

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Wednesday, March 14, 2018/Phalguna 23, 1939 (Saka)*

**(Ministries : Commerce and Industry; Culture; Home Affairs; Labour and
Employment; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Petroleum and
Natural Gas; Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Steel;
Tourism; Youth Affairs and Sports)**

Total number of questions — 160

Bilateral trade with countries

2081. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed bilateral trade agreements with various countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and salient features of these agreements signed during the last three years;

(c) whether India and Bangladesh had held detailed discussions in Dhaka to boost bilateral trade and investments recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether both the countries also deliberated upon expansion of Border Haats, identification and resolution of non-tariff issues affecting bilateral trade and ease of investment;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(g) the other steps taken by Government to boost trade between India and Bangladesh?

Progress made under 'Startup India' programme

†2082. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made under 'Startup India' programme since its inception;

(b) whether the existing funding mechanism is adequate or Government proposes to improve it; and

(c) the efforts made by Government for adoption of uniform approach by the State Governments to give required thrust to Start-up schemes in the country?

Mismatch in trade of agri-products

2083. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) reasons for mismatch between exports and imports of agricultural

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

products from the country since 2013-14 to last financial year;

(b) reasons for consistent reduction in exports and steep increase in imports during above period;

(c) the details of each of the factors responsible for spurt in imports and reduction in exports;

(d) the details of agricultural commodities that are normally exported and fluctuation of each of such product in the international market during the above period, month-wise and commodity-wise; and

(e) what innovative methods are being adopted by Commodity Boards such as APEDA, MPEDA, Tobacco Board, Spices Board, etc.?

Expansion of e-commerce market

2084. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry considers that e-commerce market is growing in the country at the desirable rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether instances of irregularities in the functioning of e-commerce have come to the notice of Government; and

(d) if so, the details of the remedial action taken by Government to remove such irregularities?

Decision of WTO on India's agricultural procurement programme

2085. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the decisions taken in the WTO

Ministerial Conference in Buenos Aires with respect to Government procurement programmes in the farm sector, if any;

(b) the impact of such decisions on India's agricultural procurement programme;

(c) whether India's procurement programmes in wheat and rice are affected by existing WTO regulations;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether India's procurement programmes in crops other than wheat and rice are also affected by existing WTO regulations; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Shifting of industries from Punjab

2086. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many industries from Punjab have shifted to neighbouring States because of numerous incentives being given by States like Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether Government has conducted any survey in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) how Government proposes to help industries of Punjab?

Export target for tea

2087. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian tea

exports have touched a record high in 36 years at 240.7 million kg. in the year 2017, the previous high of 241.3 million kg. having been achieved in the year 1981;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it seems export target of 275 million kg. by 2020 is possible;

(c) whether in several countries, including the US, Indian teas were sold at prices which were higher than the average export price of US dollar three per kg.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Import of cheap arecanut, pepper etc. from Sri Lanka

2088. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases about import of cheap arecanut, pepper and other commodities to India from Sri Lanka under false declaration of origin have been reported;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported during the last three years thereof;

(c) whether Government is taking any measures to check such imports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Impact of 100 per cent FDI in single brand retail on unorganised sector

2089. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 100 per cent FDI in single brand retail has been approved by Government;

(b) if so, whether it is going to have negative impact on five crore unorganised retailers' business sector in the country;

(c) if so, whether Government has any alternate plan to protect the interest of five crore unorganised retailers of the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Decline in exports

2090. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether country's exports have decreased in recent years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what all remedial measures have been taken to bring balance in export and import targets of the country?

Tax relief to Startups

†2091. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has recently notified any tax relief to Startups;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the manner in which these relief will assist the development of Startups?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Preferential Trade Agreements with countries

†2092. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has entered into Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs) with several countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to provide incentives to companies for increasing export to those countries with whom Government has entered into Preferential Trade Agreements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Technical regulations to certify quality of products to stop dumping

2093. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of technical regulations to certify quality of products prescribed in various areas to stop dumping of goods into India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many areas do not have technical regulations; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and efforts being made to set up technical regulations in areas of concern?

Status of industrial growth rate

2094. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the status of industrial growth rate in the country for the last two years, till date;

(b) the reasons for which the industrial growth rate is less than the expected rate; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to increase the industrial growth rate of the country?

Impact of 100 per cent FDI in single brand retail

2095. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH
VERMA:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question No. 53 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th February, 2018 and state:

(a) whether as per the statement of the present Prime Minister of India given in 2012, 49 per cent FDI in retail will harm shopkeepers, manufacturing sector and create joblessness; and

(b) if so, how 100 per cent FDI in single brand retail through automatic route would be beneficial for the country?

Jobs created under SEZs

2096. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many companies have been allotted land and permission to run units in the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) of the country, year-wise and State-wise details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) how many jobs have been created in the units functioning from SEZs, year-wise details thereof;

(c) how many units are functioning alongwith the number of workforce in SEZs at present, State-wise details thereof; and

(d) how many units in SEZs have defaulted to repay loans of Public Sector Banks, year-wise details indicating amount of non-payment of loans thereof?

Export of generic drugs to China

2097. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is the largest manufacturer of generic drugs in the world;

(b) if so, the reasons for India not being able to export them to China; and

(c) how India is going to fight China's protectionist policies in the World Trade Organisation (WTO)?

Talks with EU on data-adequacy status

2098. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has taken any steps to further the talks with European Union on data-adequacy status for Indian companies;

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

(c) whether India has engaged in conversation on cross-border data flow in bilateral and multilateral talks with EU, US and other countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the names of countries with which India is in talks for working out mechanisms for cross-border data flow and if no such conversation has been initiated, the reasons therefor?

Plan to sell enemy properties

2099. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to sell the enemy properties in near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the methodology thereof and estimated value of enemy properties; and

(d) whether all enemy properties are free from encumbrance?

