

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, March 5, 2018/Phalguna 14, 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

Manufacture of light weight bullet-proof jackets

†961. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to make light weight bullet-proof jackets;

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

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

Uniforms for Army personnel

962. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government, has started paying a fixed amount of money to Army personnel to buy their uniforms contrary to the previous arrangement, wherein they were provided with uniforms and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Army personnel have refused to accept cash allowance and demanded uniforms as per earlier practice; and

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

Supply of fake Chinese parts for Dhanush Guns

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

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that fake Chinese parts for Dhanush Guns, camouflaged as 'Made in Germany' are being supplied; and

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

Violations of LoC

964. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of countrywide breach of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Line of Control (LoC) in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Indo-Chinese border cannot be approached by the Indian Army; and

(c) if so, the details of such areas and reasons therefor?

Military power ranking of India

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

(a) whether it is a fact that India stands at 10th rank as regards military power, as compared to other countries;

(b) if so the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the status of military power of India in comparison to the developed and neighbouring countries?

Chinese military activity in Pakistan

966. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the opinion of the Ministry on the report of Pentagon, that China is setting up a military base in Pakistan;

(b) whether the Ministry is also aware of the fact that China has sent nuclear submarines to Karachi in May last year;

(c) whether it is a fact that 'One Road One Belt' (OROB) and 'String of Pearls' are also part of China's grand objective to encircle India strategically; and

(d) if so, what counter plans does the Ministry have to protect the country?

Terror attacks on Army camps

†967. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that terrorists entered and attacked family quarters of Sunjuwan army camp on 10th February, 2018;

(b) whether it is also a fact that terrorists again attacked security forces camp in Karan Nagar area of Srinagar, on 12th February, 2018;

(c) whether a number of incidents of terrorist attacks on security forces camps have taken place during last three years;

(d) whether concrete steps have been taken by the Government to prevent terrorist attacks; and

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

Chinese military deployment in Doklam

†968. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that satellite images have revealed that China has constructed seven helipads in Doklam and tanks and missiles have been stationed there;

(b) whether China can use them against India;

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

(d) whether Government has held talks with the Chinese Government regarding this and the outcome thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Recruitment of pilots in armed forces

969. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure of filling up the post of pilots in Armed Forces;

(b) the total number of sanctioned posts of pilots in the Armed Forces of the country along with the number of pilots actually working and the number of posts lying vacant, as on date;

(c) whether the Defence Forces are facing shortage of pilots;

(d) if so, whether any review has ever been made in regard to the reasons for this shortage of pilots;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of measures being adopted by Government in this regard?

Establishment of Missile Production Unit in Anantapur

970. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken up the establishment of Missile Production Unit in Kambalapalli Village of Anantapur District in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the status of the project as on date; and

(d) the reasons for the delay, even after the State Government has allotted the land required for the construction of the unit and the details thereof?

Measures to enhance coastal security

971. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether external threat to the country through sea routes has increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has reviewed the system in place for coastal security and if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(d) whether Government proposes to acquire modern equipments, including radars for coastal security/monitoring and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other measures taken/being taken by Government to strengthen the coastal/ maritime security in the country?

Rescue operations for Tamil Nadu fishermen

972. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether search operations were conducted by naval forces to find out missing fishermen from Tamil Nadu after Ochki cyclone;

(b) if so, the number of Tamil Nadu fishermen rescued, during the operation;

(c) whether the search operation was stopped, even though the whereabouts of a large number of fishermen were not known; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Foreign participation in defence production under 'Make in India' programme

973. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals to establish defence production units of foreign companies under 'Make in India' programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the shares of any public sector defence unit or units as a whole have been sold to private units or are in the process of being sold and if so, details thereof?

Projects discontinued closed by DRDO

974. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of projects that have been discontinued by the DRDO during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for the decision to discontinue or close these projects;

(c) the total amount of expenses that had been incurred on these closed/ discontinued projects, project-wise; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that the discontinuation and cancellation of projects are taken at an early stage, if not avoidable?

Infrastructure Development by Military Engineering Service

975. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of infrastructure development projects in the State of

Jharkhand under the Eastern Command of Military Engineering Services;

(b) number of new infrastructure development projects completed in the State of Jharkhand and in the other eastern States in the last three years; and

(c) the details of new infrastructure development projects in eastern India including Jharkhand?

Reforms in the Indian Army to enhance combat capability

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

(a) whether Government intends to carry out major reforms in the Indian Army to enhance its combat capability based on recommendations of a Committee headed by Lt. Gen. D.B. Shekatkar;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the recommendations made by the said Committee;

(c) the action taken/being taken by Government for implementing these recommendations; and

(d) the time by which these recommendations will come into effect?

Closure of road in AOC area, Secunderabad

977. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to close Gough Road, in Army Ordinance Corps (AOC) area, in Secunderabad of Telangana State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is aware that due to closure of this road, residents are being put to severe hardship as it is an important connecting road?

MMRCA Tender Process

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

(a) whether Dassault Aviation (DA) was determined to be L-1 in the Request For Proposal (RFP) for the Medium Multi-Role Combat Aircraft competition (MMRCA);

(b) whether this determination was based on life-cycle costs;

(c) whether the costs under DA's response to the RFP were reconsidered in 2015 or at any other time;

(d) whether life-cycle cost under the Eurofighter-Typhoon RFP response was lower than DA's 2015 RFP costs;

(e) whether Eurofighter-Typhoon coalition approached after the MMRCA RFP had been withdrawn;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the details therefor?

Closure of Ordnance Factory, Bhandara

979. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country's only Ordnance Factory producing Single Base Propellant at Bhandara Maharashtra, is on the verge of collapse; and

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

Investments in Ordnance Factories and DPSUs

980. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has decided, not to make any further investments in Ordnance Factories and Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) if so, whether the decision would not harm the interests of the Ordnance Factories and the DPSUs;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Escalation in ceasefire violations

981. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an escalation in ceasefire violations along the Line of Control on Indo-Pak border,

(b) if so, the number of violations from January, 2018 onwards; and

(c) steps taken by Government to protect the lives of civilians and jawans along the border?

