

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Tuesday, March 6, 2018/Phalguna 15, 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

Ayurveda doctors and yoga teachers for rural areas

1121. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any policy to appoint more number of Ayurveda doctors and Yoga teachers/instructors in the rural areas and villages in our country for mass awareness and treatment for poor people;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Agreement between India and Malaysia on traditional systems of medicine

1122. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI,

SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an agreement signed between India and Malaysia for Traditional Systems of Medicine;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is an issue of registration of AYUSH practitioners and products in Malaysia; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to resolve this issue?

Establishing Herbs Collection Centres in Tamil Nadu

1123. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will come forward to establish Herbs Collection Centres in the State of Tamil Nadu

considering the presence of Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats in the State;

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

Promoting homoeopathy

1124. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has noted that over 1500 independent studies have concluded that homoeopathy is a pseudoscience;
- (b) the reasons why Government still has a department for promoting homoeopathy;
- (c) whether there is any evidence, not anecdotal in nature, which Government has that proves that homoeopathy is more beneficial than placebo; and
- (d) any evidence, not anecdotal in nature, which Government has that warrants the promotion or acceptance of homoeopathy in India?

Tribal Health Care Research Programme

1125. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to start Tribal Health Care Research Programme (THCRP) by the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS);
- (b) if so, the aims and objectives thereof;

(c) the details of targets set for 2017-18 and achievement made so far under THCRP; and

(d) the number of tribals likely to be covered under the said project?

Extension of runways of airports

1126. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the plans of Airports Authority of India (AAI) to extend runways-of a number of airports were grounded;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that AAI had invested huge amount for the extension of runways at those airports; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Unlawful activities by crew of Jet Airways

1127. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Directorate General Civil Aviation (DGCA) is aware of unlawful activities of crew members of Jet Airways such as smuggling activities, mid-air brawls and misbehaviour, with passengers, etc;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) action taken by DGCA on various unlawful activities of crew members including details of matter taken up by DGCA with the management of Jet Airways?

Air services to Satna and Rewa under UDAN Scheme

†1128. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched UDAN Scheme, to be completed in several phases, to provide the facility of air travel to the common man of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has announced air services from Bhopal to Satna and Rewa in the first phase of the 'Udan' Scheme; and

(d) if so, the by when the air service from Bhopal to Satna and Rewa would be started?

Exploitation of air travellers through dynamic pricing system

1129. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any mechanism to ensure that air travellers are not exploited through Dynamic pricing system of charging different air fares to different people at different places at different points in time, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has any mechanism to involve Air Travellers Association in the process of policy framing, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Provision of Laptops to premium travellers by AI

1130. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of

CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India is considering to provide laptops to its premium travellers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a decision is yet to be taken on whether the laptops would be offered to passengers only when the inbuilt video screens are not working or as an additional perk for the travellers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Increase in air passengers post UDAN Scheme

1131. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number and percentage of increase in air passengers after the Government's Udey Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) Scheme was launched;

(b) whether Government is planning to operate more flights in the sectors like Delhi-Bhubaneswar, Bhubaneswar-Delhi and Bhubaneswar-Bengaluru and Bengaluru-Bhubaneswar;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Construction of New International Airport in Odisha

†1132. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any announcement or proposal has been made regarding construction of a new International airport in Odisha;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof including location; and

(c) the steps taken in the direction of constructing the above mentioned new International airport and for starting flight services from it?

Induction of more aircrafts by Indian airline companies

1133. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian airline companies are likely to induct more than 900 aircraft in the coming years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as per data available with the Government many private airlines are set to significantly expand their respective fleet size;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Air India would induct three B777-300ER and sixteen A320 planes between December this year and March, 2019; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Impact of end of Haj subsidy on AI

1134. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Haj pilgrims travel by Air India only;

(b) if so, the number of Haj pilgrims that travelled by Air India during the last three years; and

(c) has there been any effect on Air India after the end of subsidy on Haj yatris; how much loss Air India will incur every year the details thereof?

Sale of food and beverages by low cost airlines

1135. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that low cost airlines are selling food and beverages on board to passengers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no receipts are paid to customers on purchasing of food items;

(c) if so, the action taken against those low cost airlines and whether any tax is being paid on those items by airlines to Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Increase in revenue earning by AAI

1136. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has been working on ways to increase its revenues from various sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that India is one of the fastest growing aviation market in the world and as such there is an urgency to create more infrastructure at all our airports; and

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

Funds released for the airports in Kerala

1137. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Domestic and

International passengers who travelled through the airports in Kerala during the last three years; and

(b) the details of fund released for the development of different airports and air navigation infrastructure in Kerala during 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and till date?

Flight services in various cities of Chhattisgarh

†1138. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to start new flight services in various parts of the country in order to save the time of common man, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the steps being taken for operating flight services in various cities of Chhattisgarh;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any time-frame has been fixed for it; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Development of airports in Telangana

1139. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan of developing the airports in the State of Telangana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any proposal from Government of Telangana has been received by the Ministry, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any airports have been identified by the Ministry for development and if so, the quantum of funds allocated and released so far; and

(e) the stand of the Government in this regard?

Criteria for selection to passenger consultative Committee/body

1140. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for each of the airports in India there is a user/passenger consultative Committee or body;

(b) if so, the list of members of each of such bodies existing in the various airports of India; and

(c) what is the criteria for selection of members for this Committee or body?

Closure of non-functional air strips

1141. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan to close permanently those air strips which are not generating any revenue and remaining defunct for many years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Completion of work at Gulbarga Airport

1142. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) since when Government of Karnataka is working on Gulbarga airport;

(b) what was the original cost estimated when the project started;

(c) when the airport will become operational actually, and what will be the final cost?

Permission for setting up of airlines by Qatar Airways

1143. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Qatar Airways has submitted its application for setting up of its airlines in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of that application;

(c) how Government looks at Qatar Airways in view of the recent banning of Qatar Airways by many Middle East countries saying that it is promoting terrorism; and

(d) whether Government is still in favour of Qatar Airways and if so, the reasons therefor?