MFN status to Pakistan

2100. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had extended the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status and international trade to Pakistan;

(b) if so, when was the MFN status granted to Pakistan;

(c) whether Government has made any decision whether to continue with this MFN status for Pakistan or to terminate it; and

(d) whether Pakistan has extended MFN status to India?

Incentivizing States to promote exports

2101. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to incentivize States to promote overall exports and push the country's industrial growth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government is planning to undertake to address the issues relating to GST and refunds of input cost credits to the exporters?

Decline in exports from labour intensive industries

2102. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that labour intensive export industries have been showing a decline in exports post the GST regime;

(b) if so, the estimated job losses in these sectors; and

(c) the steps being taken to boost exports from labour intensive industries?

Trend of agricultural exports

2103. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the trend of agricultural exports during the past three years;

(b) which is the most imported crop in the country; and

(c) whether Government has taken any step to analyze the pricing of agricultural

exports and to set up a quality assurance mechanism for agricultural exports?

Action plan to enhance marine products exports from Visakhapatnam

2104. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question No. 1030 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th July, 2016 and state:

(a) whether MPEDA has submitted any action plan to enhance production and export of marine products from Visakhapatnam;

(b) if so, the details of the plan;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Visakhapatnam is the leading port in export of marine products in the country;

(d) if so, what is the position of other ports with regard to marine products' exports; and

(e) how Blue Revolution is going to help in enhancing marine exports from Visakhapatnam and production of marine products in Andhra Pradesh?

Measures to boost manufacturing sector

2105. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that average per capita income in non-agricultural occupations is more than four times that in agriculture;

(b) if so, the steps taken to transfer labour force engaged in agricultural and allied activities to higher income industrial

and services sector to bring down per capita income gap between non-agricultural and agricultural occupations;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the growth of manufacturing sector is stagnant; and

(d) if so, the measures taken to boost manufacturing sector?

Road map to double exports of marine products

2106. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government will prepare a comprehensive road map to double exports of marine products;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it will also include measures to strengthen aquaculture production in States, potential collaborations, marketing and integration of supply chains;

(c) whether Government will task the Marine Products Export Development Authority and the Seafood Exporters Association of India to come up with a detailed strategy in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Tagore Cultural Complex Scheme

†2107. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of the complexes established by Government under Tagore Cultural Complex Scheme during the last three years;

(b) whether Government has received any proposal from Chhattisgarh in this

regard which has been pending for a long time; and

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

National Artistes Welfare Fund

2108. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated a National Artistes Welfare Fund and Artistes Pension Scheme and Welfare Fund for the welfare of cultural artists of various fields;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds released, allocated and spent under these schemes during the last three years;

(c) the number of artistes benefited under these schemes during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and

(d) whether Government proposes to increase the financial assistance of artists and if so, the details thereof?

Construction of wall along Indo-Pak border

2109. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed construction of wall along the Indo-Pak border, if so, the status of the project and if discontinued, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the laser wall is already operational on the Indo-Pak border, if so, the details of its construction and maintenance; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the details of infiltrations during past three years along with the casualties regarding common people and defence personnel separately?

Group of Nations to help tackle cyber crimes

2110. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is likely to join a Group of Nations that will help tackle growing cyber terrorism, child pornography, hate crimes and violations of network security;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the benefits likely to accrue to the country as a result thereof; and

(d) the progress so far made in this regard?

Cross-border infiltrations

2111. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many jawans in the border of Jammu and Kashmir have been martyred either due to militants' attacks or cross-border attacks during the last three years?

(b) whether the increasing number of jawans getting killed in the country is a matter of serious concern; and

(c) if so, whether Government is taking any stern steps to stop the cross-border infiltration activities?

Preventing suicide among students

2112. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on an average, at least one student is committing suicide every hour in the country;

(b) whether Government is aware of high suicide rates in the country and what steps are being taken to prevent suicides among students; and

(c) whether Government is planning to provide safeguards for rural students who migrated to cities for higher education, if so, the details thereof?

Fire safety situation

2113. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken stock of fire safety situation due to various fire related accidents across the country;

(b) whether Government has given any directions to meet the response time in case of fire related accidents;

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure the presence of basic fire fighting equipment in all public infrastructures as well as compliance with building norms; and

(d) what are the safety measures to be followed both in commercial and residential buildings?

Border fencing at Myanmar border

2114. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning any border fencing at Myanmar border, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of organisation that has objected to the border fencing; and

(c) whether Government is succumbing to the demands of paltry organizations at the cost of national interest, if so, the details thereof?

Frisking of passengers by Assam Rifles

2115. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Assam Rifles is given duty of frisking all persons passing through Imphal Moreh road including common man, patients, tourists, etc., both national and international, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether this has gravely caused inconvenience to common people and negatively impacted connectivity, business and Act East Policy, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether large number of vehicles and people including women wait in queues to be frisked by Assam Rifles on Imphal Moreh road, which has fuelled unhealthy relation between people and security forces; and

(d) details of actions Government proposes to better unwanted situation at highway connecting ASEAN countries?

Incidents of trafficking and missing children

2116. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that around 55,248 children went missing in the country in the year 2016 and around 2002 children have not yet been found; and

(b) if so, what measures Government would take to curb the incidents of trafficking and missing children in the country?

More manpower and new units for BSF

2117. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Border Security Force (BSF) has sought more manpower and new units, so that they can be deployed on the Assam and West Bengal flanks of the India-Bangladesh border even as a similar addition in number is required to effectively guard the India-Pakistan border, especially in Punjab and Jammu regions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has taken any action on the request made by BSF in this regard?

Raising of new battalions in BSF and ITBP

2118. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to raise 15 battalions in Border Security Force and Indo-Tibetan Border Police to fortify its defence along the strategic frontiers with Pakistan, Bangladesh and China;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that this was just a proposal as of now and no concrete steps had been taken to set up the said battalions?