Ceasefire violations by Pakistan

982. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ceasefire violations by Pakistani troops are increasing and whether terrorists and their handlers are creating various challenges within the country by adopting new tactics; and

(b) if so, details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

Modernisation of Ordnance Factories

983. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any modernisation of the six Ordnance Factories located in the State of Tamil Nadu recently;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) details of amount spent on modernisation of the Ordnance Factories located in the State of Tamil Nadu?

Establishment of Sainik/Rashtriya Military Schools

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

(a) the details of the scheme to establish Sainik Schools and Rashtriya Military Schools in the country including the aims and objectives thereof;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to establish Sainik Schools in all the States and provide certain percentage of defence budget for this purpose, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of proposals for establishment of Sainik Schools from various States, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra?

Private participation in ABWs

985. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has decided to allow private firms to operate all the Army Base Workshops (ABWs);

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

(c) the steps taken by Government to enhance combat capability and rebalance the defence expenditure of the armed forces?

Casualties due to cross border ceasefire violations

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

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of ceasefire violations, incidents of terrorist activities/ cross border infiltration and attacks on army jawans as well as on civilians reported during the last year at India-Pakistan Border particularly in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) the number of personnel of army, Border Security Force, Jammu and Kashmir Police and civilians killed and injured in these activities during the said period;

(c) the retaliatory action taken by Government against these activities; and

(d) the details of assistance provided/ being provided to the families of martyred soldiers and the steps taken/being taken to strengthen the Army?

Indigenous DRDO defence project

987. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has indigenously built, air-defence and anti-tank missiles, which used to be imported, during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its future production plans; and

(c) amount of foreign exchange likely to be saved as a result of this production plan?

Roads constructed along LAC

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

(a) length of roads which have been constructed by Government along the LAC per year for the past three years to improve connectivity and accessibility;

(b) number of roads which were commissioned to the BRO;

(c) length of road construction which have been delayed and in which areas and the reasons therefor; and

(d) measures which have been taken to ensure steady supply of essentials like food and ammunition to the troops posted in remote locations?

Construction of road along the China border

†989. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

is considering construction of roads along the China border;

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

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

Status of National Military Memorial Project

990. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the National Military Memorial Project in New Delhi;

(b) whether work on the National Military Memorial has started;

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

(d) the timeline for completion of this project?

Implementation of OROP

991. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of decisions taken by Government for the grant of One Rank One Pension (OROP) for the Armed Forces and since when it has been implemented;

(b) whether it is a fact that military retirees have again decided to continue their peaceful protest from Jantar Mantar, urging Government to provide for approved and promised OROP in its entirety; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Violation of LoC by Chinese Army

992. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chinese Army has violated line of control in the eastern sector of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what measures Government intends to take to check such violations by China?

Compliance with SC order on benefits to soldiers/veterans

993. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will consider withdrawing pending appeals against cases of disability pension/benefits of soldiers/veterans following its latest order complying with the Hon'ble Supreme Court order of 3rd July, 2013;

(b) if so, the timeline by which the appeals will be withdrawn; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Open Defecation Free

†994. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a target to make 15 States/Union Territories Open Defecation Free by March, 2018;

(b) whether it is targeted to make entire country Open Defecation Free by October, 2019;

(c) whether a survey is being conducted by Quality Council of India as regards the

work related to construction of toilets under Swachh Bharat Mission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Allocation of funds for construction of toilets

995. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of toilets which have been constructed by Government in various States of the country during the last three years under the Swachh Bharat Mission, State-wise;

(b) amount which has been allocated and spent for construction of toilets, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has fixed any target of construction of number of toilets throughout the country; and

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

Collaboration with foreign countries for water management

996. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any pact and collaboration with foreign countries for better water management, including provision of pure drinking water and better sanitation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) amount of fund allocated and expenditure incurred during the last two years for various programmes on water conservation in the country?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Funds disbursed under drinking water scheme

†997. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) State-wise details of the totally covered areas, partially covered areas and quality affected areas as regards drinking water in the country including Uttar Pradesh;

(b) State-wise details of the funds disbursed and utilised under drinking water schemes during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether Government has reviewed the performance of drinking water schemes and if so, the details and outcome thereof, State-wise; and

(d) whether Government has fixed any time-limit for providing safe drinking water to all households in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Setting up of Institute of Sanitation and Hygiene

998. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to refer to answer to unstarred question 2004 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 2014 and state:

(a) the updated status of the feasibility study initiated by Government for setting up of a National Level Institute of Sanitation and Hygiene in the country;

(b) by when this feasibility study is expected to be completed and the Research Centre would start its operation; and

(c) whether Government has received any representation to set up this Institute

in Gujarat, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Fluoride affected habitations in Warangal

999. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the Integrated Management Information System, 370 rural habitations have been identified as Fluoride affected in Warangal district in Telangana in 2012-13;

(b) if so, the details of habitations;

(c) what efforts the Ministry has made to make them Fluoride-free habitations; and

(d) the details of technical and financial assistance provided to the State Government to deal with the above problem?

Allocation of budget for SBM

1000. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Swachh Bharat Mission is only a renamed policy, Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan that was earlier started by the previous Government, if so, the details thereof including budget allocation then and now;

(b) whether it is a fact that total sanitation coverage throughout India has risen to 57.56 per cent, up from 42.02 per cent in October 2, 2014 and if so, year-wise details, since 2014 till date;

(c) whether the previous Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

was running the same programme without cess, reasons which made present Government to introduce Swachh Bharat cess; and

(d) State/UT-wise details regarding collection and utilisation of Swachh Bharat cess?

Supply of safe drinking water

1001. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that safe drinking water is still not available in many remote areas of the country, particularly in Assam and other North Eastern States;

(b) if so, whether Government has identified those areas, where safe drinking water is scarce; and

(c) whether Government has finalised any action plan for provision of safe drinking water in every village in the country in a time-bound manner and if so, the details thereof?

