under PMGSY in Bihar and the details and the number of such incomplete road in Samastipur district?

Wages for women under MGNREGA

1880. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the women are paid less wages under Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), State/UT-wise and if so, the details thereof, along with the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Centre is opposing minimum wages in MGNREGA, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that MGNREGA beneficiaries have come down in 2017-18, if so, the details thereof?

Construction of roads under PMGSY in Maharashtra

1881. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of roads constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the State of Maharashtra since its inception;

(b) the details of habitations which are yet to be connected with roads in the State;

(c) whether all roads in the State are proposed to be converted or constructed as all weather roads under PMGSY; and

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

Funds under PMGSY for Odisha

1882. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Odisha has requested the Ministry to consider sharing of funds, towards the cost of last three years converting maintenance of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY); and

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

Status of SAGY

1883. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as of February 2018, only 97 Lok Sabha and 27 Rajya Sabha MPs have adopted villages under the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY);

(b) if so, whether it can be said that adoption of villages is at an all time low;

(c) if so, the details of SAGY activities undertaken during the last three years; and

(d) the details of the measures proposed by Government to address the above issue and the reasons for the subdued response from MPs?

Waste land development

1884. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the name of authority responsible for regulating waste land development and land reforms programme;

(b) the total annual budgetary allocation and expenditure for last three years in each sub-schemes covered under the said programmes;

(c) the reasons for reduction/increase, abandonment and under-utilisation of allocations and expenditure, if any; and

(d) physical and financial progress in enabling landless people/marginal land holders of their land titles in these programmes during this period?

Delay in payment of wages under MGNREGA

1885. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Scheme Management Information System only calculates delays in wage payments till the Fund Transfer Orders are signed by the second signatory;

(b) the reasons as to why the Ministry does not calculate the full extent of delays in MGNREGA wage payments; and

(c) the details of the measures taken by Government to rectify the incomplete methodology of calculating the length of wage delays?

Sagaramala projects in Kerala

1886. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the vision and objective of Sagaramala projects in Kerala;

(b) the number of projects identified for the construction of new ports, and the amount allocated for this purpose for each projects; and

(c) the number of projects under Sagaramala, designed for Kerala State, if so, the details and fund allocated?

Development of eight new National Waterways

1887. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to commence work on development of eight new National Waterways;

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

(c) from when these eight new National Waterways will be operational?

Implementation of UNNATI Project

1888. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) aims and objectives of project UNNATI;

(b) the details of each of the initiatives identified under UNNATI and the number of initiatives so far implemented;

(c) whether UNNATI is limited to major ports or is going to be extended to medium port also; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Jal Marg Vikas Project on Ganga river

1889. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken up the National Waterways (NW-1) Jal Marg Vikas Project on Ganga river from Kolkata to Varanasi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is planning to introduce passenger liners in the said route;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when the project will be operational?

Autonomy for port boards

1890. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to give port boards more autonomy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that all future public private partnership operators will be free to fix tariffs based on market conditions and will simply need to notify the port authority;

(d) whether port authorities will be able to make lease land for both port related and non-port related use and prepare their own master plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Port/Shipping projects in Tamil Nadu

1891. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated, disbursed, spent during the last three years to the major ports in Tamil Nadu and for the development of port facilities including expansion;

(b) whether there is any delay in execution of port and shipping projects in Tamil Nadu due to lack of funds from the Central Government and opposition from civic groups and Unions;

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

(d) the steps taken to expedite the development and expansion works in ports in Tamil Nadu and to establish new captive ports in Tamil Nadu?

Investigation of explosion at CSL

1892. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated any investigation as regard the explosion at Cochin Shipyard Ltd. (CSL);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of people killed and injured in the accident and compensation promised/provided for the victims of blast; and

(d) the steps taken by Government and CSL in this regard?

Development of 300 dry ports

1893. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

is planning to develop 300 dry ports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the period by which the plan is likely to get executed?

Blast on drilling ship at Cochin Shipyard Ltd.

1894. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a blast on board of an under repair drilling ship at Cochin Shipyard Ltd. in Kerala has taken place recently;

(b) if so, the number of persons injured dead in the incident;

(c) the amount of compensation extended to families of those killed and injured in the incident;

(d) whether Government has constituted a high level inquiry into the accident;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by Government to avoid such incidence in the future?

Allocation of funds for Textile Industry in Assam

1895. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of enormous opportunities of developing Textile Industry in Assam;

(b) if so, whether Government has prepared any action plan for promoting the industry in Assam; and

(c) the details of financial allocation made for Textile Industry in Assam during the last three years and its utilization by the State?