Enemy properties taken over by Waqf Boards

2119. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated the identification process relating to enemy properties and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is aware that a large number of enemy properties have been taken over by the State Waqf Boards particularly in the State of Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, whether Government has conducted any survey about such properties and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Deportation of illegal Rohingya immigrants

2120. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued any instruction to State Governments to identify and deport illegal Rohingya immigrants;

(b) if so, the details thereof and response from those States particularly from West Bengal in this regard; and

(c) whether Government is aware that a full-fledged refugee camp has come up in West Bengal, barely 40 km. from the State capital and if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction in this regard?

Districts affected by naxal violence

2121. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of districts affected by naxal violence in the country, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether Government has initiated certain new measures for rehabilitation of naxals including through rubber cultivation;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government proposes to acquire ground sensor system that would warn about the movement of naxalites; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the comprehensive measures taken by Government to deal with the naxal menace in the country including taking help of the National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO)?

Release of prisoners before completion of awarded punishment

2122. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any criteria/guidelines for releasing prisoners lodged in various jails before the completion of the awarded punishment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of persons sentenced with life imprisonment and languishing in jails for twenty years or more;

(d) whether Government has any proposal to release such prisoners; and

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

**Sophisticated gadgets and weapons
for police forces**

2123. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any stringent measures to provide state-of-the-art technological gadgets to various police forces in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and total value of sophisticated gadgets and light weapons procured during the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 and till date;

(c) the list of major purchase orders provided and the Manufacturers given orders, in the last three years and their value;

(d) whether Government has given adequate support and facilitation to indigenous manufacturers to produce and supply such state-of-the-art technological gadgets and weapons; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Darpan registration for NGOs getting
foreign contributions**

2124. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has made it compulsory for the NGOs who are seeking foreign contributions under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) to get registered in 'Darpan' portal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Ban on getting FCRA funds

2125. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has imposed prohibition on various organisations from getting funds under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act;

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

(c) the details of organisations that are facing ban under FCRA, the details thereof?

Steps taken to prevent custodial cruelty

2126. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to ratify the 1997 United Nations convention against torture in custody;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government to prevent custodial cruelty and also to punish its perpetrators?

Construction of bunkers along LoC

2127. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minister had assured during his visit to LoC (Line of Control) for construction of large number of bunkers for safety of villagers residing in border areas;

(b) if so, whether bunkers have been constructed by now;

(c) if so, the number of bunkers being constructed, sector-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Laws to deal with refugees

2128. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India does not have proper laws to deal with refugees even though India is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on Refugees;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no record with Government on illegal migrants and there is no mechanism to identify such persons with date-wise detail history therefor; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the plan of Government to evolve proper mechanism to restrict illegal migration of persons thereof?

Schemes for safety of women

2129. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is running any schemes for safety of women;

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

(c) whether Government has created any mechanism for protection of women from cyber crimes; and

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

Pension and other benefits to freedom fighters

2130. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any

scheme for grant of pension and other benefits to freedom fighters;

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

(c) whether State-wise details of grant of such benefits are available;

(d) if so, the details in respect of Rajasthan; and

(e) the details regarding financial allocation made for this purpose in the recent budget?

Increase in communal riots

‡2131. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has witnessed an increase in communal cases during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the State-wise details of communal cases during the last three years?

Children missing in Maharashtra

2132. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of children, male and female, who went missing in the State of Maharashtra during the last three years; and

(b) the number of missing children who were united with their parents during the same period?

Safety and security of people in border areas

2133. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is war like situation on the borders of India, particularly in the State of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is taking any steps to prevent the situation prevailing at Indo-Pak border in Jammu and Kashmir State and ensure the safety and security of the people living at border areas of the country?

Incidents of murder in the country

2134. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the incidents of murder are on the rise in the country, particularly in the cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many such incidents have been reported in the country during the last two years;

(d) the State-wise, year-wise and gender-wise details thereof;

(e) whether Government is taking steps to curb such incidents; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Fake encounters and custodial deaths

2135. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH
VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fake encounters and custodial deaths in the country, since 1st April, 2017 till date, State-wise;

(b) the details of fake encounters and custodial deaths in Uttar Pradesh since 1st April, 2017 till date, district-wise; and

(c) the details of action Government would take to check fake encounters and custodial deaths as per the orders of Supreme Court?

Notice to NGOs for details of foreign grants

2136. SHRI BHUBANESWAR
KALITA: Will the Minister of HOME
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued notices to Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) to furnish details of their income and expenditure within a stipulated time-frame in respect of foreign grants that they received;

(b) if so, the total number of NGOs which have received foreign grants and how many of them have responded to the notice; and

(c) what action is being contemplated by Government against those NGOs which have failed to comply with Government order including denial of renewal of permission under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act?

Inclusion of languages in Eighth Schedule

2137. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to implement the Sitakant Mohapatra Committee recommendation of inclusion of 38 other languages in the Eighth Schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Posting of women police personnel in police stations

2138. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in those Police Stations which do not have women police officers/ personnel, women victims hesitate to report crime against them to male police personnel and hence, such crimes go unreported;

(b) what measures Government would take to post more women police personnel in police stations particularly in the semi-urban, rural and tribal areas to encourage women victims to report crime against them; and

(c) whether Government would consider appointing special police officers/ wardens from among the natives in such areas where there are no women police personnel so that they can help the women victims to register their complaints?

Installation of CCTV cameras in Tihar Jail

†2139. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has got the CCTV cameras installed for better monitoring of inmates of Tihar jail, Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of cameras required in Tihar jail and the number of cameras so far installed;

(c) the reasons for delay in installation of CCTV cameras;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the installation of CCTV cameras in Tihar jail, will enable curbing illegal activities there; and

(e) if so, by when all the required CCTV cameras will be installed by Government?