Indigenous method of purifying of drinking water

1002. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any indigenous method for purifying drinking water; and

(b) what is the cost of the said method and whether any experiment has been done in the country?

Funds for sanitation and drinking water in Chhattisgarh

†1003. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allocated funds for the sanitation and drinking water projects in Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the year-wise and State-wise funds allocated during the last two years; and

(c) whether Government has reviewed the ongoing projects in the country and if so, the result thereof?

Treatment of groundwater

1004. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made use of or proposes to use renewable energy sources for pumping and treatment of groundwater in order to make it drinkable in rural Maharashtra; and

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

Opening of offices of Meteorological Department

†1005. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) by when would the Government be able to implement its scheme to open Meteorological offices in each district of the country to ensure that farmers easily get accurate information about weather;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) total amount that is estimated to be sent on this scheme for establish of centres of meteorological department in every district of the country;

(c) whether Government is considering or has already considered to fix any time limit to establish them completely in the entire country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Expeditions to Antarctica

1006. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that expeditions to Antarctica have increased during the last three years, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of persons and their qualifications who have gone on these expeditions;

(c) the details of the base station in Antarctica, that is functional; and

(d) whether during the last three years, any specific task has been assigned to the research team going to Antarctica on regular basis, if so, the details thereof along with expenditure incurred?

Investment in Deep Sea Mission

1007. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to invest ₹ 10,000 crores in Deep Sea Missions, if so, the details thereof;

(b) how Government proposes to utilize the 2.4 million sq. km. of Exclusive Economic Zone; and

(c) whether the expertise of foreign companies will be invited for collaboration

with Indian companies for the Deep Sea Mission?

GEAC recommendation on growing GM Mustard

1008. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to take action against farmers using herbicides on GM Mustard;

(b) whether it is a fact that the sub-committee of Generic Engineering Appraisal Committees (GEAC) has drafted several recommendations on GM mustard, before it approved the crop for commercial release in May this year;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the anti-GM activists allege that in the case of BT cotton, Government's record of ensuring adherence to recommendation has been very poor; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Sewage generated in urban areas in Andhra Pradesh

1009. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sewage generation in urban areas in Andhra Pradesh is 2,800 million litre per day (mld), but installed treatment capacity is 247 mld, which is not even 10 per cent of sewage generated;

(b) whether it means that untreated sewage flows into rivers and other water bodies and is creating health hazards;

(c) how the Ministry looks at this and how is it going to help AP which is unable to deal with sewage generated in urban areas;

(d) whether any study has been done with regard to rural areas of AP; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Restriction of per coke and furnace oil

1010. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to restrict pet coke and furnace oil in order to curb pollution in highly polluted areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Forest clearance approvals for Palamuru and Kaleshwaram Projects

1011. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any representation from the delegation of MPs and Irrigation Minister of Telangana seeking early forest clearance approvals for various irrigation projects including Palamuru and Kaleshwaram irrigation projects in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) time by which these clearances would be accorded?

Environmental clearance for projects

1012. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the past, MOEF-Environment Clearance (EC) was required for development projects;

(b) whether it is a fact that while granting these clearances, certain conditions were imposed on the projects proponents;

(c) whether Government had an agency to monitor the fulfilment of these environmental clearance conditions;

(d) whether Project proponents did not fulfil certain conditions; and

(e) what action Government proposes to take against project proponent for having handing over flats to purchasers without having fulfilled the conditions of the environmental clearance, especially in residential projects?

Allocation of funds for Manas National Park

1013. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) amount of funds allocated and released by the Central Government for the development of Manas National Park during the last two years;

(b) whether State Government has utilized these funds and submitted Utilization Certificate to Central Government; and

(c) what steps has Central Government taken for enhancing the security apparatus of the park?

Preservation of rhinoceros

1014. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government for the preservation of rhinoceros in the Kaziranga National Park, especially with regard to the problem of poaching;

(b) the amount of funds which have been allocated and released by Government, for Kaziranga National Park during the last two years; and

(c) whether Government is considering to take initiative for conservation of rhinoceros under 'Project Rhino' on the lines of 'Project Tiger' and if so, the details thereof and if not, whether it is not desirable to do so?

Death of tigers

1015. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 560 tigers deaths during the last six years, the cause of death in almost 45 per cent of them were unnatural;

(b) how severe is the impact of the causes of such unnatural deaths, on the growth of the numbers of tigers; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to check the causes of unnatural deaths of the tigers in the country?

Deforestation by public/private enterprises

1016. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government maintains details of deforestation being carried out by Public and Private enterprises, if so, details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of schemes proposed by Government for the protection of the forests;

(c) whether it is also a fact that courts have issued notices/directions/observations/orders on rampant deforestation in the country, State/UT-wise details thereof; and

(d) the details of action taken by Government against Public and Private enterprises responsible for deforestation?

Plantation of trees along highways/ railways tracks

1017. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced a scheme in the country for plantation of trees along the highway sides and vacant areas by the side of railways tracks;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated under the scheme, State-wise including Himachal Pradesh;

(c) whether Government has issued any advisory to State Governments to include tribal people or forest dwellers in tree plantation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by Government to increase the forest cover in the country?

Vedic method of environment conservation

†1018. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether vedic method of environment conservation would be the best measure for India for preventing the risks of rapid climate change arising due to environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether required research work is being carried out on the vedic method of environment conservation; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

Report on toxic thermal paper

1019. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any study report on toxic thermal paper used as business receipts throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed by Government therein;

(c) whether it is a fact that high level of health damaging Bisphenol-A (BPA) has been found in such papers; and

(d) whether Government proposes to ban use of BPA in thermal papers as in other countries?

Measures and policies for tackling climate change

1020. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures and policies formulated by the Ministry to tackle climate change;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the budget allocated for the year 2018-19 to implement the policies; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Reserved forests in Manipur

1021. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of reserved forests in Manipur, district-wise;

(b) whether any afforestation programmes, schemes and projects were carried out with the Central financial assistance in the State during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with their corresponding funding and the details of achievements thereof?

