

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Tuesday, February 6, 2018/Magha 17, 1939 (Saka)*

**(Ministries : Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy
(AYUSH); Civil Aviation; Corporate Affairs; Finance; Health and Family
Welfare; Minority Affairs; New and Renewable Energy; Power)**

Total number of questions — 160

AIIMS-like institutes of Ayurveda

321. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to set up AIIMS-like institutes of Ayurveda in different parts of the country;

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

(c) how many of these institutes are proposed to be set up in the State of Rajasthan; and

(d) the details regarding facilities proposed to be provided in such institutes?

Herbal medicines with fake raw materials

322. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of herbal medicines with fake raw materials/ herbals are being sold in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government has received complaints in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereon;

(d) whether Government has set up quality control regulations and validations of such herbal medicines; and

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

Incentivising research and patenting in Ayurveda

323. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for incentives is being proposed in the Research and Development as well as attainment of Intellectual Property Right (IPR) in the field of Ayurveda; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Modern Yoga institute

324. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Yoga institutes run by Government functioning in different States of the country;

(b) whether Government is planning to set up any modern/sophisticated Yoga institute in any State of the country, before the celebration of the International Yoga Day in 2019; and

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

Non-completion of Central Research Institute in Yoga and Naturopathy, Nagamangala

325. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) when construction of Central Research Institute in Yoga and Naturopathy was started in Nagamangala, Madhya District, Karnataka;

(b) whether it is a fact that it was to be completed by the end of 2015-16 Financial Year itself;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not completing the same and what is the time and cost overrun of this project; and

(d) by when it is going to be completed?

Development of new Ayurvedic medicines

326. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated adequate measures to research on the development of new Ayurvedic medicines and clinical trials for critical ailments through Government-controlled laboratories; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and effective medicines developed in the last three years?

Ayurvedic medicine to treat diabetes

327. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has developed an ayurvedic medicine to treat chronic diabetic disease;

(b) if so, tested report and the results of the concerned CSIR research therein; and

(c) the proposal of Government for its mass use to control diabetes therefor?

New AYUSH Colleges

328. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRA-BUDDHE: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of new colleges teaching Ayurvedic Medicine, Unani

Medicine and Homoeopathy as well as Siddha which are currently functioning, State-wise;

(b) the total strength of students and qualified teachers enrolled and recruited in these new institutions so far; and

(c) what has been the state of infrastructure available to these institutions?

Expenditure incurred on holding International Yoga Day

329. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) the countries in which International Yoga Day events were held by Indian missions abroad during last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of expenditure incurred in hosting such events during last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the media used by Government in advertising the observation of Yoga Day in India and the State-wise expenditure of the same?

Public access to TKDL database

330. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formalised any plan for having public access to the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) database;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number and details of cases

where the usage of TKDL database has proved as an effective deterrent against bio-piracy and resulted in protection of traditional knowledge; and

(d) the number of pre-grant opposition cases, filed by TKDL, pending in international patent offices?

Commercialisation of land of AAI

331. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to monetise Airport Authority of India (AAI) land for use in building shopping Malls/ Centres, offices and commercial purpose, etc.;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that land and building assets of the Indian Airlines have been put on sale therefor;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken and the qualified bidders therein;

(d) whether necessary Acts have been amended and if so, the details of steps taken for amending the act thereto; and

(e) the details of the steps taken by Government to sell and commercialise the land and assets thereof?

Land at subsidised rate for development of airports

332. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India will need to construct airports to handle an additional 500-600 million passenger by 2030;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the 55 new airports that are estimated to be

required by 2030 will need 150,000 to 200,000 acres of land to be allocated for their development;

(c) whether it is also a fact that all of this will require US \$ 36-45 billion of investment; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the US \$ 45 billion investment number assumes that Government will give land for airport development at subsidised rates?

Airbus A 320

333. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken up the issue of constant troubles with the engines of the Airbus A320 (new engine option) with the U.S. engine manufacturer;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that they had assured that by September, 2017, they will ensure that there is no grounding of aircraft; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Overselling of tickets by airlines

†334. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that airlines sell tickets for more than available seats thereby causing unnecessary delay in boarding due to unavailability of seats;

(b) whether it is a fact that airlines deliberately cause crowd in boarding line so that boarding time elapses and the same

tickets are sold on exorbitant rate by cancelling the tickets of passengers; and

(c) whether there is a monitoring mechanism to ensure that there is less crowd in boarding lines and no inconvenience is caused to the passengers and whether this mechanism is working properly?

Development of airports under PPP programme

335. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to build six airports under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) programme;

(b) if so, which are the States where these airports are proposed to be built; and

(c) what is the total cost of building the six airports and by when is it proposed to be completed?

Data of complaints made by passengers

336. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has maintained any data of complaints made by passengers travelling in various airlines in the country;

(b) if so, what is the total number of such complaints received from air passengers in the year 2017; and

(c) what steps have been taken to minimise such complaints by passengers?

Letter to Air India employees

337. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India have issued a letter to its employees

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

regarding the disinvestment of the company;

(b) if so, whether all the employees of the company has received this letter;

(c) if so, the mechanism through which the letter has been sent to the employees; and

(d) if so, in which language the letter has been issued?

Disinvestment of subsidiaries of Air India

338. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the three subsidiaries of Air India have been making profits for the last few years;

(b) if so, the details of the year-wise profit of the subsidiaries; and

(c) what are the reasons behind the disinvestment of the profit making subsidiaries?

Separate regulatory body for rotary-wing aircrafts

339. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Directorate of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is the regulatory body for rotary-wing as well as fixed wing aircrafts;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is a demand or proposal to set up a separate regulatory body for rotary-wing aircrafts; and

(d) if not, will it be done for better regulation of helicopter operations?

Evasion of mandatory alcohol test by pilots and crew members

‡340. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 130 pilots and 430 crew members of Air India have continued evading the mandatory alcohol test before and after the flight contrary to the directions of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA);

(b) if so, the action taken by Air India against such pilots and crew members;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) why Government wants to protect the guilty pilots and crew members by risking the lives of the passengers?