Pending dues payable to AAI by Kingfisher Airlines

1144. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ₹ 204.69 crore is due to Airports Authority of India (AAI) from Kingfisher Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by AAI to recover the dues?

Use of mobile phones in the flights

1145. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on giving permission for use of mobile phones in the flights; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by which time this will come into force?

Wildlife Strikes at airports

1146. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Wildlife Strikes at airports have increased alarmingly in the recent years;

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

(c) whether Government has prepared any action plan to tackle the alarmingly increasing Wildlife Strikes at airports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Non-payment of principal/interest on fixed deposits by companies

1147. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received several representations from orthopaedic Physically Handicapped persons regarding non-payment of principal and interest on their fixed deposits with M/s Ansal Properties and Infrastructure Ltd., New Delhi;

(b) if so, the complete details in this regard;

(c) whether Government have taken any action against the company for withholding principal/interest of handicapped persons and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what are Government's guidelines in dealing with such cases and whether Government would formulate strict guidelines to deal with defaulter companies?

Pending cases under Companies Act, 2013

1148. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is huge backlog of pending cases of litigation under the Companies Act, 2013;

(b) if so, the details of the total pending cases;

(c) whether Government is taking any steps to review these litigations in a time bound manner; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Review of implementation of provisions of CSR

1149. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans to review the state of implementation of the provisions of the existing Act related to Corporate Social Responsibility, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether there are any cases of

companies not adhering to/disregarding the CSR related provisions, if so, the action taken by Government against such companies?

Action against audit firms

1150. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has demanded for more power to slap penalties on audit firms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a large section of ICAI members demands further steps against some audit firms; and

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

CSR for dairy sector

†1151. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that dairy industry is facing various problems like high tax on dairy products, the poor breed of most of the cows and buffaloes, lack of organised dairy farms, lack of investment, high cost of machines and equipments of dairy and duty on dairy equipments;

(b) whether Government is considering to make promotion of dairy sector a part of Corporate Social Responsibility for increasing investment in dairy sector and to get rid of these problems; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Appear once before CCI by its retired officials

1152. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that retired officials of Competition Commission of India (CCI) appear before it;

(b) whether it is a fact that this is violation of the spirit and guidelines of prohibiting former officials of such bodies to practice before it or subordinate bodies;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Delhi High Court has prohibited such practices of such officials before CCI and the same has been upheld by Supreme Court; and

(d) what steps Government proposes to take to ensure all former officials of CCI do not appear before it in disputes so that fair play and impartiality is ensured?

Registered companies in Manipur

1153. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of registered companies in Manipur;

(b) how many of them are declared as dormant and how many of them are filing their statutory returns regularly;

(c) the contributions of those companies in CSR funding and the details of their utilisation during the last three years; and

(d) the details of CSR funding by companies from the rest of the country for use in the State?

Recapitalisation of PSBs

1154. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) are being recapitalised with ₹ 2,11,000 crores worth of public money;

(b) whether the money being pushed for recapitalisation of the Public Sector Banks is public money or it has been generated through any other source;

(c) whether it means that the NPA accumulated by the Public Sector Banks due to non-payment of loans by large private companies is being written off and recapitalised with public money; and

(d) what has compelled Government to decide to use public money to write off large private companies' liabilities with the banks?

Formation of fiscal council

1155. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the top economists and experts suggested to the PM that the credibility of the finance budget should be improved by sticking to the targets set and making more realistic projections;

(b) whether it is a fact that the top economists have also suggested the PM for formation of a 'fiscal council' that would be in charge of evaluating budget estimates and fiscal targets and will be answerable to the Parliament also not just to the Finance Ministry; and

(c) if so, how far Government is serious about constituting the fiscal council?

Involvement of airlines employees in smuggling

1156. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of late incidents of involvement of employees of airlines in smuggling of foreign currency, gold and other contraband in and out of the country have increased manifold;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last two years, year-wise, airport-wise and airlines-wise;

(c) what action Government has taken on such cases; and

(d) what preventive measures Government propose to take in the matter?

Unearthing of benami deals

†1157. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether benami deals give impetus to black money;

(b) what is Government's reaction in this regard;

(c) the provisions made by Government at central level with regard to benami deals; and

(d) the efforts made by Government to unearth benami deals till date?

Fraudulent transactions in PNB by a jewellery company

1158. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has received complaints from Punjab National Bank (PNB) against a jewellery company about fraudulent transactions worth ₹ 10,000 crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the shares of PNB tumbled more than 8 per cent after the fraud came to light and the investors in PNB lost over ₹ 4,000 crore; and

(d) whether some senior officers of PNB are involved in the fraud and if so, the details thereof and action taken against each one of them?

Interest rates on small savings schemes

1159. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for reducing interest rates in small savings comprising of Postal Savings Schemes, Senior Citizen Savings Scheme and Public Provident Fund (PPF);

(b) whether drastic reduction in interest rates is impacting adversely upon the social security of senior citizens who are totally depended upon interest earnings for their survival;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to enhance interest rate on senior citizen savings scheme and PPF holders and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to address the genuine concern of small savers, particularly senior citizens and PPF holders while reviewing the interest rates?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Increase in rate of default in repayment of agricultural loans

†1160. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number and amount of agricultural loans waived off during the last three years, till date State-wise;

(b) whether due to waiving off of such loans, the rate of default in repayment of loans has increased in some States in the recent months, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether any action has been taken or is being taken by Government to resolve this problem, if so, the details thereof?

Opening of bank branches in villages

1161. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is mulling to set up bank branches in each of the villages with more than 5000 population so that every household in a village will have bank account;

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

(c) whether the need for such a thing is imperative in the backdrop of demonetisation of high value currency notes?

Protection of interest of depositors in Odisha

1162. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken

for inclusion of suitable provision in the proposed Bill titled Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes and Protection of Depositors Interest Bill, 2016, so as to save the action already taken under Odisha Protection of Interest of Depositors (OPID) Act, 2011 and also to save the actions which are continuing under the said State Act; and

(b) if not, whether necessary actions, suitable in this regard, will be taken immediately?