Shifting of AWBI headquarters

1022. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had shifted the headquarters of Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) recently from Chennai to a village in Haryana;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the decision to shift the headquarters was taken by the Board unanimously and the details incidental thereto?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Notification of Ecologically Sensitive Areas

1023. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received any representation from six States viz., Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat as regards increasing the Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA) beyond 56,825 sq. km., pursuant to Government's draft notifications issued on 10.03.2014, 4.9.2015 and 27.2.2017;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) Government's response to the views expressed by these States?

Awareness programme to reduce noise level

1024. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the average level of noise pollution generally exceeds permissible limits in seven Indian cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that advisories have been issued for noise monitoring on various occasions; and

(d) whether Government is considering to undertake awareness programme to reduce the noise level in cities and towns?

Combating air pollution in Delhi

1025. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST

AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has made any decision to combat air pollution in Delhi; and

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

Expenditure on Green Skill Development Programme

†1026. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Green Skill Development Programme is being run by the Central Government with an aim to extend the scope of afforestation and green area;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Green Skill Development Programme is being financed adequately and as per the requirement; and

(d) if so, the State-wise expenditure made till now under this programme and the details of achievement made thereof?

Setting up of Heritage Livestock Farm in Telangana State

1027. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India has received any proposal from Government of Telangana for establishment of Heritage Livestock Farm in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of the proposal as on date?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Efforts to address air pollution

1028. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has development a plan to support efforts of Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab to address air pollution, if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

(b) the details of funds allocated for this purpose in budget;

(c) whether Government is cognisant of the fact that air pollution is not limited to some parts of the country and is a national crisis, if so, why the attempt to address the same is limited to a few States only, without any focused efforts; and

(d) whether Government plans to implement any recommendations given in Economic Survey to address this problem?

Sale of GM cotton seeds

1029. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allowed sale of herbicide tolerant GM cotton seeds in India;

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

(c) whether cases have come to the notice of Government where companies have illegally sold prohibited GM cotton seeds to farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any such case of sale of prohibited GM cotton seeds to farmers has been reported from Rajasthan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken against the delinquent company?

Amount sanctioned under NPCA

1030. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any IIT, Roorkee approved Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of late from Department of RUIDP/NLCP, Rajasthan for sanction, under National Plan of Conservation for Aquatic Eco-System (NPCA);

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government intends to sanction an amount of ₹ 56.72 and ₹ 10.04 crores for Conservation and Sustainable management of Udaisagar and Goverdhan Sagar Lakes in Udaipur under National Plan of Conservation for Aquatic Eco-system (NPCA) respectively?

Protection of Western Ghats in Kerala

1031. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Wayanad, an area of Western Ghats in Kerala, which used to have profuse rains annually, is facing severe draught conditions for the past few years;

(b) whether the Ministry has developed any plan to protect the flora, wild animals and also human beings dependent on it;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has prepared a long term plan of action to avoid irreparable damage to such areas and living beings considering the trend in wide variation in availability of rains?

Death of wild animals

1032. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wild animals including leopards killed during the last three years in the country, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for high number of killings of wild animals;

(c) whether Wildlife Protection Society of India and experts advised the need to focus on keeping the animals in forest; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Ministry to protect wild animals?

NDZ in Kaziranga National Park

1033. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proposed project by Numaligarh Refinery Ltd. (NRL) for the production of Bioethanol under the project at Owguri Chapori village in Golaghat (Assam), falls within the National Development Zone (NDZ) of Kaziranga National Park;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that proposed project has not been placed before the Task Force Committee constituted by Assam Government for implementation of the NDZ notification?

Water consumption by thermal power plants

1034. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rules on water consumption by thermal power plants have been relaxed in 2017;

(b) whether efficient power plants have been consuming as little as two cubic meter of water per megawatt-hour of electricity generation; and

(c) if so, the reasons for amending the rules whereas it was possible to meet the said standard through the rules set earlier?

Functioning of PIB

1035. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has performed any review of the functioning of the Press Information Bureau (PIB);

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

(c) whether Government has taken any follow up action to tighten the functioning of the PIB; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Seats in film education institutions

1036. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the film education institutions such as Film and Television Institute of India (FTTI) and

other private film institutes have a very low number of seats in their courses, especially the technical courses;

(b) if so, the details details and the reasons for maintaining such low number of seats;

(c) whether Government would consider to increase the number of seats in these film institutes; and

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

False advertisements in Media

†1037. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is allowing the publication and broadcast of almost all the advertisements published in the newspapers and displayed on TV, despite their being false;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the rules to publish and broadcast any type of advertisements in the newspapers and on TV; and

(d) whether Government has any institution to regulate the advertisement published through the concerned media?

Bauxite mining in notified areas

†1038. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bauxite is being explored/ mined in the notified areas of the country including Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the agencies that have been awarded contracts for the same;

(c) the quantities of Bauxite mined from the Chhattisgarh State during the last three years;

(d) whether Government has taken the opinion of State Government in the matter related to the conservation of Bauxite, if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government for the conservation of Bauxite?

Auctioning of mineral blocks

1039. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Governments have informed the Central Government that 100 mines could be auctioned by December, 2015, and only 29 mines have been auctioned till now;

(b) if so, the problems faced by the State Governments in the auction of the mines and the steps taken by the Central Government to resolve these problems; and

(c) whether Government is in the process of amending the Mineral Auction Rules, 2015 and if so, the details thereof?

Mineral blocks in the country

1040. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the mineral blocks along with the cumulative reserves available in the mines of the country, indicating each of the mineral reserves and quantity available thereof, State-wise;

(b) the number of mineral blocks which have already been auctioned between the years 2014 and 2017, including mineral blocks auctioned, quantity of sale proceeds received the details thereof; year-wise;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the number of mineral blocks which are planned to be auctioned in the next 2-3 years, the details thereof mineral-wise and quantity-wise; and

(d) the amendments which have been made in auction rules of the minerals details thereof?