Decline in textiles exports due to GST

1896. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that overall textiles exports have been declining consistently since the introduction of GST;

(b) if so, the steps taken during the last six months to improve the exports in textiles;

(c) whether any request has been made to the Finance Ministry or any other Government agency to look into the problems being faced in the textile industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Continuation of ISDS

1897. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) has been continued after September, 2017;

(b) if being continued, on what basis it has been extended; and

(c) till what time the ISDS has been extended?

Guidelines on cultivation of BG-III variety cotton

1898. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:
SHRI DHARMAPURI
SRINIVAS:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the cultivation of BG-III cotton which is harming the bio-diversity in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has received any representation to ban or issue guidelines on the usage of this variety of cotton in view of anti bio-diversity protests; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the BG-III cotton does not have the approval of Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) and if so, the details thereof?

Issues plaguing the apparel industry

1899. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of issues raised by the apparel industry plaguing it;

(b) whether Government has constituted a Committee to look into these issues and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the Committee has been asked to give its report to Government for further action;

(d) whether it is a fact that this industry is going through a turbulent time due to demonetisation in 2016, implementation of GST and exports not picking up; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by Government to improve the financial health of the industry?

Food bill of NIFT, Gandhinagar

1900. MAHANT SHAMBHUPRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data on the food bill receipts of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Gandhinagar even when the students are on holidays and on weekends;

(b) if so, the details of the action taken on responsible authority;

(c) the details of the amount received by the NIFT Gandhinagar during the last year per student; and

(d) the details of the tenders in the regional and national newspaper for running the NIFT canteen?

Sharing and management of Cauvery river water

1901. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to appoint an authority and frame a scheme for sharing and management of Cauvery river waters among Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Pondicherry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there has been reluctance on the part of Government to set up of the Cauvery Management Board and frame a scheme for implementation of the tribunal award despite it having been notified in 2013; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Report on shortage of water in reservoirs

1902. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received report on shortage of water in several reservoirs in the country;

(b) whether Government has received any suggestion from the Central Water Commission in this regard;

(c) the present storage and comparative study during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the action taken by Government to improve the situation thereof?

Decline in ground water level

†1903. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the level of ground water table in the country is continuously declining and leading to a water crisis in many areas and the availability of water in metropolitan cities and other cities is getting worse;

(b) whether it is also a fact that owing to misuse of water, situation of river water has reached alarming proportions;

(c) whether Government is

contemplating to make a law on the usage of water; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Ganga rejuvenation and river front management

1904. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the total Coliform bacteria levels in all the cities of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal has reached 334 times higher than prescribed levels;

(b) whether Government is aware that a December, 2017 CAG Report showed that there are unutilised funds and absence of a long term plan for Ganga rejuvenation; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to utilise all the funds and the long term plans for Ganga rejuvenation and river front management, the details thereof?

Irrigation facilities under AIBP

1905. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has plans to arrest the marching of the desert, provide sustainable livelihood and to provide irrigation facilities on priority in the areas of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the reasons for which the Desert Development Programme (DDP) areas are not being treated at par with

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

projects of Special Category States for providing grant to the tune of 90 per cent for the DDP areas, as is being provided for the Special Category States under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP);

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

River conservation zone identified by NMCG

1906. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) State-wise details of the number of Automatic Water Quality Monitoring Systems deployed by the Central Pollution Control Board as of January, 2018;
- (b) State-wise details of the number of trash skimmers deployed for the purpose of river surface cleaning during 2015-16 to 2017-18; and
- (c) State-wise details of the number of river conservation zones identified by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) of January, 2018?

Relief and rehabilitation for Polavaram Dam evacuees

1907. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the tribal evacuees subjected to submergence under the Polavaram Major Irrigation Project have not received their share under the

Relief and Rehabilitation Package even after a decade;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by Government to investigate the charges of large scale misappropriation in first phase of compensation?

Opposition to monitoring system by 'Ganga Sabha'

1908. 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 the 'Ganga Sabha' has opposed the district administration's proposal to install a monitoring system that will display the purity of the water in the Ganga river at the ghat;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government is planning for other projects for the 2021 Haridwar Mahakumbh?

Implementation of Polavaram Dam project

1909. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn towards the implementation of the work in the Polavaram project;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Centre is not satisfied with the pace of construction work of Polavaram project by the State

Government and has directed the State Government to stop the construction work;

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

(d) whether it is a fact that Government is taking up the construction work of the project directly for completion within stipulated time, the details thereof?