Participation of States in E-way bill system

1163. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ten States have joined Government's centralised e-way bill system for inter-State transport of goods by road under the GST regime to plug revenue leakages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the new regime will become mandatory from next month with all inter and intra State movement across the country and will be tracked from June, 2018; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Non-acceptance of ₹ 10 coin

1164. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many traders were not accepting ₹ 10 coin;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Reserve Bank of India has declared that all 14 types of ₹ 10 coin are legally valid; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Partial withdrawal under NPS

1165. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pension Fund Regulatory Development Authority has relaxed the norms for partial withdrawal under the National Pension Scheme (NPS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the NPS subscribers who have contributed for three years can now withdraw upto 25 per cent of the corpus subject to conditions; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that earlier the NPS subscribers were allowed to make a withdrawal from the corpus only after 10 years?

Beneficiaries under DBT

1166. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total numbers of Districts which have accessibility to the Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT) in the country and the details thereof;

(b) the details of the centrally sponsored schemes/central sector schemes and scholarship schemes where cash is transferred to the beneficiaries;

(c) the total amount of money which has been transferred *via* Direct Benefit Transfers platforms to the beneficiaries in the last three years and current year along-with the number of people in the country who got benefited through the mission; and

(d) the details thereof with specific reference to the LPG subsidy scheme?

Anti profiteering mechanism under GST

1167. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether anti profiteering mechanism under GST has been made operational;

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

(c) the details regarding complaints received under anti profiteering mechanism;

(d) the details of action taken on such complaints; and

(e) the specific details regarding complaints received in Rajasthan and action taken thereon?

Change in dates of transfer of States' share in federal taxes

1168. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to change the dates to transfer of States' share in federal taxes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for change in dates of transfers to States;

(d) whether Government has decided to shift to quarterly transfer to States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with reasons therefor?

Budget allocations for MSP and Free Medical Care schemes

1169. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has announced 1.5 times the cost of production of crops as MSP in budget 2018-19 and free medical care to 10 crore families;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any allocation for the above two schemes have been made in the budget;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the details of mode of funding for these schemes as announced?

Increase in minimum pay and fitment factor

1170. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is actively contemplating to increase minimum pay from ₹ 18,000/- to ₹ 21,000/- and fitment factor from 2.57 to 3, in view of resentment among Central Government employees over historically lowest increase in pay by 7th Central Pay Commission (CPC);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the date from which it would be implemented; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for the callous attitude of Government towards Government Employees?

Usurious interest levied on loans and advances by banks

1171. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received a number of complaints that usurious interest (including processing and other charges) are levied on loans and advances by public/private sector banks across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government;
- (d) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has framed any guidelines to regulate lending rate of interest on various loans offered by the public or private sector banks; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Loss of income from tax by States due to GST

1172. SHRI MOHD. ALL KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the States have apprehensions of loss of income from tax due to adoption of GST in place of existing tax system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to bridge the loss of income of the States from the Union Budget?

Abolition of Swachh Bharat and Krishi Kalyan Cess

1173. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Swachh Bharat Cess and the Krishi Kalyan Cess have been abolished; and

(b) if so, how Government plans to make up for the loss of funding for the schemes related to sanitation and farmers' welfare and the details thereof?

**Inclusion of CEC into GST
Compensation Fund**

1174. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for including the Clean Environment Cess (CEC) into the GST Compensation Fund;

(b) whether Government has planned an alternative source to fund the National Clean Energy and Environment Fund; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Commercial bank branches in rural
India**

1175. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rural branches of Nationalised Commercial Banks in rural India are less in number;

(b) if so, what are number of rural bank branches of PSBs in the country, State-wise; and

(c) what are the number of Urban, Semi-Urban and City Branches of Nationalised Commercial Banks in the country, State-wise?

Utilisation of Coal Cess collections

1176. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the purpose of collecting Coal Cess and details of different heads on which Coal Cess money can be utilised;

(b) the details of provisions of law which authorise collection and use of Coal Cess;

(c) the details of the amount of Coal Cess transferred to National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF) since, 2010 onwards;

(d) the details of projects, through NCEF or otherwise on which expenditure has been financed from Coal Cess, since 2010 onwards; and

(e) how much fund collected under Coal Cess will be utilised for payment of compensation to States for GST implementation and under what provision of law?

MSME loan to SCs/STs

1177. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) total number of MSME loan and amount given to SCs/STs by Nationalised Banks, Scheduled Banks and Private Banks;

(b) the total amount disbursed under MSME during 2014-15 to 2016-17; and

(c) the number of mortgage loans above ₹ 3 lakhs distributed among SCs/STs during 2014-15 to 2016-17?

**GST exemption on food served to
patients**

1178. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to exempt the food served to patients by hospitals from the ambit of GST;

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

(c) the details of GST exemption provided to various such philanthropic and noble services post-GST?

(c) if such enactment or regulation has not yet come into being, the reasons therefor?

Action against unauthorised transactions at PNB

1179. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRI ANIL DESAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Punjab National Bank (PNB) reported unauthorised transactions worth ₹ 11,500 crore recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of action taken by CBI and Enforcement Directorate to file cases and to recover money;

(d) the measures taken to ensure that such serious unauthorised transactions do not take place in any nationalised bank; and

(e) whether this fraud would add upto NPAs of PNB and if so, the details thereof?

National Tax Blacklist

1180. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has enacted any legislation or regulation ensuring National Tax Blacklist which prescribes negative treatment for certain transactions involving specified foreign jurisdictions, commonly known as tax havens;

(b) if so, how many uncooperative tax havens or specified foreign jurisdiction have so far been blacklisted under such enactment or regulation, the details thereof; and

Loans to Nirav Modi and his associates by PNB

1181. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nirav Modi and his associates took a huge amount of loan from the Punjab National Bank (PNB) in the last few years; and

(b) if so, the amount of loans given to Nirav Modi and his associates, year-wise?