Economic empowerment of Gram Panchayats

†1041. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether sufficient steps have been taken for the economic empowerment of the Gram Panchayats after NDA Government came to power in the Centre in 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the States have used the financial assistance provided by the Central Government for the development of the Gram Panchayats as desired, during the last three years; and

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

Discretionary funds for Panchayats

†1042. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to provide discretionary funds to panchayats representatives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not providing discretionary funds to panchayat representatives, district council members and block representatives for development in the country till now?

Utilisation of funds for Panchayati Raj Schemes

1043. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds earmarked for Panchayati Raj System are being utilised after converting small schemes into major schemes;

(b) the amount of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized for backward areas during the last three years, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether any target has been fixed for utilizing funds under the scheme in districts identified for the purpose; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to ensure full utilization of funds in Panchayati Raj Scheme?

Information Kiosks in Kerala

1044. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up Information Kiosks in Gram Panchayats for enabling Information Technology related Services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and number of kiosks set up in Kerala and fund provided for this purpose during the last three years?

Construction of Panchayat Ghar/ Bhawans in Kerala

1045. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Panchayat Ghar/ Bhawans constructed during 2014-15,

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

2015-16 and 2016-17 in Kerala State with Central assistance;

(b) the details of budgetary allocation and amount sanctioned to Kerala State during the last three years; and

(c) whether the assistance given to Kerala State has been curtailed or has diminished during the last three years, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

**Bridge on river Ganga from
Bakhtiarpur to Tajpur**

†1046. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision was taken for construction of a bridge on river Ganga from Bakhtiarpur to Tajpur;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this bridge was stipulated to be completed by the year 2016;

(c) the reason for not constructing this bridge so far;

(d) whether this bridge is not being constructed for lack of funds; and

(e) the amount allocated for construction of this bridge in the budget 2018-19 and the time by which it would be ready after construction, the details thereof?

**Loss in national income due to road
fatalities**

1047. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that reducing road fatalities by half in India and keeping it at

the same level till 2038 could generate additional national income of about ₹ 17.64 lakh crore;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India has the dubious distinction of maximum road deaths which was 1.51 lakh in 2016; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Deaths due to road accidents on
Mumbai to Pune National Highway**

1048. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mumbai to Pune National Highway has claimed many lives on account of road accidents;

(b) if so, the details of persons who lost their lives during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry to find out the lacunae on this stretch and reduce the number of accidents?

Compensation for land acquisition

1049. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has put a cap on payment of administrative charges to States for helping in land acquisition for highways projects at 2.5 per cent of the total compensation amount, in its bid to end arbitrary fixing of these charges;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has told the State Government that if they do not accept the capped norm, it will be difficult for highway building

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

agencies to take up projects in their territory; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Violation of safety norms by school bus drivers

1050. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during surprise checks of the drivers of the school buses, violations of the norms of alcohol limits for driving were found;

(b) whether the Ministry would consider making it mandatory for school management to ensure that drivers of buses, clear Alco-meter test, before leaving the school with the bus to pick up/drop the children;

(c) if so, how does the Ministry propose to implement such measures for the safety of the school children; and

(d) the action would the Ministry propose against the bus drivers/school management, in case of violation?

Deaths in road accidents

1051. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India accounts for more than 2,00,000 deaths per year, due to road accidents, and if so, details thereof;

(b) the details of measures taken to check accidental deaths; and

(c) the steps taken to stringently enforce road safety laws?

Rehabilitation of old bridges in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

1052. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are more than 750 bridges in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, requiring major repairs or rehabilitation;

(b) if so, the details of bridges, district-wise and State-wise;

(c) the steps taken to carry out major repairs or rehabilitation of above bridges; and

(d) the expenditure expected to be incurred and by when they are likely to be fully repaired/rehabilitated?

Incident Management System of NHAI

1053. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of funds which would be allocated to Incident Management System proposed by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) the number of ambulances, Government is planning to buy for the said system; and

(c) by when, Government is planning to implement the proposal?

Parking problem in Metro cities

1054. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that day-to-day

parking problems are increasing in metro cities, including, Delhi and Mumbai;

(b) whether Government has any plan to get rid of this problem;

(c) the number of illegal parking in the metropolitan cities; and

(d) whether Government has taken any action to stop illegal parking?

Compensation for land acquisition for road projects

1055. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms laid down by Government to widen the existing highways and compensation to the land owners for the purpose;

(b) whether there is any proposal to hike compensation to land owners who have not accepted the compensation though their land was acquired/utilized for the above purpose;

(c) whether instructions have been issued to all the agencies to pay higher compensation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Security on National Highways

1056. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that highways in the country are not being maintained, resulting in frequent accidents on highways;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been

undertaken on the condition of the highways;

(d) whether Government has received any complaints about the poor maintenance of the highways by any State Government, if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government on such complaints;

(e) whether the Supreme Court of India has directed Government to rectify the defects and increase the Highway Security; and

(f) the steps being taken by Government and guidelines issued to reduce the accidents?

MoU for improvement of road transportation

1057. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and the United Kingdom (UK) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the improvement of road transportation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a delegation from UK visited the country to assess the road situation in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Corruption in licensing system

1058. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six out of every ten people get driving license, without giving a test in India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this has

been revealed in a survey conducted across the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the licensing system in India is corrupt and inefficient, while the mandatory driver training system is non-existent; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Achievement of target for construction of roads

1059. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the target for road works was short by 45 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that as against the target of construction of 15,000 km. and 25,000 km. for award, the road constructed was 8,144 km and works awarded was for 16,031 km. only during the year 2016-17; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Chennai-Tada National Highway Project

1060. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chennai-Tada National Highway Project has been languishing for many years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has explored any alternative way/method to complete this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Construction of new National Highways

1061. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any new initiatives for the development of new Express Highways and elevated roads for easing the traffic in major cities and strategically important cities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the list of such projects initiated during the last three years along with funding pattern;

(c) whether any comprehensive and innovative strategy has been adopted to address road traffic congestion and bottleneck at the strategic places in cities; and

(d) the total amount spent on these projects during the above period?