Air service from Durbhanga under UDAN Scheme

‡341. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that preparation for commencement of air travel from Durbhanga in Bihar to Delhi, Mumbai and other places under UDAN Yojana is in its final stage;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of expected fare from Durbhanga to various destinations; and

(d) whether Government will make the fare rational so that it can be economically feasible?

Monetisation of land assets by A.I.

342. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Air India was unable to meet the target under the

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

asset monetisation plan due to problem with land titles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that out of the ₹ 500 crore financial restructuring plan involving asset monetisation from 2012-13 to 2021-22, Air India has so far managed to garner only ₹ 369 crore; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Functional airports in Madhya Pradesh

‡343. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of functional airports in Madhya Pradesh alongwith the flight services available at each airport; and

(b) the cities of Madhya Pradesh likely to be linked with air services and the future timebound action plan in this regard?

Ceiling on air fare

‡344. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the ceiling of enhancement of base as well as flexi fare of airlines which is increasing continuously; and

(b) the measures taken for securing and conserving the interest of passengers and for security fare, catering and punctuality with reference to (a) above?

Commercial flights for Tezpur

345. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received from Tezpur seeking direct Delhi-Tezpur-Delhi commercial flights for servicing public demand from those parts of the North-East including Assam and Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) the response of Government to either providing such service by Air India or encouraging private Airlines to undertake services for this route; and

(c) whether Government appreciated the importance of Tezpur as a strategically crucial city on borders of India?

Illegal entry at IGI airport

‡346. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of illegal entry at Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport, New Delhi and other airports of the country during the last one year;

(b) the number of foreigners and Indians apprehended in the cases of illegal entry;

(c) whether illegal entry can pose any threat to the safety of the airport and the VIPs coming there; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to stop the illegal entry completely?

Exorbitant increase in fare by private airlines

347. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private airlines increase the airfare by four times during the tourist season/festive seasons to exploit the flyers;

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to control the arbitrary tendencies of such airlines by constituting regulatory authority;

(c) the steps taken to put a cap on the airfare so that exorbitant fares are not thrust upon the common flyers during the festive season; and

(d) the steps taken to see that private airlines do not further reduce check-in luggage from 15 kg for domestic travel, and to charge check-in luggage separately?

Cancellation of flights in winter season

348. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of domestic and international flights of different airlines which were cancelled during this winter season, the details thereof, airlines-wise and airport-wise;

(b) whether the cancellation of flights caused inconvenience to the air passengers;

(c) if so, how they were compensated by the concerned airlines; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to ensure that fog does not disrupt air traffic in the country?

Air India flight from Dharamshala and Kullu

349. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government suspended operations of few of Air India Flights from Dharamshala and Kullu few years ago;

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

(c) whether Government proposes not to reinstate suspended flights;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government proposes to introduce new Air India Flights from Dharamshala and Kullu, in view of large number of tourists visiting these places; and

(f) if so, the details thereof along with the time by when these new flights are likely to be introduced?

Unusual airstrips in the country

350. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of old airports in the country city-wise which are not in usage;

(b) whether Government plans to convert these airstrips and the land for other purpose;

(c) if so, the details of the same, airport-wise; and

(d) the details of the dates from which such airports are not in usage and the decision taken by the Government on each of the cases regarding the further prospects of these places?

Non-serving of meals in Air India express flights

351. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Air India Express flights were not serving any meal;

(b) whether it is also a fact that an Air India Express Flight from Delhi to Madurai has not been serving any meal;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what is the policy regarding serving of meals to passengers travelling by Air India Express flights?

Grievance redressal through social media sites

352. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has prepared any structured guidelines for grievances redressal related communication *via* twitter and Facebook;

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

(c) the total grievances voiced via twitter and redressed during 2014-17 and what has been the general nature of these grievances; and

(d) what kind of human as well as Information Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure has been created for this task?

Norms for Validation of licences of pilots in the country

353. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of norms/guidelines for validating the licences of pilots in the country;

(b) how many cases of pilots flying with lapsed licences have come to the notice during the last three years, airline-wise;

(c) what actions have been taken by Government against such airlines; and

(d) how many cases of obtaining pilot licences on the basis of fake documents have also been reported during the above period?

Disinvestment plan of Air India

354. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to split Air India into four entities and offer majority of equity as part of disinvestment plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Development and Expansion of Airports

355. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has embarked on development and expansion of airports in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the airports which are identified to be taken up under this expansion in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Security clearance for partnership with foreign airlines

356. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Jet Airways are having partnership with Etihad, Air France, KLM and Delta Airlines for foreign markets;

(b) if so, the details of partnership with foreign airlines;

(c) whether it is mandatory to get the clearance of partnership proposals of Indian carrier with foreign airlines from the Ministry of Home Affairs for security reasons; and

(d) if so, the details of security clearances

obtained by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) with regard to above partnership?

Rectification of SPICE e-Form

357. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched any Simplified Proforma for Incorporating Company Electronically (SPICE) e-Form;

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

(c) whether any complaint has been received on the problems being experienced by companies on using SPICE e-Form and if so, the details thereof; and

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

Companies involved in money laundering and tax evasion

358. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies under scanner of Government for evading tax and involved money laundering;

(b) the name of companies deregistered on the charges of money laundering; and

(c) the action taken or to be taken by Government against these companies?

Shell companies after demonetisation

359. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of shell companies

identified by Government that came into existence after the demonetisation;

(b) the number of such shell companies which have disqualified Directors in them;

(c) the number of such disqualified Directors who are politicians and Government bureaucrats; and

(d) the details of such politicians and bureaucrats?

Cancellation of registration of companies

360. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bank accounts frozen for suspected transactions after the demonetisation, the details thereof, bank-wise;

(b) whether registration of any companies were cancelled by registrar for suspected transaction after the demonetisation, the details of the companies; and

(c) whether any legal action has been taken against such companies, if so, the details thereof?

Non-fulfilling of targets under CSR by PSUs

361. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allotted and utilised separately by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in the last three years, and in the current year, year-wise;

(b) the nature of projects being undertaken and the present status; and

(c) the reasons for not fulfilling the target of completing various projects under CSR, in the last three years, the details thereof, PSU-wise?