Action on alert raised by whistleblower

1182. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the whistleblower Hari Prasad alerted the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in 2016 regarding the fraud committed by Nirav Modi; and

(b) if so, the details of the action initiated after the whistleblower raised the issue?

Utilisation of revenue from various cess

1183. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of how the revenue collected from various cesses is used and for which purpose are they used, cess-wise, State-wise, since 2014;

(b) the details of various cesses, where the revenue from them is used on purposes

other than for which they were collected, State-wise, since 2014; and

(c) the details of the amount spent from the revenue from all types of cess and the amount carried forward to the next year, year-wise, since 2014?

Agreement with other countries on money laundering information

1184. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has entered with an agreement with other countries particularly Singapore, Mauritius, Cayman Islands and other tax havens to share the mutual flow of information pertaining to money laundering and funding, etc. and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the action plan being taken by the concerned countries in this regard;

(c) whether money coming into India from foreign countries for various purposes as Participatory Note were monitored/ scanned/probed;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the agency-wise findings thereof during the last three years; and

(e) the action taken by Government in this regard so far?

Electoral Bond Scheme

1185. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has prepared a Draft Electoral Bond Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme was prepared

in consultation with RBI and the Election Commission of India;

(d) if so, the details of these consultations and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether civil society organisations were consulted on the implementation of this scheme;

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

(g) whether the 255th Law Commission Report on Electoral Reforms suggested against opacity in political funding; and

(h) if so, how is the scheme in line with the recommendations of the Law Commission?

Fraud by financial companies through PSBs

†1186. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some financial companies are indulging in fraud against public through Nationalised Banks;

(b) if so, whether Government would conduct a proper inquiry into the sources of amounts deposited by the alleged company booked under case number 0047 dated 28th January, 2017 in Geeta Colony Police Station, East Delhi with Indusind Bank, Chandani Chowk Branch A/c number 100026748028 and 100027131012, Canara Bank, Green Park extension branch A/c number 0350101019946 and Syndicate Bank Geeta Colony branch A/c number 91352010032429, and take appropriate action; and

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Improvement in direct tax collection

1187. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the direct tax collections during the first nine and a half months of the current fiscal have risen by 18.7 per cent to ₹ 6.89 lakh crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there has been consistent and significant improvement in the position of direct tax collections during the current fiscal;

(d) whether the growth rate of total gross collections has improved from 10 per cent in quarter one to 10.3 per cent in quarter 2 to 12.6 per cent in quarter three and 13.5 per cent as on January 15, 2018; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Investigation of amount deposited during demonetisation

†1188. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering investigation of amount deposited by employees of Central Government at the time of demonetisation;

(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?

Tax incentives to Special Category Status States post GST

1189. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of India is on record to say that "Special Category Status" is no more an issue and no States would be given or extended Special Category Status and once GST is implemented, even Special Category States would not be given any tax incentives;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that recently Government of India has extended tax incentives to Special Category States after implementation of GST overriding its own decision that no tax incentives would be given to Special Category States under GST; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Improper implementation of MUDRA Loans Scheme

1190. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that its flagship programme MUDRA Loans is not being implemented properly in States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that banks are not coming forward to offer loans to the aspiring entrepreneurs thereby affecting Government of India Stand Up India programme also;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to instruct the bankers to provide favourable situation to the MUDRA loan seekers?

Widening of fiscal deficit

1191. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's fiscal

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

deficit may widen further to 3.5 per cent for Gross Domestic Product in the Financial Year 2018-19 after breaching the target of this year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government may go for fiscal easing and increase its spending in the coming months; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Data exchange project of customs departments

1192. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the customs department is currently working with the Department of Posts on a data exchange project to effectively deal with cases of outright smuggling;

(b) whether it is a fact that these two departments are collaborating on the security and customs related electronic exchange of data project;

(c) whether it is also a fact that once it is implemented, this project will enable computerisation of postal imports/exports and the postal and customs departments to exchange advance data; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Action on information of PNB fraud by PMO

1193. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister Office (PMO) was informed about a diamond Tsar engineered scam in Punjab National Bank (PNB) in 2016 as reported in a section of the media;

(b) if so, what action was initiated; and

(c) if not, when Government became aware of the scam and what steps have been taken to arrest the businessman and recover the money?

AP entitlement out of CSS

1194. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any request from Government of Andhra Pradesh to release funds under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) in the ratio of 90:10 between the Centre and State as announced in the special package instead of reimbursing them towards repayment of loan for Externally Aided Projects (EAPs), if so, the details thereof;

(b) the difference of amount the Andhra Pradesh Government is entitled to receive if the funds are released @90 per cent during the last four financial years under various centrally sponsored schemes; and

(c) whether Government of India is releasing these funds through NABARD?

Frauds in banking sector

1195. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on announcement of recapitalisation package to Public Sector Banks (PSBs), NPAs and scams with frauds in banking sector are significantly reported;

(b) if so, the amount lost by PSBs in the last five years and cases of frauds reported during this period up to February, 2018; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon and the reasons behind huge amount of unauthorised transactions thereof?

Steps to prevent frauds in banking sector

1196. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to reports, the scam relating to fraudulent transactions worth more than ₹ 11000 crores at the State-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB), Mumbai had its genesis in 2011 and that the fraud was detected only after more than six years;

(b) to what extent the banking sector regulator is perceived to have overlooked the gradual erosion of due diligence expected of the top banking officials handling huge cash transactions or money transfer operations for large clients; and

(c) what cautionary steps are planned in the banking system to prevent such frauds in future?

Withdrawal of ratings assigned by CARE to PNB

1197. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the fraud-hit Punjab National Bank (PNB) to conduct a forensic audit and to give a detailed report as to why the fraudulent Letters of Undertakings (LoUs) were not unearthed earlier from 2011 till now;

(b) whether the victim bank had consistently ignored crucial warnings by CARE ratings in February, 2016 that the flagship company of the accused Firestar

International had a high leverage, large off balance sheet exposure; and

(c) whether in a curious turn of events, the ratings agency had withdrawn the ratings assigned to the bank facilities of Firestar International with immediate effect?