National Highway in the Sambhal District in UP

†1062. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of national highways passing through district Sambhal of Uttar Pradesh and the National Highway numbering thereof;

(b) whether construction of any other National Highway in the territory of district Sambhal in Uttar Pradesh is proposed; and

(c) the action taken to convert Sambhal-Joya road (29 km.) and Sambhal-Bahjoi road (22 km.) into a National Highway?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Proposals for multi-modal transport

1063. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an expression of interest, inviting proposals from million plus cities and special category States for multi-modal transport was issued by Government in 2017;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether under the said expression of interest, additional incentive was also proposed to augment charging infrastructure for public transport; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Allocation of funds for revamping roads in Assam

1064. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from Assam during the last two years or the current year for allocation of additional funds to the State Government to revamp the road transport system in the State;

(b) if so, the amount likely to be allocated to the State in this regard; and

(c) the other steps being taken and schemes being implemented by Government in this regard?

Construction of roads in naxal affected areas

†1065. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of ROAD

TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has formulated a special plan for the construction of roads in naxal affected States, if so, the details of the plan thereof;

(b) the provision of the total amount made under special plan for construction of road, the State-wise allotment from this amount, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of locations and the total number of roads proposed from special plan for construction of roads in naxal-affected district of Maharashtra State, district-wise?

Construction of 'by pass' road in Rajasthan

1066. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to construct a 'by-pass' road to avoid traffic congestion in Rajasthan on National Highways;

(b) whether the proposal has been included in the Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if so, number of new by-pass roads constructed in the State of Rajasthan during the last three years?

Construction of roads in naxal affected areas

†1067. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of naxal-affected districts for which Ministry has received proposals

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

for construction of roads, to connect them with all-weather roads in the habitations having population of 100 to 249 people under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) the details of costs involved in these proposals; and

(c) the present and actual position of these proposals?

Funds for Centrally Assisted Development Programmes

1068. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allocated adequate funds for the fully and partially funded Centrally Assisted Development Programmes in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) the total funds allocated to the various Rural Development projects in Maharashtra during the last three years, year and project-wise; and

(d) the details of the fully and partially funded Centrally Assisted Development Programmes implemented in the State during the said period, year and project-wise?

Wage payment under MGNREGA

1069. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the committee for revision of wages paid under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) has found that minimum agricultural wages are higher than MGNREGA wages in 15 States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that an upward revision in MGNREGA wage is estimated requiring a ₹ 4500 crore increase in its budget; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

MGNREGA for the development of rural economy

1070. SHRIMATI JAYABACHCHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the contribution of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act Scheme (MGNREGA) in the development of rural economy;

(b) the comparative details before and after the implementation of the said scheme, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether MGNREGA has failed to provide uniform contribution in all the States and whether this has increased the disparity among the States; and

(d) whether any efforts have been made to use MGNREGA funds for creation of rural assets such as drainage system, canal for irrigation, water harvesting system etc., and if so, the details thereof?

Prediction of coastal natural calamities

1071. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up Research Centres to study and predict earthquakes, high tides and floods, storms, cyclones and Tsunami to caution States and UTs for combating any such natural calamities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government has taken to provide timely warnings about high tide

and floods, storms, cyclones etc. to coastal Maharashtra and other coastal States in the country?

Connecting panchayats and villages under PMGSY in HP

1072. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently received proposals from Himachal Pradesh Government for connecting all panchayats and villages of the State under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for approval;

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

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

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

(e) if so, the details thereof, proposal-wise and if not, the reasons for pendency of the above proposals?

Funds allocated under PMGAY

1073. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated, sanctioned and utilized under the Pradhan Mantri Grameen Awas Yojana (PMGAY) during the last two years, State/UT-wise including Haryana;

(b) the number of people who have been sanctioned houses under the said Yojana during the said period, State/UT-wise;

(c) the details of the target set and achievements made thereunder so far along with the steps taken by Government to achieve the target set for building the houses; and

(d) the number of houses which are under construction at present?

Implementation of MGNREGA

1074. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sumit Bose Committee criticized implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for inadequate supervision, poor project completion rate and shoddy quality of asset creation;

(b) the other observations made by the Committee;

(c) the reasons as to why there is no qualified staff to implement and monitor engineering works under MGNREGA;

(d) performance of MGNREGA in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, year-wise and State-wise;

(e) the lacunae found by the Ministry and plans for addressing the same; and

(f) whether ₹ 55,000 crores is sufficient for the current year for MGNREGA?

Progress of works under PMGSY

1075. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress achieved so far in construction of roads, against their target especially in West Bengal, during last three

years under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that West Bengal is lagging behind in the construction of roads as reported by Standing Committee;

(c) if so, then the reasons thereof, and the measures taken to improve the construction of roads in West Bengal; and

(d) the number of implementing agencies established to achieve timely progress of works under PMGSY in last three years, State-wise?

Employment under MGNREGA

1076. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether while addressing the long felt need of the agriculture sector, Government has totally ignored the crucial role of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in implementing rural infrastructure projects by not providing for adequate budget allocations in the 2018-19 budget;

(b) whether MGNREGA would have staggered rural employment to an appreciable extent; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Status of SAGY

1077. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of implementation and achievements made under the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY);

(b) the bottlenecks in fully implementing the scheme;

(c) the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to rectify the same?

Performance of MGNREGA

1078. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of different States as regards Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in terms of amount of expenditure and the number mandays created; and

(b) the position of the State of West Bengal?

Construction of roads under PMGSY

†1079. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the districts of Uttar Pradesh from where Ministry has received proposals for construction of roads to connect with all weather roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b) the cost involved in such proposals, district-wise; and

(c) the present and actual position of these proposals?

Rural development scheme

1080. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: 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 proposed to construct 51 lakh houses for the poor in the coming year;

(b) whether any budgetary allocation been made to construct these 51 lakh houses; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the plans for construction of 51 lakh houses so as to achieve the target within one year?