Decline in ground water levels in metros/cities

1910. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that all the metro cities in the country and also the other major cities, including many cities in Tamil Nadu has become water stressed due to exorbitant decline in ground water;

(b) if so, the details of those metros/cities across the country where ground water level has declined to an exorbitant level;

(c) whether Government has formulated any specific plan for these metros/cities for ground water development;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cleaning of Ganga river

1911. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time-bound programme

for cleaning of Ganga river has been prepared and is under execution;

(b) if so, the details of the targets and time-frame fixed in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to engage NRIs or foreign agencies in the projects of cleaning of Ganga; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the nature of financial and other assistance being taken from these resources and terms and conditions thereof?

Fund allocations for river development

1912. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government for river development in the country and the details, State-wise;

(b) amount sanctioned and spent, State-wise; and

(c) whether there are any success stories as role model for other States?

National Status to Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project

1913. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Regional Conference of Southern States has taken place at Hyderabad recently, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Telangana Government has once again raised the issue of granting

National Status to Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action has been taken on the request of the Telangana Government and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the stand of Government in this regard?

Plan for water linking projects

1914. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any plan for water linking projects and communities living nearby, especially in Ecologically Fragile Zones;

(b) details of action taken by Government upon receiving such proposals from States;

(c) details of Government responses in view of River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Plan against each proposal;

(d) whether the Ministries of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Housing and Urban Affairs and Rural Development has been consulted in each case before sending a response;

(e) whether Government is considering a policy for plant species, like invasive species to be planted at Ganga bank; and

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

Fund under LTIF for Polavaram

1915. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has agreed to fund Polavaram project under Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF) instituted under NABARD, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to allocate ₹ 23814 crores from LTIF to Polavaram project over a period of five years; and

(c) if so, what is the year-wise allocation from LTIF to Polavaram?

Rehabilitation and Resettlement works of Polavaram project

1916. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been no progress in Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) works of Polavaram project, since the last one year due to shortage of funds with State Government;

(b) if so, details thereof, if not, whether Government is committed to complete the total R&R works before completion of ECRF dam and supply of water into canals through gravity;

(c) total estimate of R&R works of Polavaram in all affected States according to Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013; and

(d) whether Government has released any funds specifically for R&R works to AP State, if so, details thereof?

Status for completion of Polavaram project

1917. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is committed to complete the Polavaram project by 2019;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with progress of various components of works and their likely date of completion; and

(c) the total estimate cost of the project and amount of funds already spent and the remaining balance along with details as to how Government is planning to meet the expenditure, as it has to bear 100 per cent of the project cost?

Water disputes among various States

†1918. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Central Government to resolve water dispute among various States of the country;

(b) whether any water dispute tribunals were set up earlier to resolve the inter-State water dispute;

(c) if so, the name-wise constitution-wise date-wise and State-wise details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that several water dispute tribunals have not been able to take amicable decision; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the

effective steps being taken by Government in this regard?

Status of rivers in the country

1919. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major, medium and small rivers in the country, State-wise details thereof;

(b) the number of existing rivers confronted with the problem of silting and drying up resulting in flow of inadequate water, lack of navigation and decrease in the number of aquatic animals including, fishes, State-wise, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases where Government has initiated action for digging up rivers like Saraswati river and/or dredging the river, State-wise details thereof; and

(d) the amount of fund allocated for rejuvenation of Ganga and other rivers, the details thereof, State-wise?

Allocation of funds for removal of chemical elements in ground water

†1920. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) the steps taken by the Ministry to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

remove the abundance of elements like Arsenic, Chloride, Nitrate and excessive Iron in the water in different areas of the country in the last three years and the State-wise details of the amount spent for this purpose;

(b) the amount allocated to remove the

said elements from the ground water during the last three financial years and the amount spent for the same; and

(c) the State-wise details of the diseases due to use of water contaminated by the above elements in people?

NEW DELHI;
The 6th March, 2018
Phalguna 15, 1939 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Defence	: 1761, 1762, 1763, 1764, 1765, 1766, 1767, 1768, 1769, 1770, 1771, 1772, 1773, 1774, 1775, 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779,
Drinking Water and Sanitation	: 1780, 1781, 1782, 1783, 1784, 1785, 1786, 1787, 1788, 1789, 1790, 1791, 1792, 1793, 1794, 1795,
Earth Sciences	: 1796, 1797, 1798,
Environment, Forest and Climate Change	: 1799, 1800, 1801, 1802, 1803, 1804, 1805, 1806, 1807, 1808, 1809, 1810, 1811, 1812, 1813, 1814, 1815, 1816, 1817, 1818, 1819, 1820,
Information and Broadcasting	: 1821, 1822, 1823, 1824, 1825, 1826, 1827, 1828, 1829, 1830,
Mines	: 1831, 1832, 1833, 1834,
Panchayati Raj	: 1835, 1836, 1837,
Road Transport and Highways	: 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870,
Rural Development	: 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885,
Science and Technology	: —
Shipping	: 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893,
Textile	: 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900,
Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation	: 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920.