Fund collection for not maintaining minimum balance in saving bank accounts

1198. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI P.L. PUNIA:

Will the the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) details of the funds collected by various banks from account holders for not maintaining minimum balance in saving bank accounts;

(b) whether the imposition of this charge was authorised by Government, if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the action taken by Government to reduce this burden on account holders; and

(c) the details of the charges imposed for not maintaining minimum balance in saving accounts along with total amount collected under this head, Bank-wise?

Refund of exporters claims

1199. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has promised to refund 90 per cent of exporters claims within 7 days on 5 January, 2017;

(b) if so, the details of the exporters who received the benefit along with the interest paid;

(c) the details of the refunds dispersed along with the amount and date; and

(d) whether this was done only to help the exporters from the effects of post demonetisation?

(d) the effective measures taken or being taken by Government to stop frauds in banks?

Payment of GST by Sulabh International Service Organisation

†1200. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether no GST is being paid on the prescribed amount received on account of the use of Sulabh Shauchalaya being run in various cities by Sulabh International Service Organisation;

(b) the taxes paid by this organisation during the last five years; and

(c) the extent of grants provided to Sulabh International Services Organisation so far by Government for various social activities?

Early detection of frauds in banks

1201. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of fraud cases detected and the action taken against the officials/banks during the last two years, bank-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether Government has developed any mechanism to detect fraud in banks before it is reported against offenders;

(c) whether the number of fraud cases involving bank officials has increased during the last three years, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

Banks cheated by individuals and companies

1202. KUMARI SELJA:
SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many public sector and private banks have been cheated by individuals and companies in the last three years;

(b) the details of such banks and amounts involved;

(c) how many culprits have been apprehended and money retrieved;

(d) whether it is a fact that thousands of crores of rupees are lost by the banks; and

(e) what is the preventive machinery at present and its effectiveness?

Status of economic growth

1203. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of performance of the economy during each of the last three years along with the factors responsible for the slow down, sector-wise;

(b) the details of the growth forecast for the current and subsequent years and the changes made;

(c) whether the economic growth has benefited all sections of the society and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the steps taken by Government to boost the economic growth and to ensure that economic growth benefits all sections of society?

Targets to collect under PMGKY

1204. SHRI DEVENDR GOUD T.: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry had set targets to each of the Income Tax range to collect funds under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) and this has led to harassment by the officers;

(b) whether the officials asked the assessee first to file details about cash remittances between 9 November, 2016 to 31 December, 2016 and again send notices to appear before them;

(c) why even after this they are asked to file Form 61A; and

(d) the objective behind all this?

Scams in PSBs involving

†1205. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the banks including Punjab National Bank (PNB) where the facts regarding issuance of LoU has arisen which led to unearthing of a big scam; and

(b) the details of magnitude of the scam from the information received so far and the names of the persons whose involvement is coming into light?

Emphasis on primary healthcare

1206. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the New National Health Policy (2017), emphasis has been given on providing major part of resources to primary healthcare;

(b) if so, the short-term and long-term targets and action plans set in this regard;

(c) whether in the New National Health Policy emphasis has been also laid on regular inspection and evaluation of public hospitals and health facilities;

(d) if so, whether any action plan has been prepared in this regard and whether work is underway as per the action plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Uniform law for food safety

1207. SHRI SAMBAJJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplates a uniform law for implementation, compliance and surveillance in food safety;

(b) whether Government has any plan to pursue 'one-nation, one-food-safety-law' to standardize food safety laws across all the States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued guidelines to all the notified food test laboratories; and

(e) what steps FSSAI has taken for strengthening and upgradation of the food testing infrastructure in the country to bring it at par with international standards?

Cases filed against Government doctors

1208. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases, in the last three years, have been initiated by the Medical Council of India against doctors serving in Central Government;

(b) of these, in how many cases have licences of doctors been cancelled; and

(c) the particulars of such doctors along with their present status?

Outcome of National Health Profile report

1209. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Health Profile have recently submitted its report and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has examined the report and if so, the details of the outcome; and

(c) the steps proposed by Government to effect improvement in areas where it is lacking?

People affected by mental health issues

1210. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people affected by mental health issues in the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that according to a WHO sponsored study in 2011, India has been ranked as the most depressed country in the world;

(c) whether counselling sessions have been made mandatory in all kinds of institutions ranging from schools to offices, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to address the stigma of mental health problems in the rural areas?

Observance of World Cancer Day, 2018

1211. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government observed World Cancer Day, 2018 in the country;

(b) if so, details thereof along with the steps taken to achieve the aims and objectives of the event;

(c) the detailed programmes organised by Government to mark this occasion along with the funds allocated for this purpose;

(d) the details of various new treatments/innovations being introduced in the field of cancer globally during last three years;

(e) whether Government intends to adopt such new innovations, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor; and

(f) the other steps taken by Government to give assistance/facilities for research in treatment of cancer through Ayurveda?

Violation of Food Safety and Standards Act

1212. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many instances of violation of/non-compliance of the Food Safety and Standards Act were reported against food processing companies in the country in the last three years along with the details of violators and the action taken by Government in this regard;

(b) whether FSSAI and the State Food Authorities conduct surveys of food business activity under their jurisdiction; and

(c) if so, details of the last three years, State/UT-wise and if not, reasons therefor?

MDR and XDR-TB patients

1213. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to World Health Organisation, India shoulders 71,000 multi-drugs resistant (MDR), tuberculosis (TB) patients;

(b) whether it is also a fact that according to a WHO report, 10 per cent of all multi-drugs resistant TB patients have extensively drug resistant TB or XDR-TB; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that India has about 2,300 XDR-TB patients and

only 36 are currently on Government's access programme?

Illegal sale of antibiotic cocktails

1214. SHRI JOYABRAHAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of a report in the British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology stating that 64 per cent of antibiotic cocktails sold in India are illegal;

(b) if so, the State-wise data of illegal antibiotic cocktails found being sold in India during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken by Government to stop the illegal sale of such drugs by ensuring adequate supply of legal medicines?