Benefits from PMAY-G

1081. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the erstwhile Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) had been re-structured into Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Grameen (PMAY-G) with a view to pursue the objective of 'Housing for All by 2022' and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has conducted any study to assess shelterless population yet to be benefited by PMAY-G scheme, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the details of measures taken to eradicate the shelterlessness from the country by 2022?

Funds allocated under PMGSY

1082. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount allocated/sanctioned and utilized under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether Government has introduced any new criteria for development of roads under PMGSY;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government proposes to give a significant role to Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha or Lok Sabha) in selection of roads under PMGSY?

Development of highways and flyovers in Andhra Pradesh

1083. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to develop highways and flyovers in the State of Andhra Pradesh under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the proposals considered by Government to be taken up under PMGSY;

(c) the quantum of funds allocated and released so far; the details thereof; and

(d) whether any highways and flyovers have been identified and considered to be taken up under PMGSY in Kurmool District of Andhra Pradesh, if so the details thereof?

Acquisitions of Agricultural land holdings

1084. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large amount of agricultural land holdings have been acquired for non-agricultural purposes during the last three years; and

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

Funds allocated and construction of roads under PMGSY

†1085. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages with population between 100 to 250 people in hilly States of the country;

(b) whether all these villages have been connected with motorable roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, and by when the left out villages will be connected under PMGSY; and

(d) whether the villages have not been connected due to want of funds, and if not, amount provided from financial year 2014-15 to 2017-18 to States under PMGSY, year-wise details thereof?

Funds allocated under PMAY-G

1086. SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of households that have received financial assistance in 2017-18, under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Grameen (PMAY-G), State-wise, including the State of Odisha;

(b) the total number of houses constructed since inception of the scheme;

(c) the total number of beneficiaries who have availed loans for construction; and

(d) the details of the funds allocated under the scheme for the State of Odisha?

Funds for SAGY

†1087. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide additional allocation for water resources development facilities under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government also proposes to provide more amount for waste water recycling system under SAGY; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Pending payment under MGNREGA

1088. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the payment of more than ₹ 3600 crores is pending under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme;

(b) whether it is also a fact that few States are having negative balance;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government is taking to disburse the pending payments to the concerned States in a time bound manner?

Return of Indian scientists from abroad

1089. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of Indian origin scientists working

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

internationally and returning to India between 2012 and 2017 has jumped 70 per cent, from the year 2007 to 2012;

(b) whether it is a fact that this is primarily due to schemes introduced by Government and coordination by the Department of Biotechnology; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Linking S&T laboratories to the needs of the people

1090. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has evolved any policy regarding linking of science and technology related Government laboratories/establishments to the contemporary development needs of the lives of people, if so, the details of such policy, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether there is any practice of issuing an advisory to the Science and Technology establishments in the country to interact regularly with administrators, elected representatives, farmers, educationists and others to ascertain the emerging development needs of the people so as to link the research agenda to the same, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Introduction of double time zone in the country

1091. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating on introducing double time

zones in the country and a study is being conducted under the guidance of DST in this direction to look into the possibilities to double time zones in the country, keeping in view the difficulties faced in adopting single time zone, as there is much time difference between Eastern and Western parts of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stand of Government in this regard?

Expenditure on R&D in India

1092. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's gross research spending has consistently increased over the years, but the country's expenditure on Research and Development continued to be less than one per cent of its GDP while emerging economies, including China and Brazil, invest more under this head;

(b) whether it is a fact that most developed countries spent more than two per cent of their GDP on R&D;

(c) whether it is also a fact that India's spending was least among the BRICS nations; and

(d) if so, whether Government is considering to enhance the spending on R&D in the coming years?

Financial support for development of water transport

1093. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

has received ₹ 2,000 crore for development of water transport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that operationalising at least 10 of the 111 national waterways is on the top of Government's agenda; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Development of waterways transportation

1094. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has started integrated cargo transportation along multiple waterways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to give more stress towards waterways transportation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Financial assistance for NGOs in handicrafts

1095. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) State-wise names of non-Governmental entities, who are implementing skill development programmes for handicrafts with the financial assistance from Government; and

(b) the details of funds sanctioned to each of such entities and the names of respective Government agency which sanctioned such funds?

Promotion of online sales of khadi and Handloom products

1096. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the yearly sales from the online platform started by Government for khadi and other handloom products;

(b) the number of individual and small scale manufacturers using Government's e-Platform for the sale of their products;

(c) the details of the steps taken to promote online sales of khadi and handloom products; and

(d) the details of the steps taken to encourage individual and small scale manufacturers to use Government e-Platforms to sell their products?

CBI investigation in HHECIL

1097. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited (HHECIL) clubbed together the cases before the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) lodged in the years 2012-13 and 2013-14 with cases pertaining to the year 2014-15 and 2015-16 pertaining to import of gold by private Delhi-based firms;

(b) if so, what is the rationale/logic behind clubbing of dissimilar cases lodged in 2012-13 and 2013-14 with cases of 2014-15 and 2015-16; and

(c) whether CBI is investigating cases against firms pertaining to the Financial Year 2012-13 and Financial Year 2013-14 and if so, the details thereof?

**Establishment of urban handloom/
handicraft haat in Odisha**

†1098. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to establish urban handloom/handicraft haat in Odisha;

(b) if so, the details thereof and location-wise details of the amount allocated in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of urban handloom/handicraft haat functioning in Odisha at present, location-wise details thereof?

**Advanced training programme under
ISDS**

1099. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether trainers' pool proposed to be created by conducting advance training programme at the cluster level under the Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) is being implemented;

(b) the percentage and break-up of students enrolled under the said scheme, segment-wise, such as textiles and apparel, handicrafts, handlooms, jute, etc.; and

(c) the progress made so far by the scheme in achieving its targets to train fifteen lakh persons?

Closed textile mills in Karnataka

1100. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of textile

mills in the country and the number of mills which have closed down during the past three years and particularly post demonetisation;

(b) the number of those closed down mills in the Karnataka State;

(c) the number of employees of such mills in the State who have been rendered jobless; and

(d) whether Government proposes to rehabilitate such mill workers who have been rendered jobless in the Karnataka State?