Improving conditions of jails

†2140. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all jails *e.g.* central jail and district jails of Jharkhand are over-crowded with prisoners;

(b) if so, how Government would justify the same;

(c) whether Government is willing to take action on humanitarian ground to improve the condition of jails and increase the facilities available to prisoners; and

(d) if so, the proposed actions and the time by when these are likely to be taken?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Formation of new IR Battalion in States

‡2141. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to form a new India Reserve Battalion in States;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken by Government in this regard till now; and

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

Special police force to curb cyber crimes

‡2142. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering to form a special police force to curb the cyber crimes increasing every day;

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

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

Funds for Modernisation of Police Forces

2143. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of amount sanctioned and disbursed to States by the High Powered Committee for Modernisation of Police Forces so far;

(b) the details of criteria to identify

States which have done exemplary work for police reforms;

(c) the reasons for allocating more funds to States that are already doing exemplary work in police reforms, considering that it will bring down allocations for States struggling to improve their police forces;

(d) the State-wise, gender-wise and post-wise details of vacancies in police forces; and

(e) the steps taken to expedite the process of filling up these vacancies?

Law to protect couples of inter-caste marriage

2144. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court termed as “absolutely illegal” any attack by Khap panchayats or associations against an adult man and women opting for inter-caste marriage and the apex court added if Government does not enact a law to protect couples opting for inter-caste marriage, the court will evolve a principle and lay down guidelines;

(b) whether Government intends to enact a law on the above matter;

(c) if so, the time-line finalised for the purpose; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

India-Myanmar Border Police Force

2145. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

is considering to raise India-Myanmar Border Police Force;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the purpose thereof;

(c) whether Assam Rifles is not meeting the requirement of the job; and

(d) what will be the methodology of recruiting the force?

Proposal to change uniform of police forces

2146. SHRI VEER SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to change the uniform of the police forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to equip the security system with state-of-the art technology?

Crimes against women

2147. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crime/atrocities/harassment/rape cases/molestation, etc. against women particularly against minor girls have increased in various parts of the country particularly in the State of Haryana during the last few months;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported, State-wise; and

(c) the details of efforts made by Government to ensure security and safety of women particularly girl children in the country?

Equal treatment to Army and CAPF

2148. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that when an Army personnel dies, a prefix shaheed is used, but not in the case of a Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) personnel, if so, what is the reason of not calling the latter a martyr; and

(b) whether Government is planning to bring any notification/guidelines regarding giving equal status to Army and CAPF who die while on their line of duty, the details thereof?

Specialised investigation units under MPF

2149. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government under the Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF) Scheme to have specialised investigation units in order to ensure quality of investigation, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any steps have been taken by Government to increase the intellectual expertise among police officers related to legal, forensic and technological knowledge, if so, the details thereof?

Repatriation of illegal Bangladeshi citizens

2150. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any treaty

or agreement with Bangladesh regarding repatriation of its citizens who have illegally entered the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the procedure followed by Government to deport the citizens who have been listed as foreigners as per the National Register of Citizens (NRC);

(c) how many illegal Bangladeshi immigrants have been deported per year during the last five years; and

(d) how many people declared as illegal immigrants are still housed in the State-run detention centres, the district-wise demographic data thereof?

Misuse of official position by IG

2151. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken notice of recent reports in the media regarding gross misuse of official position by an IG in BSF in connection with his daughter's wedding;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government against the said IG;

(c) whether it is a fact that malpractices of above nature by senior police officers is rampant in both CAPFs and State police; and

(d) what system-wide checks are being considered to deal with these feudal and pre-colonial practices in the police?

Implementation of the AP Reorganisation Act

2152. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has met Prime Minister 29 times since May, 2014 requesting for implementation of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act in its true letter and spirit;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, how many times the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh met the Prime Minister and requested for implementation of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act?

Vacant posts in Navyug schools

2153. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has established Navyug schools in Delhi in NDMC area with specific mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of sanctioned posts of Principals, Vice-Principals, TGTs and primary teachers and teacher-student ratio in these schools;

(d) whether several schools including the Navyug school, Pandara Park have no Principal or Vice-Principal and there are vacancies of teachers; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by Government to fill the vacant posts in Navyug schools particularly in Navyug school, Pandara Park, New Delhi on priority basis and achieve the mission of establishing these as prime schools?

Division of Singareni Collieries between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

2154. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Singareni Collieries is a registered company under Companies Act;

(b) whether it is listed as Item No. 7 of Ninth Schedule to the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014;

(c) whether as per Section 47(3) of this Act, whatever is included under Schedule Nine has to be divided between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in the ratio of 52:48 basis;

(d) whether after division of AP, Singareni has become an inter-State company and as per Section 53 of this Act, inter-State properties have to be distributed in the ratio of 52:48; and

(e) if so, why Government is not doing this?

Shortage of weapons with security forces

2155. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any information about the shortage of weapons with the security forces in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Fake encounters

2156. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of fake encounters by police and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) reported during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the total number of cases that have been resolved during the period, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) whether Government has taken steps

to reduce such fake encounters through advisories to States, etc. and the details of the action taken thereon?

Witness Protection programme

2157. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government maintains a database of witnesses who have turned hostile in various cases;

(b) if so, the number of the same during last three years, State-wise, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has a witness protection programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether there are other means by which Government provides for the safety of witnesses?

Increasing crime graph in Delhi-NCR

2158. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crime graph in Delhi-NCR is increasing by leaps and bounds for the last six to twelve months;

(b) the number of crime cases among others, murder, rape, theft, burglary, etc. reported in Delhi;

(c) the measures taken by Government in co-ordination with Delhi Government to curb and eliminate such crimes in Delhi-NCR; and

(d) the number of crime cases solved by Delhi Police and number of convictions of criminals during the past three years, year-wise?

**Surrender and rehabilitation policy
for Kashmiri youths**

2159. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is of the view that there Should be a surrender and rehabilitation policy especially for Kashmiri youths;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has asked the State Government to set up a high level committee to review all stone throwing cases against students in an effort to wean them away from militancy and radicalisation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Artificial Intelligence and Automation
leading to massive unemployment**

2160. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there are growing concerns that Artificial Intelligence and Automation will lead to massive unemployment; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government to ensure Indian people meet the skills in demand for these emerging technologies?

**Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan
Yojana**

2161. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount disbursed, State-wise towards employer's provident fund contribution under Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) since 2016;

(b) the number of employees benefited under this scheme, State-wise especially of West Bengal, since 2016; and

(c) the reasons for Government contribution under this scheme being only 50 per cent (₹ 500 crore) of the budgetary projection of ₹ 1000 crore in 2017-18?

Promotion of PMRPY

2162. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to promote schemes like Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) across the country through skill development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is taking initiative to focus on providing more employment to the unemployed youth in future to make this scheme more effective and if so, the details thereof?

Rising rate of unemployment

2163. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been able to control unemployment rate since 2014 till date, if so, industry/sector/year-wise details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that since September, 2016 there has been rise in rate of unemployment, if so, industry/sector/month-wise details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government to increase employment with its timeline?

(# CANCELLED)

Social security scheme for workers in the informal labour sector

2164. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is readying the blueprint for a social security scheme that is specifically aimed as a safety net for workers in the informal labour sector;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the scheme envisages mandatory pension, insurance against disability, death and maternity coverage, along side optional medical and unemployment coverage;

(c) whether it is also a fact that consultations are on with States to bring them on board for part financing the scheme; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the scheme is likely to be launched in 2019?

Interest rate of EPF

†2165. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the rate of interest of Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) in each year for last five years and the factors and reasons responsible for present low rate of interest?

Centrally Sponsored Schemes including flagship programmes

2166. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) including flagship programmes being implemented at present; and

(b) the scheme-wise details along with the details of targets and allocations made, funds allocated, disbursed and utilized to these schemes during the past three years including present year, State/UT-wise?

Weekly Unemployment Allowance

2167. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of skilled and unskilled unemployed persons in each State of the country;

(b) whether on the lines of other countries of the world, Government is considering to provide weekly unemployment allowance to unemployed persons till they get the job; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

New labour code by amendment in existing labour laws

†2168. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV: SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

is moving towards bringing a new labour code by amending the provisions of existing labour laws;

(b) if so, the blue print thereof and by when the same will be introduced; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry is contemplating to make the labourers' interests/rights more flexible by amending the labour laws?

World Bank's Systematic Country Diagnostic for India

2169. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the World Bank, in draft Systematic Country Diagnostic for India, India needs to create salaried and regular jobs with growing earnings which is a rare privilege in India rather than self-employed one to join the global middle class by 2047;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of salaried and regular jobs created in the country during 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 till date, State-wise?

Measures to restore tourism glory of Kashmir

2170. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that now Kashmir is not among the top places attracting foreign tourists;

(b) the names of top ten tourist places visited by foreign tourists in 2017;

(c) the measures being taken to restore tourism glory of Kashmir and convincing those countries which are issuing advisories to their citizens for not visiting Kashmir, to not issue such advisories; and

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

Higher unemployment rate between 15-24 years age group

2171. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to International Labour Organisation (ILO) the unemployment rate in 15-24 years age group is much higher;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what has been the rate of unemployment in this age group between 2014 and 2017?

Hiring of private doctors to serve in ESI hospitals

2172. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to hire doctors engaged in private practice to serve in Government-run Employees' State Insurance (ESI) hospitals; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and outcome thereof?

47th Indian Labour Conference

2173. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has indefinitely deferred two day 47th Indian Labour Conference (ILC) which was scheduled for 26th and 27th February, 2018 due to protest from the Central Trade Unions of Country;

(b) if so, details of concerns communicated by the Central Trade Unions and Government's response thereto;

(c) whether Government proposes to call a meeting of the Central Trade Unions to resolve dispute and urgently reconvene; the ILC; and

(d) steps Government propose to take on the demand of Trade Unions on recommendations of 43rd, 44th and 45th ILCs especially on formulation of minimum wages and equal pay for equal work to contract labourers?

Salient features of NCS and MCC Schemes

2174. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details and salient features of the National Career Service (NCS) Scheme and Model Career Centre (MCC) Scheme;

(b) whether Government has received proposals from various State Governments for setting up Model Career Centres in their respective States;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon along with the funds allocated and utilised for

the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and

(d) the manner and extent to which NCS and MCC have benefited the job seekers in the country?

Low percentage of females in labour force

2175. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of female aged 15 years and above in our labour force is very low;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any target has been fixed for increasing this share;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether Government has taken any action?

Low share of females in secondary and tertiary sectors

2176. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether share of females aged 15 years and above in secondary and tertiary sectors is very low in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any target has been fixed for increasing this percentage;

(d) if so, the details therefor; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

**Postponement of Indian Labour
Conference meeting**

2177. SHRID. RAJA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Labour Conference (ILC) proposed to meet on 26th and 27th February, 2018 was postponed; and

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

Quarterly survey on employment

2178. SHRID. RAJA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the latest quarterly survey on employment done by Government, revealing that there has been a net addition of just 64,000 jobs across the eight core sectors between April and June, 2017 which is not enough even to take care of new entrants to the job market; and

(b) if so, the details of the survey report and Government's reaction thereto?

**Rehabilitation of rescued bonded
labourers in the country**

2179. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified regions in the country where bonded labour is still rampant;

(b) what measures were taken by Government for the rehabilitation of the bonded labour in these regions; and

(c) whether Government has taken any

initiative to connect the skill development initiative with the rehabilitation of rescued bonded labourers so that they can find suitable employment?

**Sharp decline in job offers in the
country**

2180. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a sharp decline in job offers during the current year across the country;

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

(c) the steps/measures taken by Government to generate more employment opportunities?

People employed in various sectors

2181. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people employed in various sectors during the last three years;

(b) how many people got new employment in each of these years;

(c) how many lost their employment during these years; and

(d) out of these how many were SC/ST women?

**Assistance for housing for Beedi
workers**

†2182. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

contribution has been sought for Chhattisgarh for Bonded Labour Rehabilitation Scheme and grant is sought for Beedi labourers housing scheme for Chaple in the District of Raigarh; and

(b) whether Central Government would provide assistance for the facilities of housing and healthcare to the persons from weaving society engaged in Beedi labour in village Pandarwani of District Dhamtari in Chhattisgarh?