Subsidized vaccines/medicines for swine flu

1215. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many incidents of swine flu have been recorded in the past year;

(b) whether Government has provided subsidized vaccination or medicines for swine flu; and

(c) if so, whether Government follows any international standards before approving a medicine or vaccine to be sold in India?

Claims under RSBY

1216. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many people have been given

coverage under the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojna (RSBY);

(b) how many claims have been raised under the RSBY in the past three years and for how many cases, coverage has been extended out of the claims so raised; and

(c) how many claims have been made by people from BPL families out of the claims made?

Quality of medicines supplied to Government hospitals

1217. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is in the knowledge of Government that spurious medicines market is expanding throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including approximate market capital of these medicines;

(c) whether it is a fact that spurious medicine agents are particularly targeting Government supplies, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether there is a mechanism in Government to check the quality of the medicines supplied to Government agencies meant for the supply in Government hospitals?

Private practice by Government doctors

1218. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is fully

responsible for controlling the healthcare system in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the doctors working in the Government Hospitals in the North East especially Assam are also running nursing homes and private hospitals; and

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

Probe into clinical trial violations

1219. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no clarity on probe into clinical trial violations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Drug Controller General of India had begun investigation in respect of nine firms regarding clinical trials; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Death of a medical student

1220. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a medical student from Tamil Nadu died in a Delhi hospital recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will conduct an inquiry on the death of the said medical student; and

(d) the steps taken to control the increasing trends of suicide/suicide attempts among medical students in the country?

Ambulances with Government hospitals

1221. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many ambulances are presently available in Government Hospitals situated in Delhi, Mumbai, Jaipur, Dausa and Udaipur;

(b) whether all ambulances of the above Government Hospitals are in working condition;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether all calls which were received for help of ambulance service during the last three years were attended to; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Delay in opening of new blocks of Safdarjung Hospital, Delhi

1222. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that funds crunch is holding up opening of new emergency and super speciality-cum-paid blocks at Safdarjung Hospital;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total approved cost of the project, amount released and spent so far and the remaining amount to be spent; and

(d) by what time the blocks will be completed and opened to public?

New hospitals and medical colleges

†1223. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to establish new hospitals maternity centres and medical colleges in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the State of Chhattisgarh;

(c) by when the said institutions are likely to be operational;

(d) whether people in large number die due to lack of hospitals/medical facilities in tribal areas of the country including Chhattisgarh; and

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

Surge in TB cases in the country

1224. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India tops the list of countries with most new TB cases in 2016 and accounts for 64 per cent of cases world-wide as reported by WHO;

(b) if so, details of findings of WHO and reasons for such surge in the number of TB cases in the country;

(c) whether investments made by Government for TB care and prevention fall short of the required funds causing surge in the number of TB patients;

(d) if so, details thereof and reasons for shortage of funds allocated by Government for the purpose; and

(e) the effective measures taken by Government in this regard?

FSSAI's draft notification on food and health supplements

1225. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued a draft notification for regulating various norms relating to labeling, quality and safety of food and health supplements, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether FSSAI proposes to fix permissible limits of various ingredients used in products based on traditional health systems, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether FSSAI has elicited/proposes to elicit views of manufacturers of food and health supplements on the issue and the said notifications; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government and measures being taken by Government in this regard?

Treatment at nominal cost for kidney and diabetic patients

1226. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of kidney and diabetic patients are increasing in the country;

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

(c) the number of kidney and diabetic patients treated in Government hospitals during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the efforts made by Government in facilitating better treatment of such patients at nominal cost?

Deaths of infants at Nashik Civil Hospital

1227. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of infants died in the Special Newborn Care Unit of the Nashik Civil Hospital recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what adequate steps Government is taking to improve the infrastructure like incubators and ventilators for saving the lives of infants?

Fall in India's HAQ ranking

1228. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the Healthcare Access Quality (HAQ), Ranking India has fallen 11 places, and now ranks 154 out of 195 countries much below China, Sri Lanka and even Bangladesh;

(b) the details of neonatal mortality in India and steps taken by Government in this regard;

(c) steps taken by Government regarding access to tuberculosis treatment in India (26) which is lower than Pakistan (29), Congo (30) and Djibouti (29); and

(d) concrete steps taken by Government to achieve healthcare goals and bridge the gap between the score and predicted score which has widened in last twenty five years?

Laws for food fortification

1229. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning for oil fortification as viable means to address micro-nutrient deficiency;

(b) if so, whether Government is planning for Centrally mandated laws for food fortification; and

(c) if so, whether Government is seeking assistance from global organisations working in the nutrition and healthcare sector to help industries and public-private alliances build technical capacity for cost-effective oil fortification while improving quality control?

Budgetary outlay for health sector

1230. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for reducing the budgetary outlay for National Health Mission and National Rural Health Mission in 2018-19, compared to the revised estimates in 2017-18;

(b) the reasons for the revised expenditure on Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) in 2017-18 being less than half of what was allocated in the budget;

(c) the measures taken to improve the utilization of funds allocated to RSBY, State-wise, in the last three years; and

(d) the details of the measures taken by Government to increase the health insurance coverage among the poor, State-wise, in the last three years?

Spurious drugs

†1231. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that 208 drugs have been found to be spurious in investigations during the last five years;

(b) whether it is a fact that zero components were found in most of the drugs;

(c) if so, the concrete steps taken by Government to impose the complete ban on the production of spurious drugs and outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the details thereof?

Curbing adulteration of milk

†1232. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times samples of milk have been collected across the country since 2014 till date by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and percentage of milk found adulterated out of it;

(b) whether it is also a fact that milk is adulterated with items like urea, detergent etc. which raises the risk of diseases like cardiac diseases and cancer and also damages digestive system;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to check adulteration in milk and the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Safety seals on healthcare and hygiene products

1233. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no mandatory regulation for the manufacturers to adhere to safety sealing of products of healthcare and hygiene concerns;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) how does the Ministry propose to ensure safety of the products from adulteration and contamination in the absence of safety seals on the healthcare and hygiene products; and

(c) whether the Ministry will consider making it mandatory for the manufacturers of healthcare and hygiene products to have safety seals on their products in order to protect them from adulteration and contamination?