Fake Chartered Accountants

362. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that several unqualified persons are using false registration numbers and issuing fake certificates by posing as Chartered Accountants;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such cases brought to the notice of Government during each of the last three years and current year; and

(c) the steps taken by Government against such persons?

Non-payment of outstanding amount to small investors by companies

363. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the measures stated to have been taken by Government for awareness and protection of small investors have yielded the desired results;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the action initiated against the companies with regard to investors complaints during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether a number of companies have not paid the outstanding amount due to the small investors and are still trading actively in the stock exchanges; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Waiver of GST on construction expenditure of AP State Capital Amaravati

364. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Central Government to completely waive off GST on the expenditure incurred on construction of Andhra Pradesh State Capital 'Amaravati';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any decision on the matter, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

Sale of shares of PSEs

365. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shares of any Public Sector Enterprises have been sold during the period from 2014-2017;

(b) if so, the details of such enterprises and the percentage of shares sold;

(c) the number of them which have their management handed over to private sector; and

(d) the number of Public Sector Enterprises that would be handed over to private sector in the near future?

Low level of national income

366. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether our country is facing low level of national income and low per capita

income which is around ₹ 2021 per month, which stands our country in one of the poorest nations of the world; and

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

Privatisation of profit making CPSEs

367. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to privatise not only the loss making companies but also the profit making Central Public Sector Enterprises;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the specific reasons for privatising profit making enterprises?

Fund release on liquidation of UCs

368. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that till 2012 the practice was to release funds if Utilisation Certificates (UCs) were submitted for that particular scheme of AYUSH;

(b) whether from November, 2012, onwards, funds were being released to an organisation only if all UCs under all schemes of AYUSH had been liquidated;

(c) if so, the purpose of resorting to the second method which delays in implementation of other schemes; and

(d) whether Ministry has flagged this to Finance Ministry, if so, response from it and how Ministry is planning to convince the Finance Ministry to revert back to pre November, 2012 position?

Reconstitution of banks

‡369. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating a scheme for the reconstitution of banks;

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

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

Clearance of FDI proposals

370. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has cleared Foreign Direct Investment proposal worth of ₹532 crore recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of total FDI proposals so far cleared by Government from 1st April, 2017 to 31st December, 2017 and the value thereof?

Central Fraud Registry

371. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up Central Fraud Registry for investigating the frauds committed in banks and through ATM/Debit/Credit cards and if so, the details thereof;

(b) how many cases of such financial frauds have been reported in the last one year by the above Registry and the result of the investigation; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken by Government to ensure foolproof e-transactions and protect customers?

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Loan and subsidy to SCs and STs by PSBs

‡372. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of poverty ratio of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, urban and rural area-wise along with the present status thereof;

(b) the amount of loan and subsidy disbursed by the public sector banks with the purpose to support the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the last three years, account-wise and bank-wise; and

(c) the details thereof?

People dying from kidney diseases in Chhattisgarh

‡373. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that hundreds of people are dying untimely of kidney disease in and around village Supebeda of Deobhog block in Gariyaband district of Chhattisgarh as they are not getting Central assistance;

(b) whether the Ministry is contemplating taking measures to curb deaths due to kidney disease by examining the said area; and

(c) State-wise income fixed for getting grant from the Rastriya Arogya Nidhi for diagnosis of this serious disease and number of patients who received financial grant in last three years from this Nidhi?

Rationalisation of domestic and overseas branches of PSBs

374. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued any directions to Public Sector Banks to look at rationalising their domestic and overseas branches;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of branches which have been closed down by each bank as a result of the said direction; and

(c) what is the number of persons who have been forced for taking voluntary retirement by each bank?

Law for time bound disposal of Income Tax appeals

375. SHRIMATI VIJILA
SATHYANANTH:
SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are around 2.83 lakh appeals pending before the Commissioner of Income Tax (Appeals) CIT (A) throughout the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that a sum of ₹ 1.40 lakh crore is locked in appeals at Income Tax Appellate Tribunal level involving 88,000 cases;

(c) whether it is also fact that about ₹ 1.66 lakh crore is locked in appeals in high courts involving 41,000 petitions and ₹ 75,000 crore are locked in dispute in Supreme Court; and

(d) whether Government is considering

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

to enact law for time bound early disposal of these cases?

Reduction of GST burden on beedi industry

376. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from Government of Telangana seeking reduction of GST burden on beedi industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has taken any decision on the matter, if so, the details thereof?

Abolition of Contributory Pension System

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

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has made it clear and delegated the task of abolition of Contributory Pension System (CPS) to the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether State Governments have come forward to initiate abolition of CPS;

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

(e) the steps being taken by Government to resolve the issue?

Decline in GDP growth

378. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the GDP growth of the

country registered a 5.7 per cent in the 13th quarter;

(b) whether this is the sixth continuous quarter making a decline in GDP growth; and

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

Zero balance PMJDY accounts

379. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Padhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) accounts in operation since January, 2016, month-wise;

(b) the number of zero balance accounts and accounts with a balance under ₹ 10 under PMJDY since January, 2016, month-wise;

(c) whether action has been taken against banks transferring small amounts from their own expenditure heads to activate zero balance accounts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Use of funds collected under PMGKY

380. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of funds collected under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana and the number of persons who availed the scheme;

(b) the purposes for which the collected amount will be used;

(c) whether any funds collected under the scheme have been disbursed;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Debt burden of Andhra Pradesh

381. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that debt of Andhra Pradesh has reached to ₹ 2.26 lakh crores and annual interest rate reached an astonishing ₹ 14,000 crores;

(b) whether the debt under Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) has reached almost 29 per cent which is far higher than the Finance Commission deadline of 25.09 per cent;

(c) whether Ministry is aware that per capita debt in AP has gone up to more than ₹ 45,000; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and how Ministry will rescue AP lest it falls into deep abyss of debt?