Funds to States under PMEGP

†2183. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of funds allocated to various States including Maharashtra under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) each year in the last three years and during the current year;

(b) the total amount of funds sanctioned to various States, State-wise under PMEGP for establishing agro and rural industries during each year in the last three years; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government for further development of agro and rural industries and the State-wise number of villages likely to be benefited from it?

Plans to increase profitability of MSMEs

2184. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans

of implementing programmes to increase the profitability of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs); and

(b) whether Government has plans to ensure that the recent extension given by the RBI to MSMEs from 90 days to 180 days to make due payments does not lead to credit indiscipline?

Sentiment index, CriSidEx for micro and small enterprises

2185. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of how the new sentiment index, CriSidEx is expected to work to measure performance of micro and small enterprises;

(b) the parameters which the index shall take into account; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve investor sentiment around micro, small and medium enterprises?

Proposal to revive Khadi industries

2186. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to tie Khadi industries with retail chains and shop-to-shop marketing systems;

(b) if so, the details of plan thereof; and

(c) the proposal of Government to revive Khadi industries of the country along with handloom and village products thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Sick MSME units

2187. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of micro, small and medium units are sick in the country;

(b) if so, the number of people who have become unemployed and the number of families affected due to this; and

(c) the manner in which Government is planning to address this problem and help the sick units?

last three years, year-wise for import of oil and petroleum products from various countries, particularly UAE and Middle East countries;

(b) whether Government has inked any new MoU to own 10 per cent of oil wells in Abu Dhabi as well as with any other country in the Middle East;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure to be incurred for ONGC Videsh Ltd.;

(d) whether Government has chalked out any comprehensive strategy to reach self-reliance in oil and petroleum sector and to reduce import of oil and petroleum projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Beneficiaries under CLCSS

2188. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY:
Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) is lying almost dormant and the MSME entrepreneurs are not benefiting from it;

(b) if so, the total number of beneficiaries, State-wise under the said Scheme in the financial year, 2017-18; and

(c) the reasons for the dormancy of the said scheme?

Mandatory booking of LPG through online mode

2190. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether LPG booking in the country has been made mandatory through telephonic or online methods only;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any concession and exceptions have been extended to rural areas to book LPG on offline mode;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Expenditure on import of petroleum products

2189. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) total expenditure incurred during

Completion of refinery project at Kakinada

2191. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

has decided to establish a Greenfield Crude Oil Refinery and Petrochemical Complex at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) what is the present stage of the establishment of Greenfield Oil Refinery; and

(c) what is the role of Andhra Pradesh Government in the establishment of this refinery and what is the present stage and by when the project will be completed?

Domestic production of natural gas

2192. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is pushing natural gas production within the country to reduce dependence on imports;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to price regulation, natural gas business within the country is running out of steam;

(c) whether ONGC has incurred losses of more than ₹ 5,000 crore last year due to low prices; and

(d) in view of the above, why Ministry is not intervening and taking action to protect natural gas producers in the country?

Failure to control prices of petrol and diesel

†2193. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has failed to control the continuous increase in the prices of petrol and diesel

despite stability in the prices of crude oil in the global market;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by Government to control the prices of petrol and diesel so far?

Provision of subsequent refills of LPG cylinders

2194. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of people from the BPL category who were provided with free gas connection with one filled LPG cylinder and a gas stove;

(b) how does Government propose to provide subsequent refills of LPG cylinders for them to continue using the gas stoves;

(c) whether Government is planning to provide them with subsidized LPG cylinders, if so, the details of subsidy Government is proposing to provide; and

(d) if not, in what manner Government expects the BPL category people to continue using the gas stoves in future?

Reduction of taxes on petrol and diesel by States

2195. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is keeping close tabs on prices of petrol and diesel;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the diesel and petrol prices have soared to their highest level recently;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government has asked the States to reduce the taxes on petrol and diesel; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the number of States which have reduced their taxes on petrol and diesel?

Panel to lay down diesel use rules for tractors

2196. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has set up a panel to lay down diesel use rules for tractors in the country;

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

(c) whether the said panel has submitted its report and if so, the outcome/ recommendations thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by when the panel will submit its report?

Cancellation of licences of defaulter petrol pumps

2197. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry, in coordination with State Governments is again going to take strict action to ensure zero tolerance in respect of cases of fleecing of consumers by some petroleum product dealers, who by manipulating electronic meters supply lesser quantity of petroleum products against full payment; and

(b) the State-wise number of such cases that came in light during the last two years along with the action taken in each case, including those, whose licenses have been cancelled?

Unveiling of new Biofuel Policy

2198. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is in the process of unveiling a new Biofuel Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and salient features of the proposed policy;

(c) the amount of money that the oil PSUs spent during the last three years on R&D on biofuels; and

(d) whether Government is contemplating setting up of ethanol plants in various parts of the country so that public transport runs on biofuels, as has been done in Nagpur where 50 buses are already running on 100 per cent biofuels?

Sharing of Aadhaar data of LPG consumers for DBT in Kerosene

2199. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) when does Government propose to share Aadhaar data of LPG consumers with State Governments for Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) in Kerosene;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

New LPG connections under instalments

2200. SHRI VEER SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating any scheme to provide new LPG connection to its customers on instalments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Introduction of BS-VI fuel

2201. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BS-VI fuel can play a vital role in reducing vehicular pollution in cities, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) by when the BS-VI fuel will be introduced all across the country, including Odisha?

Subsidy under the PAHAL Scheme

†2202. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several consumers could not get the benefit of direct cash transfer under the PAHAL Scheme, if so, the State-wise number thereof;

(b) the details of steps taken by Government to provide subsidy to such consumers;

(c) the details of per annum total subsidy provided on domestic LPG from 2014 to 2017; and

(d) the total revenue saved through decline in prices of crude oil at international level and subsidy being given on domestic LPG and 'Give it up' campaign along with the details thereof?