Support to nursing schools

1234. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of funds released under the 'Upgradation/Strengthening of Nursing Services (ANM-GNM) and Development of Nursing Services' Schemes since 2010, year-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the number of Nursing schools established and upgraded under the scheme since 2014, year-wise and State-wise?

Health and Wellness Centres

1235. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) created as per National Health Policy 2017 in 2017-18;

(b) the quantum of funds allocated for HWCs in 2017-18; and

(c) the quantum of funds released for creation of HWCs in 2017-18?

Establishment of AIIMS in Andhra Pradesh

1236. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps for establishment of AIIMS in Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the present status of the institute along with the funds allocated and released so far;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay in establishment of AIIMS in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) what are the other institutions to be established in Andhra Pradesh under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as per the promise of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014;

(e) the details of the funds allocated and released so far to such institutions; and

(f) the steps being taken by Government for early establishment?

Synthesizing AYUSH and modern medicines

1237. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether AYUSH and Modern Medicine department/institutions work hand in hand so far as mass treatments of patients and people are concerned;

(b) whether there is any attempt to synthesize knowledge available in these systems of medicine, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a tendency to glorify one of these systems and deprecate the other; and

(d) Government's view regarding synthesis of these systems?

Measures to control vector borne diseases

1238. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been successful in identifying bacteria/viruses that spread contagious diseases;

(b) to what extent is the vector control and other methods successful;

(c) which are the States where the threat of these diseases is serious; and

(d) how effective and widespread is Government apparatus to bring them under control?

Unregulated production and sale of antibiotics

1239. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many multinational companies continue to produce and sell unregulated antibiotics in India; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to regulate the antibiotics production and sale in the country and the details thereof?

Raising salary of nurses working on contract basis

1240. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Tamil Nadu has sent any Project Implementation Plan

to the Central Government to increase the salary of nurses employed on contract basis;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and decision taken by Government;

(c) whether Government had taken any measures to implement the SC judgement on equal pay for equal work with regard to the nurses employed on contract basis; and

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

Rapid growth in population

1241. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a note of the rapidly increasing population in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has formulated any useful scheme to control population in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated/released and utilized during the last three years and the current year to achieve the target, State-wise?

New deadline to eliminate Malaria

1242. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons that 87 per cent of Malaria cases in South East Asia are reported from India;

(b) whether it is a fact that the global deadline for eliminating Malaria was 2014, but even after three years, leave alone eliminating, India is not able to limit the Malaria cases;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government has set a new deadline of 2027 to eliminate Malaria from the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and what is the plan of action to eliminate Malaria from the country?

Eliminating serious diseases from the country

†1243. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering to eliminate a disease like TB from the country;

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

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

Increase in expenditure under National Health Policy, 2017

†1244. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has accorded approval to a new National Health Policy in March, 2017;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether expenditure on public health has been increased in the States since March, 2017; and

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

Mandatory rural posting of specialist doctors

†1245. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate a National Policy giving special attention on health for providing quality healthcare facilities to the economically weaker sections of the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government also proposes to make the services of specialist doctors mandatory in rural areas for a certain period of time?

Demand for pay scales review by All India Nursing Association

†1246. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that All India Nursing Association is demanding for the review in its pay scales and an increase in the allowances, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has taken any decision on their demands; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to calm down nursing unions and persuade them to take back their call for strike?

Medical college in every district

†1247. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

proposal to open a medical college in every district of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not establishing the medical college in Samastipur, Bihar which has already been sanctioned, and the details thereof?

Shortcomings at AIIMS, Patna

†1248. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has got an AIIMS hospital constructed in Patna, Bihar for better treatment;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are many Departments in AIIMS, Patna where doctors have not yet been appointed and for want of many test machines, better treatment is not becoming possible; and

(c) the manner in which Government, in view of these situations, proposes to overcome these shortcomings in less time, the details thereof?

Antibiotic resistance

1249. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether antibiotic resistance is reported widely in India;

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

(c) whether Government is taking any concrete measures to address the problem of misuse of antibiotics?

Spread of HIV through blood transfusion

1250. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that blood transfusion has emerged as the prime cause of HIV positive cases in the country;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government therefor;

(c) the details of State-wise statistics of HIV patients during the last three years therein; and

(d) the complaints of infection received through blood transfusion so far and the proposal of Government to mandate HIV check in all samples thereof?

New CGHS dispensary at Faridabad, Haryana

1251. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CGHS dispensary, Faridabad, does not cater to all the serving employees of Central Government residing in Faridabad;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of areas which this dispensary caters to along with number of card holders;

(c) whether pensioners of Central Government residing in Faridabad and adjoining areas can avail of the facility of Faridabad dispensary;

(d) if so, the details of the areas and number of pensioners;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) whether Government proposes to open another CGHS dispensary in Faridabad; and

(f) if so, the exact location and by when it will become operational?

Studies on health and rural indebtedness

1252. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies to understand the relation between health and rural indebtedness has been conducted;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if so, whether Government is taking any measure to address the problem of indebtedness caused by health issues, if so, the details thereof of the measures proposed to be taken in this regard by Government?

Measures to check spread of TB in Maharashtra

1253. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is at the top in the list of highest number of Tuberculosis patients in the world, particularly in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details of the precautionary measures Government is taking/proposes to take; and

(c) whether Government has any target period for sustainable development of healthcare for the people of the country and if so, the details thereof?

On time vaccination of children

1254. SHRI C. M. RAMESH:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

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

(a) the details of recently released National Family Health Survey IV;

(b) whether it is a fact that 72 per cent of children are not getting vaccinated on time;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a few North-Eastern States, UP, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand are the States where vaccination has not been done on time; and

(d) if so, what coordinated efforts the Ministry is going to make to ensure that all children are vaccinated on time?