World Bank loan to Andhra Pradesh for new capital

382. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 165 given in Rajya Sabha on 2nd January, 2018 and state:

(a) the reasons for the statement given by the Capital Region Development Authority claiming that World Bank has already approved loan for development of Amaravati contradicting the reply given by the Minister of Finance;

(b) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has considered the loan on retro finance category;

(c) whether it is also a fact that as per World Bank's system, 'approval' comes first and 'appraisal' later; and

(d) if so, whether World Bank has approved loan for Amaravati?

Tax incentives to agricultural sector

383. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is proposing any tax incentives to ensure agricultural products procurement, remunerative prices for agri-products and value addition; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Educating farmers on bank loans/schemes

384. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether benefits of various banks loans/schemes available in the country have not satisfactorily percolated to the farmers in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether the banks have launched or proposes to launch any awareness campaign in rural areas to educate the farmers in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the success achieved therefrom during the last three years and current year?

Impact of waiving off Transactions/MDR charges

385. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the transactions fee/Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) charges which have been waived off since its announcement;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has taken the burden of transactions fee/MDR charges, if so, the details thereof along with the total additional expenditure which Government is bearing; and

(c) whether the State Governments are doing the same, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

Discrepancies/disputes in the payment via e-wallets

386. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has data regarding the e-wallets which were available in India prior to demonetisation, if so, the details in respect to volume of business, daily transactions, monthly transactions, e-wallet-wise;

(b) the details of the addition of e-wallets post demonetisation and the volume of business done on daily, monthly basis till date;

(c) whether there have been discrepancies/disputes in the payments via e-wallets, the details thereof, State/UT wise; and

(d) if so, whether Government has set up a grievance cell for such discrepancies, if not, the reasons therefor?

Revision of NPS employees to old pension scheme

387. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1506 given in Rajya Sabha on 29th November, 2016 and state:

(a) whether Government has filed any petition before Kerala High Court against the orders of Central Administrative Tribunal, Ernakulam bench which had ordered the Central Government to revert the employees who had joined after 1st January, 2004 under NPS to old pension scheme and had observed that date of vacancy/advertisement should be the basis

for inclusion under NPS instead of the date of joining;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of petition number and date thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons why Government has not implemented the orders of CAT and reverted the employees?

Easing process of Aadhaar linking by NSDL subscribers

388. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tier-1 subscribers of NSDL under NPS who have not registered their mobiles with UIDAI are not able to update their Aadhaar numbers and OTPs are not being sent on current mobile number/e-mails registered with NSDL on which NSDL has been sending messages regarding contribution and account statement;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would provide for sending OTPs to registered e-mails also or on registered mobiles with NSDL;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons for making the process complicated; and

(f) other measures to ease the process of Aadhaar linking with NSDL?

Penal charges on non-maintenance of minimum balance in savings accounts

389. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether most lenders have been wilfully violating the Reserve Bank of India's guidelines in applying penal charges for non-maintenance of minimum balance in savings accounts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) while the RBI norms required the penalty to be proportionate to the short fall in meeting minimum balance, the charges imposed by most banks are out of line;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the lenders are not meeting the RBI's directions in ensuring that penal charges are reasonable and confirm with the average cost of providing the services; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Measures to recover written-off NPAs

390. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount of NPAs written-off by Public Sector Banks (PSBs) has increased over the last three years *i.e.* from ₹ 2,67,067 crores in 2014-15 to ₹ 6,41,057 crores in 2016-17;

(b) whether it is also a fact that NPAs written-off by Public Sector Banks (PSBs) in the current financial year 2017-18 *i.e.* upto September, 2017 has already aggregated to the tune of ₹ 6,89,806 crores;

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to recover these amounts after writing-off stage; and

(d) the details of steps taken by Government to arrest this trend?

Regulatory mechanism for crypto currency

391. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had constituted an inter-disciplinary panel to look into legality of crypto currencies and suggest a way forward;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with its outcome; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to have a regulatory mechanism for online purchase and sale of crypto currencies in the country?

Hardships in filing GST returns

392. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is seized of the poignancy of the GST roll-out, highlighted by the recent suicide of a transporter in Uttarakhand Secretariat, unable to cope up with the complexity of GST procedure in filing returns;

(b) whether Government is aware of the extent of hardships faced by small traders struggling to comply with regulations in filing of tax returns that far outweighs the Government objectives of enhancing tax collections; and

(c) whether around 30 per cent of the seven-plus-million-traders suddenly sucked into the GST system have not been filing their returns, with 40 per cent of them reporting zero returns?

NPAs of PSBs

393. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 155 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd January, 2018 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of the total 22 Public Sector Banks (PSBs) as many as eight public sector banks currently have gross non-performing assets above 15 per cent and 14 banks have gross non-performing assets of more than 12 per cent; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

NABARD grant to Andhra Pradesh

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

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has sought a grant of ₹16500 crore as aid from National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) to bridge the revenue deficit; and

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government?

Increase in borrowings of AP and Telangana

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the net borrowings of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana States have increased manifold during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the borrowings are within the limits of Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act; and

(d) borrowings of these two States as on 2nd June, 2014 and during the last three financial years, State-wise?

Capital infusion in PSBs

396. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 393 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th December, 2017 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount of capital infusion will be higher than the ₹ 79,700 crore provided by Government between financial years 2008 to financial year 2015; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Unutilisation of cess collection

397. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of four lakh crore collected by Government in the name of six major cesses, including the Swachh Bharat cess, till 2016-17, over ₹ 1.81 lakh crore, or nearly 45 per cent of the funds collected is unutilised and is also not transferred to Consolidated Fund of India or the intended schemes;

(b) if so, the reasons for not utilising the fund; and

(c) whether Government contemplates to stop collection of this cess in view of high accumulation of unutilised fund?

GST exemption to Merchant Traders

398. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any representation from export traders seeking quicker refund of duties and exemption of GST for merchant exporters and simpler tax compliance for small traders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any decision in this regard, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the stand of Government in this regard?