Subsidy on diesel/PDS Kerosene/LPG

2203. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of subsidy given on retail sale of diesel, PDS Kerosene and LPG during the last three years and the current year along with the steps being taken by Government to reduce fuel subsidy in the country;

(b) the number of people who have given up their LPG subsidy under the 'Give it up' scheme and quantum of subsidy saved as a result thereof, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the number of new subsidised/free of cost LPG connections provided to BPL/poor/needly people in the country particularly in rural areas during the said period, State/UT-wise?

Waiving of VGF requirement for Kakinada petrochemical project

2204. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether uncertainty looms over the Kakinada mega petrochemical project, as reported in a section of the media;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Government is insisting that the State Government must pay upfront towards Viability Gap Funding (VGF); and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether the Central Government is willing to waive the VGF requirement since the Kakinada project which has been mandated under Schedule XIII of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014?

Approval for extension of discovered small field policy

2205. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has approved for extending the discovered small field policy to identified 60 discovered small fields/un-monetised discoveries for offer under the discovered small field policy bid Round-II;

(b) whether it is also a fact that out of these, 22 fields/discoveries belong to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited, five belong to Oil India Limited and 12 are relinquished fields/discoveries from the New Exploration and Licensing Policy (NELP); and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Increasing target for connections under PMUY

2206. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has increased the target for the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) to eight crore from the earlier five crore connections;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the deadline for achieving the target is the year 2020; and

(c) what is the total number of beneficiaries covered under the said Yojana as on date since its launch?

Acquisition of HPCL by ONGC

2207. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ONGC has tied up over ₹ 18,000 crore loan from three banks to part finance its ₹ 36,915 crore acquisition of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL);

(b) the total amount receivable by Government from ONGC for Government's stake in HPCL;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this would be ONGC's biggest acquisition and second buyout this fiscal after its ₹ 7,738 crore acquisition of 80 per cent stake in Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation's KG basin gas block; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Extension of PMKVY to jail inmates

2208. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) has been extended to jail inmates lodged in different Central Jails;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) number of jail inmates who have been enrolled and trained in various trades during last two years;

(d) amount allocated for training of jail inmates during last two years;

(e) whether Government has taken steps for placement of jail inmates after obtaining skill development training;

(f) if so, the State-wise details thereof for the last two years; and

(g) the other steps taken by Government to train more jail inmates with the help of State Governments, industry and other voluntary organizations?

Skill training

2209. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people who were imparted skill training during the last three years;

(b) if so, in how many sectors of employment;

(c) how many have been absorbed by the dependent employers; and

(d) the total number of centres developed in the country during these years?

Low utilization of funds allocated for jobs and skill development

2210. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for under spending on jobs and skill development in 2017-18 by more than 28 per cent compared to its budgetary outlay of ₹ 4089 crores in 2017-18;

(b) the details of funds allocated for jobs and skill development, State-wise during the last four years, against actual demands of States, especially West Bengal;

(c) the rationale for increasing budgetary outlay for Pradhan Mantri

Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) in 2018-19, given such less utilization rate of funds; and

(d) the details of how and where Government proposes to use this increased outlay of PMKVY, along with its State-wise projected allocation for 2018-19?

Work undertaken through PMKVY and PMKKs in Kangra district

2211. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the work undertaken through Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras (PMKKs) in Kangra district in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the number of people from Kangra district in Himachal Pradesh benefited through PMKVY and PMKKs; and

(c) the works proposed to be undertaken in Kangra district under PMKVY and PMKKs along with the time by when these are likely to be started?

Accomplishments of private skill development training agencies

2212. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent on private sector skill development training agencies during the last three years;

(b) the targets set and accomplishments of these private skill development training agencies during the last three years; and

(c) the number of beneficiaries of these skill development programmes who have received employment?

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras in Chhattisgarh

‡2213. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras (PMKKs) in Chhattisgarh at present and district-wise details thereof;

(b) whether Government is considering to set up hostels for youths coming to rural areas for training;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether there is any plan to give priority to the skilled youths in employment in public and private sector and if so, the details thereof?

Steps to promote vocational education

2214. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps Government has taken to promote and encourage vocational education in the country;

(b) the number of students benefited from schemes like community colleges, community development through polytechnic for providing skill training to unemployed youth; and

(c) what is the impact of schemes like Employment Encouraging Training

Programme, National Employability Enhancement Mission and Deen Dayal Kaushal Kendras on the unemployed youth and the number of jobs created with those schemes, the details thereof?

Skill Development Centres in Haryana

2215. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Skill Development Centres (SDCs) set up in Haryana for development of skill and entrepreneurship among youths;

(b) the number of youths and the trades in which they have been trained in these centres;

(c) the number of youths provided jobs under the above scheme so far; and

(d) the total number of registered unemployed youths in Haryana and the steps being taken by the Central Government to provide job to them?

Employment under PMKVY in Bihar

‡2216. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is running several programmes to provide employment to the unemployed under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of districts in Bihar where programme under PMKVY is being run

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

and the number of unemployed who have been provided employment so far, the details thereof?

Consultations with stakeholders

2217. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has evolved any policy about taking the stakeholders' consultation while preparing new policies or guidelines pertaining to the Ministry and the Departments under the same;

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

(c) what has been the record of such consultations across the stakeholders during the last three years; the details about the national level organisations involved in such consultations and the key suggestions received in such consultations and accepted by the Ministry/Department during this period?

Disinvestment of RINL

2218. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is in the process of going for disinvestment of its share in RINL, Visakhapatnam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for disinvestment of RINL which is running in profits; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to protect the indigenous steel producing companies from adverse market conditions?

Low steel production by plants of SAIL

2219. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the steel production of various plants of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been far below their installed capacity during last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years for each of the plants installed capacity *vis-a-vis* actual production along with the reasons for poor performance; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to take all necessary steps to address all the bottlenecks which hamper full capacity utilization of the plants of SAIL?