**Scheme for Capacity Building in
Textile Sector**

1101. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched 'Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sectors';

(b) if so, the details of aims and objectives of the scheme together with financial allocations made therein; and

(c) whether providing jobs to the youths will form part of the scheme?

Schemes in textiles sector

1102. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn towards the existing problems being faced by people engaged in textiles sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details of schemes

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

introduced by Government to strengthen the said sector; and

(c) the estimated annual growth rate of the said sector?

Proposal to revive mills of NTC

†1103. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to revive the mills of National Textile Corporation (NTC) and if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard;

(b) whether Government proposes to introduce revival package for mills of NTC in Uttar Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to introduce any scheme for rehabilitation of current staff and workers of these mills; and

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

Darkening of Siang river

1104. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any complaint regarding unusual darkening of Siang river in Arunachal Pradesh, before meeting with Brahmaputra in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, whether Government has made any specific survey on the issue and the details thereof; and

(d) if so, action taken by Government to take up the matter with China at the bilateral level?

Water crisis in various parts of the country

1105. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether country's various parts are facing a water crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of projects started by Government during the last three years, including current year, for tackling this problem and the success achieved as a result thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether Government proposes to prepare a targeted work plan for permanent and efficient water conservation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Kaleshwaram project in Telangana

1106. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has cleared the Kaleshwaram project in Telangana State, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether environmental clearances were obtained for the project; and

(c) the proposed benefits from the project, funds required for completion of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

project and how the funds are being pooled for the project?

Cost escalation of Polavaram project

1107. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has agreed to bear the cost escalations of the Polavaram project beyond 1st April, 2014, as the Central Government has confined its liability on the project;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether the Central Government has unilaterally decided that the Andhra Pradesh Government will bear the cost escalations beyond 1st February, 2014; and

(c) whether there is any estimate for these escalations, if so, the component-wise escalated estimate thereof?

Disaster Management plan of Mullaperiyar dam

1108. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to set up a Special Committee to prepare a disaster management plan to deal with the safety of Mullaperiyar dam according to Supreme Court directions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Long Term Irrigation Fund

1109. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER

RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an additional ₹ 20,000 crore has been allocated to the Long Term Irrigation Fund as announced in the Union Budget, 2017-18;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the additional amount provided for the fund in 2017-18 alongwith the total corpus as on January, 2018; and

(d) the total amount released from the fund till January, 2018?

Funds collected under CGF

1110. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the donor-wise details of the total amount of funds collected under the Clean Ganga Fund (CGF) as of January, 2018; and

(b) the details of the programme for which the fund has been utilised by the National Mission for Clean Ganga?

Cleanliness of Ganga river

1111. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to clean the banks of the Ganga river during the last three years;

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

(c) whether Government has assessed

the impact of 'Namami Gange Project' on cleaning the Ganga river; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Water lost from unlined canals

1112. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of water is lost through seepage from the unlined canals in the country;

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

(c) the estimated quantum of loss of water due to seepage from the unlined canals during the last three years;

(d) whether Government has taken up any steps to address the issue, if so, the details thereof;

(e) the amount made available and utilised for the purpose during the last three years scheme/programme-wise alongwith the achievement made thereunder; and

(f) the other steps taken by Government for prevention of seepage of water from canals?

Installation of STPs under NGP

1113. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) installed under the Namami Gange Programme (NGP) during 2015-16 to 2017-18 in the States under the Ganga River Basin; and

(b) the details of the additional treatment capacity generated through the installed STPs?

Funds for NMCG

1114. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCE, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds released by Government for the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) programme between 2014-15 and 2017-18, year-wise;

(b) the details of the programme under which the funds have been utilised; and

(c) the reasons for the non-utilisation of funds, as pointed out in the latest CAG report?

Inter-linking of Cauvery-Vaigai-Gundar project

1115. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether inter-linking of Cauvery (Kattalai)-Vaigai-Gundar rivers has been finalised by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has fixed any time-frame for the project to inter-link Cauvery (Kattalai)-Vaigai-Gundar;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Rehabilitation of families displaced by Sardar Sarovar dam

1116. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of project affected families displaced as a result of construction of the Sardar Sarovar dam in Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat;

(b) how many times has the height of the dam been increased, the details thereof;

(c) the details of increase in displacement of project affected families due to increase in height of the dam, State-wise;

(d) the details of the number of these displaced families who have been rehabilitated and number of families who are yet to be rehabilitated; and

(e) the details of rehabilitation sites and services available at each site?

Fifth India Water Week

1117. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has observed Fifth India Water Week (IWW) recently, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the main theme of the event along with expenditure incurred for the said purpose;

(c) the number of Indian and foreign delegates who participated in the event along with achievement of the event;

(d) whether any such programme has been organised in the past in India;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the other steps taken by Government for conservation, prevention and optimum utilisation of available water resources?

Flood management by States

1118. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of lives lost due to floods in India during the last three years;

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to facilitate flood management by the States; and

(c) whether Government has undertaken any strategic environmental assessment to determine flood prone areas?

Implementation of NGP

1119. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation the Namami Gange Programme (NGP);

(b) whether the Ministry is aware that the number of Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) affecting the Ganga was 764 in 1985 and if so, the details of the number of GPIs affecting the Ganga in 2017; and

(c) whether the Ministry is taking steps to expedite the implementation of this project and if so, the details thereof?

Head works in Polavaram Dam Project

1120. 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 Andhra
Pradesh Government has decided to
separate certain portion of works of the
Polavaram Dam Project from the Head
Works Contractor and give it to another

contractor, if so, whether Government has
agreed to this;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the new
contractor has agreed to take the work at
old rates, if so, the details thereof, if not,
what is the financial burden to be borne by
Government due to this change; and

(c) what is the total cost of head works
according to approved estimated and what
is the cost of separated works which were
given to new contractor?

NEW DELHI;
The 27th February, 2018

Phalguna 8, 1939 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

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