Revision of Income Tax Act

399. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on bringing changes to Income Tax Act to reduce the tax burden and ease the tax return procedure; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Distribution of taxes collected from States

400. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of direct and indirect taxes collected from various States during the last five years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of money returned to various States during the last five years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that States such as AP, Telangana, Maharashtra, Karnataka, TN which are contributing more to the exchequer in the form of taxes are not getting back money in the same proportion and backwards States are getting more; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and steps taken to change this trend?

Impact of interest rate cut on small saving schemes

†401. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people are shying away from depositing cash with the banks because of continuing reduction in interest rates in saving and small saving

schemes and there has been a cash crunch in banks as a result thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government are considering to increase the interest rates on saving and small saving schemes and if not, the reasons therefor?

Overcoming economic slowdown

†402. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering overcoming economic slowdown;

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

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

Introduction of electoral bonds

403. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has recently introduced electoral bonds to clean up political funding in meaningful way;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether anonymity of the purchasers of these bonds has been kept and if so, the reasons therefor?

Raise in limit of deposits under SCSS

404. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to raise the deposits under Senior Citizen

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Saving Scheme (SCSS) from one time ₹ 15 lakhs to ₹ 50 lakhs;

(b) whether Government proposes to allow Senior Citizens to open more SCSS accounts with financial institutions as per their need and capability with limitation upto 15 lakhs per annum; and

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

Bank frauds using Aadhaar number

405. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of money being fraudulently withdrawn from bank accounts using the customers' Aadhaar number have come to light recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the number of such cases and the amount withdrawn, bank-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to prevent such cases and whether any action is taken against the bank employees responsible for these frauds?

Recapitalisation of financial sector

406. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any planning of Government to recapitalise the banking sector of the country;

(b) whether Government has identified the big defaulter's account's causing bad loans of the Public Sector Banks and total bad loans upto 31st December, 2017;

(c) the proposal of Government regarding large budgetary support towards recapitalisation of the financial sector;

(d) whether Government proposes to use the foreign exchange reserves for shoring up the bank capital therein; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Security of money and ornaments of account holders of PSBs

407. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating any action to secure fully the money and ornaments of the bank account holders deposited in the Public Sector Banks;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Impact of FDI on job creation

408. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether jobs have been created in the country as a resultant effect of Foreign Direct Investments;

(b) if so, the number of jobs created between 2011 and 2017; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Declining credit to Micro and Small Enterprises

409. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that credit to Micro and Small Enterprises is declining;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that declining credit has adversely affected the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; and

(d) if so, the remedial action taken by Government to improve the situation?

Selling and swapping of loan assets by PSBs

410. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has asked public sector banks to explore options for selling and swapping of loan assets with other lenders with a view to strengthen their balance sheets;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has asked public sector banks to open micro, small and medium enterprises intensive branches; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Reforms for proper functioning of banks

411. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 393 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th December, 2017 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there will be a series of reforms that will be announced along side capital infusion to ensure that banks are able to function properly; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Relaxation in rectification of GST returns

412. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether businesses have been finding it difficult to assess tax liability correctly after India moved to Goods and Service Tax;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has relaxed norms for rectification of GST returns;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that this relaxation will give an opportunity to businesses to claim tax credit correctly by rectifying the mistakes made initially while computing GST liability?

Bad loans written off by PSBs

413. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that public sector banks wrote off a record ₹ 81,683 crore worth of bad loans in the financial year ended March, 2017;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the banks have written off a total of ₹ 2.46 lakh crore worth of loans in the last five years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Decline in revenue from GST

†414. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that revenue from GST is decreasing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made by Government to make GST simple and trade friendly?

Growth in agricultural sector

415. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is not able to achieve the targeted growth rate announced in 2017 in agricultural sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the present GDP of India?

PSU Banks placed under RBI Prompt Corrective Action

416. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding PSU banks placed under RBI Prompt Corrective Action, so far, during the last two years;

(b) whether there are any restrictions on new branch opening, recruitment of staff and other expansion activities of such banks;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details regarding other implications of placement under Prompt Corrective Action?

Status of NPAs of banks

417. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of bank loans as on 30th September, 2017;

(b) the amount of NPAs out of the total loan;

(c) the main parties involved among them;

(d) the percentage of agricultural loans and loans taken by corporates out of the total loan;

(e) the percentage of NPAs of loan accounts amounting ₹ 10 lakhs and less; and

(f) the companies or individuals

benefited by the decision to write off NPAs?

Tardy implementation of GST

418. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts collected as taxes month-wise since July 1, 2017 as GST and what were the expected returns;

(b) why did Government reduce rates of taxes for certain items; and

(c) whether this does not reveal the sloppy preparation and tardy implementation of GST by Government?

Recovery of educational loans

419. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Bank of India has engaged recovery agents for recovery of defaulted education loans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the education loan NPAs of the public sector banks as per the latest data available; and

(d) whether it is Governments' accepted policy that coercive methods will not be used for recovery of educational loans?

Investigation of illegal gratification by M/s Pallonji Shapoorji

420. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Income Tax Department and other law enforcement agencies are investigating cases of illegal gratification of ₹ 250 crore given by M/s Pallonji Shapoorji to a company called PRS Enterprises

owned by the former Deputy Director of Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority (MHADA);

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the present status of investigation?

Diversion of funds for healthcare

421. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that increase in unspent health fund by the States have come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, particularly in respect of North Eastern States;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some States have also been found to be diverting funds earmarked by the centre for health sector to other areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government to discontinue such practice in future?

Pharmacists with CGHS Ayurvedic dispensaries

†422. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) sanctioned strength of pharmacists in Ayurvedic dispensaries of Central Government Health Scheme in Delhi;

(b) the actual strength deputed against it;

(c) whether Government has conducted any study on the adverse impact of burden of work on the actual number of personnel deputed in these dispensaries against their

sanctioned strength in case the deputed strength of persons is less than its sanctioned strength; and

(d) the measures being taken for deputing personnel according to sanctioned strength?

High expenditure in treatment of cardiovascular diseases

423. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a detailed study analysis of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) on the patients suffering from cardiovascular diseases and getting out-of pocket expenditure for treatment;

(b) if so, whether the report overviews that more than 55 per cent of the country's population suffered from catastrophic health expenditures therein;

(c) if so, whether Government plans to set up a Medical Technology Assessment Board to initiate universal health policy process therefor; and

(d) the proposal of Government to set up more friendly health support system for all in the country with all facilities thereof?