India as a major destination for steel investors

2220. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is going to be a major destination for steel investors;

(b) whether it is also a fact that domestic steel companies have to sustain by being competitive;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many domestic steel companies were suffering from huge losses and have become bank loan defaulters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Reluctance of SAIL to invest in steel plants in Chhattisgarh

†2221. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether disinvestment of under

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

construction steel plant in Nagarnar in Chhattisgarh is proposed by NMDC and whether Government would reconsider it;

(b) whether there is a demand that the steel plant should remain as a public sector undertaking which is actually a demand of common people affected by naxalism; and

(c) whether Steel Authority of India Limited has expressed its reluctance to invest in Ultra Mega Steel Plant and Bastar Rail Private Limited in future, if so, whether Government would reconsider it?

**Promotion of Ayurveda for
international medical tourism in
Himachal Pradesh**

2222. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has included Ayurveda for international medical tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any steps have been taken/ proposed to be taken by Government to promote international medical tourism in Himachal Pradesh; and

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

**Promotion of tourism in Andhra
Pradesh and Telangana**

2223. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has announced several projects for promotion of tourism in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of tourism projects in these States during last three years and approximate cost of the projects and present stage of execution of the projects?

**Development of Punaora, Sitamarhi in
Bihar as a religious tourist spot**

†2224. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the birth place of Sita situated at Punaora in Sitamarhi district of Bihar is being developed as a religious tourist spot under the Ramayana Circuit and whether this work is scheduled to be completed within definite time-period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any proposal regarding demand from the Government of Bihar is pending with the Central Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, whether approval has been given to the proposal of demand or it is soon to be given?

**Major objective of Swadesh Darshan
Yojana**

†2225. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether one of the major objectives of Swadesh Darshan Scheme is to promote local arts, culture, handicrafts, food items, etc. for creation of livelihood opportunities in areas identified under the concept of poor-oriented tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the tourist spots identified under Swadesh Darshan Scheme in Mithila region of Bihar and whether development work of identified tourist spots is going on; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, whether the demand proposal has been approved or is soon to be approved?

Adventure tourism

2226. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has huge opportunity in adventure tourism; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government to boost adventure tourism in the country during the last three years including in Jharkhand?

Development of tourism in the country

2227. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning on accelerating tourism in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the places that are identified for development as tourist destination in the State of Andhra Pradesh, particularly in the Kurnool district; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Central Government to increase the inflow of foreign tourists and earn foreign exchange?

Promotion of tourism in Konkan region in Maharashtra

2228. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Konkan region *i.e.* the Western Ghats passing through Aurangabad and adjoining areas in Maharashtra have ample

opportunity for development of tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether any action plan has been drawn by Government for development of tourism therein;

(c) if action plan has been drawn, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action Government proposes to take to promote tourism in Konkan region and Aurangabad areas of Maharashtra?

Foreign tourist arrivals in States in 2017

2229. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of top three States where foreign tourists arrived in the year, 2017; and

(b) the assistance given by the Central Government to such States to make the tourist spots more attractive?

Development of heritage tourism

2230. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to the State Governments for development of heritage tourism during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether some State Governments have sent proposals to the Union Government to develop heritage tourism in their respective States;

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

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

Committee to explore further potential of tourism

‡2231. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has constituted a committee of experts and officers to explore further potentials of tourism in the States for earning more foreign currency, if so, when was the committee constituted;

(b) if not, whether Government will constitute such a committee which could give suggestions to harness fresh potentials of tourism in States; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Steps taken to attract more tourist arrivals

2232. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of tourists who visited India during the last three years;

(b) the estimate for tourist arrivals during 2018-19; and

(c) the steps being taken to attract more tourists to the country?

Consultation with stakeholders

2233. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has evolved any policy about taking the stakeholders'

consultations while preparing new policies or guidelines pertaining to the Ministry and the Departments under the same, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) what has been the record of such consultations across the stakeholders during the last three years, the details about the national level organisations involved in such consultations, what have been the key suggestions received in such consultations and accepted by the Ministry/Department during this period?

Establishing new stadiums for hockey with astro-turf

2234. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to establish new stadiums for hockey with astro-turf and other facilities especially for players in the rural areas of the country particularly in the State of Odisha;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether the number of existing stadiums are enough for the country?

Activities for youth in Hyderabad-Karnataka region

2235. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the activities for youths in the

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

country by Sports Authority of India/ Ministry;

(b) the details and number of its activities in Hyderabad-Karnataka region of Karnataka; and

(c) the amount spent in Karnataka and the amount spent on this under Article 371(J) in Hyderabad-Karnataka region?

Selection and training of participants for international sports competitions

‡2236. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the major sports for which there is a system of selection and training of the participants for international competitions including Olympics; and

(b) the effective methods in place and the measures taken for extending the reach of 'Khelo India' to students of schools and colleges and selecting sportspersons who are able to compete?

Pending applications for jobs on compassionate ground in SAI

2237. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 100 job applications on compassionate ground are pending with Sports Authority of India (SAI);

(b) if so, the number of applications pending under died-in-harness cases therein;

(c) whether, apart from 5 per cent quota or fulfillment of employment of dependents under the schemes, Government has any plan for their employment thereof; and

(d) the total number of vacancies with SAI since 2014 and action taken to fill up the posts therein?

Development of sports in rural areas

2238. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put in place a roadmap for development of sports and to encourage various sports in rural areas of Maharashtra and rest of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and in what manner Government proposes to assist the Governments of the States in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Establishment of sports infrastructure in Odisha

‡2239. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has made any efforts to establish basic sports infrastructure in Odisha;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount allocated by Government for this work till now and the details of basic infrastructure established?

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Construction of playgrounds at
panchayat level**

†2240. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:
Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government
has decided to construct a playground for

the youth at every panchayat level in the
country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of panchayats where
playgrounds have been constructed so far
and the number of playgrounds in Bihar
along with their locations, the details
thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 8th March, 2018
Phalgun 17, 1939 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

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