Review of NGOs working in healthcare sector

†424. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided any financial and other help to Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) in Odisha for implementing health scheme;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, details thereof for the last three years and the assistance provided, Non-Government organisation-wise; and

(c) whether Government has carried out any review of the works done by these Non-Government Organisations

(d) if so, the short-comings noticed by Government during this review and names of the Non-Government Organisations with such short-comings; and

(e) the action taken so far by Government against them?

Negligency in treatment of burnt victims by Safdarjung Hospital

†425. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Safdarjung Hospital was found to be negligent in the treatment of people burnt in the fire raged from leakage of gas from the gas cylinder in Srinivaspuri of Delhi in the month of January, 2018 and some patients were sent back home after first-aid treatment and later on they were to be admitted to other hospitals as their condition deteriorated;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is a huge dearth of beds in burn units in view of population of Delhi; and

(c) the details thereof?

Framing of rules on fixation of treatment charges

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

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry proposes to frame rules by fixing certain formula for stipulating the rates of medical treatment in view of incidents of recovering odd charges from the patients by private hospitals;

(b) if so, by when it intends to consider the same and, if not, whether the Ministry considers it turning a blind eye to the issue of private hospitals arbitrarily charging excess amount for treatment as people friendly; and

(c) the details thereof?

Authorisation to sign pathology report

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

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only M.D. Pathologist has been authorised to sign the Pathology report;

(b) whether the experts have apprehended that due to this compulsion, the digital signature would be used on the report of medical test labs as M.D. Pathologists are not available in sufficient number in the small cities and towns, which might affect the results; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Ministry to tackle this problem?

CAGs report on FSSAI

428. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA:
SHRI RIPUN BORA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CAG in its 37th Report

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

has mentioned 65 out of the 72 State food laboratories to which FSSAI and State food safety authorities sent food samples for testing do not possess accreditation for National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL);

(b) whether CAG in its report has also said that licences were issued on the basis of incomplete documents in more than 50 per cent of cases test checked in Audit;

(c) whether Government considers this a serious lapse; and

(d) if so, what action Government proposes to take to rectify the shortcomings pointed out by the CAG and ensure food safety for the people?

Improving health conditions of the poor

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

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that average per capita expenditure incurred by Government on health is very less as compared to other developing countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government to improve the health condition of the people particularly poor people of the country?

ATRs on curbing milk adulteration

430. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has sought Action Taken Reports from all State Governments in terms of the direction given by the Supreme Court on August, 2016 to curb milk adulteration activities in the country;

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

(c) if not, the specific reasons therefor and by when such reports would be ensured from all State Governments; and

(d) the number of cases of milk adulteration registered in the country during last three years along with the specific updated status of punitive action taken thereon as per Hon'ble Supreme Court direction, State-wise?

Eliminating AIDS by 2030

431. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments of over 190 nations, including India, have promised to end AIDS by 2030 by adopting the UN Sustainable Development Goals;

(b) whether experts have flagged concerns over the progress achieved so far to end AIDS by 2030; and

(c) if so, what steps Government is taking to strengthen the fight against AIDS and meet these goals?

Strengthening food testing laboratories

432. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme or plan to assist States to strengthen their food testing laboratories; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken in this regard?

National Health Policy, 2017

433. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the National Health Policy (NHP), 2017;

(b) the healthcare infrastructure available including manpower at rural healthcare facilities, State-wise;

(c) how many primary healthcare centres have been transferred under Public Private Partnership (PPP) model by various State Governments; and

(d) the average increase in out-of-pocket expenditure borne by patients due to this transfer to PPP model?

Increase in H1N1 cases

434. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the H1N1 cases are on the increase in India every year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of cases reported and deaths during last three years;

(d) what are its strains found in India so far; and

(e) the efforts being made to tackle this disease?

HIV contaminated blood use in transfusion

435. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to

transfusion of contaminated blood, many patients have contracted HIV in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the steps suggested by Government to prevent such incidences in the country?

Government doctors under investigation

436. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases in which investigations are under progress for doctors serving in the Central Government in the last three years;

(b) of the above, in how many cases have FIRs been registered against such doctors in the last three years; and

(c) in the context of review on the basis of Rule 56(j) of the Fundamental Rules, how many doctors have been retired in the last three years by Government?

Upgradation of Government medical colleges in Tamil Nadu

437. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has not earmarked any Government medical college in the State of Tamil Nadu for upgradation in Phase IV of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government will come forward to upgrade the Government Medical College in Villupuram District of Tamil Nadu in Phase IV of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY);

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

Expected rise in cases of MDR-TB

438. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention is drawn towards the latest reports by Lancet that by 2040, 12.4 per cent of patients in the country will have MDR-TB;

(b) whether it is a fact that India shoulders the highest TB burden in the world, with over 2 of the 10 million reported cases;

(c) if so, the reasons of Indian cities being hotspots of MDR-TB transmission; and

(d) the reasons for Government inability to provide Bedaquiline and Delamanid (drugs) being used in Europe and the US for several years and why only 207 of the 79,000 patients have access to these drugs?

Detection of new leprosy cases

439. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of new leprosy cases have been detected across the country in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years along with the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to eliminate leprosy as a public health problem by 2020 as envisaged under National Leprosy Elimination Programme?

AIIMS-like hospitals in Odisha

440. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many AIIMS-like hospitals have been established throughout the country;

(b) how many more such hospitals are proposed to be set up in the near future;

(c) the criteria adopted by Government to select a place for setting up an AIIMS-like hospital; and

(d) how many districts in the State of Odisha are covered under the proposal for setting up the AIIMS-like hospitals?

Advanced centres for cancer detection

441. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1706 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2nd January, 2018 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in most of cases, the cancer is detected in the advanced stage only when the survival of patients is negligible; and

(b) whether Government would consider establishing advance detection centres of cancer throughout the country so that the timely treatment proves to be beneficial to the patient?

Equipping hospitals with modern equipment

442. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken or proposes to take any steps for setting up modern equipment in all Government

hospitals for the treatment of cancer patients keeping in view their increasing number;

(b) if so, the details thereof, as on date; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Doctors' shortage in rural areas

443. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vacant posts of doctors and medical staff in remote villages and inaccessible areas;

(b) whether the State Governments have been advised by the Ministry to fill up the vacant posts of doctors and medical staff;

(c) whether it is being proposed to appoint doctors on contract basis; and

(d) whether any time limit has been fixed for the appointment of doctors and medical staff on contract basis and whether any decision has been taken to provide them double pay?

National Programme of Health Care for the Elderly

444. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of amount of funds allocated, released and utilized along with beneficiaries reach for National Programme of Health Care for the Elderly (NPHCE) during last three years including district-wise details for West Bengal;

(b) the State-wise details of amounts allocated, released and utilized along with beneficiaries reached for any other scheme run by Ministry for care of elderly in India;

(c) whether Government is coming up with more programmes like the NPHCE for the welfare of the elderly people; and

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

HIV positive cases in Himachal Pradesh

445. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that Himachal Pradesh has over 9,141 HIV + cases in all 12 districts with the biggest district, Kangra, topping the list with over 2629 HIV + cases followed by Hamirpur with 1,824 cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government has taken up or is taking up the matter with the State Government to take remedial steps to address the problem; and

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

Charging of exorbitant medical fees by hospitals

†446. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has implemented any policy regarding medical fees charged by private hospitals under which such hospitals will not be able to charge medical fees arbitrarily;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether any policy initiative is being taken in this regard;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether incidents of charging exorbitant medical fees and inhumane treatment meted out to the families of patients have increased recently; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Allopathic doctors lacking qualifications

†447. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 60 per cent allopathic doctors not have the medical qualifications in the country;

(b) whether Government has any authentic report in this regard;

(c) whether most of the doctors in rural areas are working there without medical qualifications; and

(d) whether Government has given any suggestion/order recently to the States to take action in a mission mode in this matter?

Sale of seats in medical colleges

†448. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of selling of several medical seats by the private medical colleges of the country have come to light;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to take any step to investigate the matter; and

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

Boosting cadaver donation programme

449. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of organ transplant procedures conducted across the country, organ-wise like, kidney, lever, heart, lungs, pancreas etc. during last three years;

(b) the number of cadaver donations which took place in 2016 and 2017 across the country;

(c) the measures taken to boost cadaver donation programme;

(d) whether there is any plan to give benefit to the cadaver organ donor family member; and

(e) if not, whether any benefit can be given to the family like education of family members or insurance for family members?

Inadequate expenditure for healthcare sector

450. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that public expenditure on health have been found to be inadequate and if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(b) how does the public expenditure on health in India compare with other developing nations; and

(c) the extent to which Government is committed to Universal Health Coverage?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Cervical cancer vaccine in public health programme

451. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken an in principle call against the introduction of the cervical cancer vaccine in the public health programme;

(b) whether it is also a fact that according to World Health Organization, India is a fit case for introduction of the HPV vaccine as cervical cancer now kills more women in the country than any other maternal mortality causes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Shortage of psychiatrists

†452. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of mentally-ill patients in the country has crossed seven crores while the number of psychiatrists is less than 7 thousand;

(b) if so, Government's response in this regard; and

(c) the strategies chalked out by Government to tackle the above problem?

Achievements under NRHM and NUHM

453. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise budget allocated and actual expenditure made in the last three years under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) and the present status of the programmes in the country

and its achievements in each of the last three years and the current year; and

(b) how many States have rolled out Universal Health coverage under NHM so far?

Quality check on food imports from China

454. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding food items being imported from China;

(b) the details regarding the trend in import of such items during the last three years;

(c) the mechanism to ensure quality control in respect of such imported food items;

(d) whether any import of food items from China has been rejected during the last three years due to non-compliance with the quality parameters; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

Shortage of allopathic doctors

†455. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of allopathic doctors in the country who are having minimum medical qualification, State-wise details thereof;

(b) the shortage of allopathic doctors according to the population, the number of allopathic doctors recruited during the last three years, State-wise details thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a huge gap between current report "Health Workforce in India" of WHO with regard to number of doctors with valid qualifications and official data of the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Government, if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof?

Per capita expenditure on healthcare

†456. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of per capita expenditure on medical and health services in the country;

(b) the quantum of expenditure on private and Government hospitals, respectively, and the details thereof;

(c) the total per capita amount of medical assistance being provided by Government and the details thereof; and

(d) the number of persons who are unable to afford treatment of severe diseases due to their weak financial conditions and the schemes being run for such people and the details thereof?

Tele Medicine treatment model

457. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has accepted Tele Medicine as an approved form of treatment;

(b) if so, whether Government has formulated any model for Tele Medicine;

(c) if so, the name of such model and the States which have accepted it and the mechanism to monitor the functioning of the States in this regard;

(d) whether State Government of Odisha has its own model of Tele Medicine or it has taken up any Model approved by Government; and

(e) the extent of implementation of Tele Medicine scheme in Odisha and the pattern of funding by Government?

Measures to reduce IMR

458. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is still struggling to reduce the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in the country;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government in order to reduce Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in the next five years?

High rate of cancer deaths in India

459. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while India has lower cancer rates than many other countries, but it has higher rate of deaths compared to other countries due to lack of awareness, early detection and palliative care;

(b) whether shortage of Government infrastructure and trained human resources also contribute to higher rate of deaths due to cancer;

(c) if so, other reasons therefor and what are the steps taken by Government to bring down the rate of death due to cancer in the country; and

(d) the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Achieving goal of population stabilization

460. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would identify the areas and communities that have high birth rate, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has any plan to emphasize its efforts on those regions and communities for speedy result-oriented mission of family planning, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that family planning has not reached many segments of the people, thereby giving an undue pressure to limited land, resources and environment; and

(d) the details of policies to achieve the goal of population stabilization?

Withdrawal of Haj subsidy

461. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether withdrawal of Haj subsidy by Government would hit the poor Muslims hard;

(b) if not, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any plan to make Haj pilgrimage affordable for the poor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Utilisation of Buddhist quota for other minority communities in Maharashtra

462. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to increase the current quota of Merit-cum-Means Scholarship for students from Minority Communities pursuing professional and technical courses for the State of Maharashtra from 5797 students as per the recommendations of Government of Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government plans to empower the State with provisions to utilise Buddhist quota that it be not shifted to other States but be left for other minority communities students in Maharashtra; and

(c) what action has been taken so far on this request and whether this can be expedited?

Diversion of Haj subsidy fund

463. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to divert Haj subsidy fund to other welfare schemes meant for minority welfare;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any decision for the proper utilisation of fund meant for minority welfare; and

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

Withdrawal of Haj subsidy

464. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in 2012 the Hon'ble Supreme Court had set a 10 year deadline for discontinuing Haj subsidy in phases, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the quantum of subsidy has come down from ₹ 685 crores in 2011 to ₹ 200 crores last year;

(c) whether phasing out of Haj subsidy by 2022 has also been endorsed by Afzal Amanullah Committee; and

(d) whether the number of Haj pilgrims in 1994 was 21,035 each spending ₹ 1700 on travel which has now come up at 1,25,000 with each spending ₹ 54,800 on air travel alone?

New circular for pre and post-matric Scholarship for minority girl students

465. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Maulana Azad Education Foundation has recently issued a new circular for pre and post-matric scholarship for minority girl students;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the circular has complicated the application submission of forms for scholarship;

(c) does it not discourage students to submit their forms for scholarship; and

(d) if so, how Ministry clears this hurdle?

Recommendation of the Committee to review Haj Policy

466. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has formed a Committee to review Haj Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Terms of Reference given to the Committee;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Committee has recommended that women in groups can perform Haj without men escort;

(d) what are the other recommendations made by the Committee; and

(e) what decision Government has taken on the issue of reducing Haj subsidy?

Development of solar cities

467. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the sanctioned proposals for the development of solar cities in the country and the details thereof;

(b) the proposed Model and Pilot Solar Cities in the country and the details and locations thereof;

(c) the funds approved by the Ministry so far for the development of solar city programmes and the details thereof; and

(d) how many sanctions have been given by the Ministry for the upgradation of campuses to Green Campus and development of New Green Campus in the country and the details thereof?

Power generation from renewable energy sources

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

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

(a) achievements made in power generation from the renewable energy sources in the country during last three years, State-wise and source-wise;

(b) the details of incentives being offered to the State Governments for implementation of these schemes, particularly for West Bengal, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether Government has set up any monitoring mechanism for ensuring proper implementation of these schemes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Power generation from garbage

469. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Amritsar Municipal Corporation is seeking approval to start power generation from garbage using the integrated solid waste management technology;

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof and Government's response thereto;

(c) whether Government has issued any financial assistance through the Nehru Urban Renewable Mission for such projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and

(e) whether Government is considering any scheme/policy for generation of power from garbage under NURM, if so, details thereof?

Financial and technical aid for renewable energy projects in Tamil Nadu

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

(a) the total quantity of new and renewable energy generated in various places in Tamil Nadu during the last three years;

(b) the total funds allocated and disbursed to the various new and renewable energy projects during the last three years;

(c) whether Government has provided adequate financial and technical support to these new and renewable energy projects in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of Saubhagya Scheme

471. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:
DR. PRADEEP KUMAR
BALMUCHU:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is taking the help of India Posts for collecting the data on households still without electricity, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has received any project reports on the status of the electrified houses in the States, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantum of funds allocated to each State under Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojan (Saubhagya) and the funds released so far, the details thereof, State-wise?

Electrification of villages households

472. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of households that have been electrified, so far, in the country with total households in each State, State-wise;

(b) the average proportion of villages that have received electricity out of the total number of villages in each State, State-wise; and

(c) the average number of hours for which the aforementioned households receive electricity, State-wise?

Promotion of energy efficiency

473. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made to develop a Framework for Energy Efficient Economic Development (FEEED) to promote energy efficiency using fiscal instruments under the National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE); and

(b) the number of entities that have received funds under the FEEED programme?

Power generation from Tehri Dam

†474. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the power generated from Tehri Dam in Uttarakhand from financial year 2015-16 to 2017-18;

(b) the details of free electricity received by the State and the amount of royalty received, year-wise;

(c) whether royalty received by State is expected to increase in future; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Mobile application for electricity related information

†475. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a special mobile application has been developed to facilitate citizens for providing them electricity related information in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the current status, achievement and targets of usage of the said mobile application in the country, especially in

the State of Jharkhand and the details of future plans thereof?

Power reforms in Jharkhand

†476. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that notable progress has been made in the field of power and energy reforms in the country during last two and half years, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that a scheme has been formulated to provide electricity to all by the year 2019, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the progress made targets set and future plans with respect to Jharkhand?

Closure of coal based power plants

477. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has asked Government to shut coal based Thermal Power Plants in the country for causing pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government has taken in the matter?

UDAY Scheme

478. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether all States/UTs in the country have joined the Ujwal Discom Assurance Yojana (UDAY) Scheme so far

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

and the status of those States which have not joined the scheme;

(b) whether all Private DISCOMs in the country have requested for their addition into the UDAY Scheme, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the burden borne by the State Governments after the inclusion of private DISCOMs to the list, the details of burden borne before and after the addition thereof?

Inclusion of Tuticorin under NSGM

479. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of salient features of National Smart Grid Mission (NSGM) announced by the Government;

(b) whether Tuticorin city has been included in the Smart Grid Projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor'?

Self sufficiency in power production

480. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) how far the power produced in the country is sufficient to meet its needs;

(b) whether being a clean energy, Government gives priority to use of electricity in all possible ways; and

(c) the details of expected demand of power till the year 2022 and the plannings of Government to have self-sufficiency of power in those years?

NEW DELHI;
The 31st January, 2018
Magha 11, 1939 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

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