Creation of Indian Medical Services

1255. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 116 given in the Rajya Sabha on 15 July, 2014 and state:

(a) the updated status of action taken by the Ministry on the two representations referred therein on the subject;

(b) whether the Ministry has sought comments of the State Governments and other stakeholders on the issue;

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

(d) whether Government would take initiative and call upon State Governments to explore the possibility of creating a separate cadre—Indian Medical Services—so as to facilitate availability of quality medical personnel in the States, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Expenditure to be borne by States for NHPS

1256. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the preliminary calculations undertaken by the Ministry, the States will have to bear an expenditure of ₹ 4,330 crores annually to implement National Health Protection Scheme (NHPS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the share is 60:40 or 75:25 or 90:10;

(d) whether similar schemes are being implemented in any State; and

(e) if so, what is the experience of such States and the details of such schemes, State-wise?

Rapid rise in cancer cases

†1257. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of various types of cancer are increasing at a very fast pace in the country and experts believe that this disease may increase upto 30 per cent by 2022;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the poor are unable to get treatment of cancer in the country due to its high cost of treatment;

(c) whether Government proposes to

notify the cancer disease like in the case of tuberculosis; and

(d) whether Government proposes to check the tobacco products apprehending that their use might result in cancer?

Monitoring mechanism to test quality of drugs

1258. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

(a) whether Government has set up any monitoring mechanism to test the quality of drugs;

(b) if so, the mechanism available to test the quality of drugs being sold in the market; and

(c) the action taken by Government in case of detection of poor quality of drugs?

New initiatives/policies in health sector

1259. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

(a) whether Government proposes to implement new initiatives and policies for the overall development of the health sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount spent on various schemes/programmes during the last two years, State-wise?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Use of Wi-fi in commercial aircrafts

1260. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to allow the use of Wi-Fi in commercial aircrafts operating over Indian Territory;

(b) whether Government has carried out a study to examine the security implications of the same; and

(c) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued any direction to restrict the carrying of certain mobile phones in the flights in view of reported incidents of accidents in the flights?

Harassment complaints by ASHA workers

†1261. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:

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

(a) the various works under various schemes being carried out by ASHA workers and the State-wise commission and honorarium being provided to them *in lieu* of these works;

(b) whether doctors/officers posted at primary health centres and community health centres demand for a commission from ASHA workers and they harass them in many ways in case they do not get commission and reduce their honorarium; and

(c) details of deductions made in honorarium of these ASHA workers in last three years and whether the Ministry would contemplate to increase honorarium of ASHA workers or would consider to regularise them?

Vacant posts of cancer specialists in hospitals

†1262. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:

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

(a) the number of doctors/physicians working at present against the sanctioned strength of cancer doctors and the number of vacant posts of cancer doctors/specialists in central hospitals across the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that treatment is not possible in various States due to lack of cancer specialists there which compels cancer patients to migrate to metro cities in order to take treatment in hospitals situated there; and

(c) the amount spent on awareness programmes under National Cancer Control Programme during the last three years and the amount spent on various essential resources related to cancer ?

Skill development training of minorities youth

1263. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of individuals/youths who have received the skill development training under the scheme for Skill Development of Minorities;

(b) how many women/girls from minority groups have been trained under the scheme for Modular Employable Skills (MES) since the inception;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) how many of them are placed in companies/firms/enterprises after training;

(d) the total number of Institutions/Societies/Organisations/NGOs working with the Ministry for the implementation of the scheme; and

(e) what are the funds allocated by the Ministry for 'Seekho aur Kamao' scheme for the last three years and the current year?

Opening up of Garib Nawaz Centres

1264. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on opening up of Garib Nawaz Centres across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such centres have already been opened up in the State of Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the opportunities and facilities being offered under this programme?

Revision of rates of scholarships for minority students

1265. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present rates of scholarships for various categories of minority students;

(b) the time since when the rates of scholarships have not been revised; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government for revision of rates of various scholarships under the Ministry?

Skill training to the minority girls

1266. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed for skill training to the minority students of the country;

(b) if so, the details of such Skills, Employment and Entrepreneurship (SEE) programme for minority girl students and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the proposal received from the Madarsa boards and any other minority institutions for the girl students thereof?

Sea route for Haj pilgrimage

1267. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has signed a bilateral agreement with Saudi Arabia to revive the option of ferrying Haj devotees to Jeddah *via* sea route; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement signed including by when the sea route will be started for Haj devotees ?

Inclusion of Sanamahism as National minority community

1268. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Sanamahism is a religion followed by the people in Manipur;

(b) whether Government would take steps to enlist the people practising Sanamahism as a notified minority community; and

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

Broad problems being faced by minorities

1269. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of population of minorities in the Country as per 2001 Census and as per 2011 Census, State-wise and Census-wise;

(b) what are the broad problems being faced by minorities identified by Government and how it is planning to address them, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether efforts made by Government of India and States are bearing any fruits; and

(d) what special emphasis the Ministry is making to upgrade the skills of Muslim youth, including girls and aims and objectives of USTTAD scheme?

Solar energy power plants in Odisha

1270. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the abundant availability of solar energy in the State of Odisha, Government has proposed to construct solar energy power plants in the State;

(b) if so, details of such projects;

(c) how much of the rural and remote area population who have no access to power, will be benefiting out of such projects; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to go for foreign collaboration in such projects, if so, the details thereof?

Production of renewable energy

1271. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how much renewable energy is produced in India;

(b) which are the key States in this area; and

(c) what is the target for the coming three years?

Integration of renewable energy sources with the National Grid

1272. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 279 GW of installed capacity of renewable energy, only 36 GW is included in the National Electricity Grid;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the factors which hamper integration of renewable energy sources with the National Grid;

(d) whether Government has formulated any road map to enhance renewable energy based capacity of the National Grid; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Solar Urja Lamps project in Rajasthan

†1273. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether the Solar Urja Lamps project is being successfully implemented in Rajasthan to promote the use of solar energy, under which the local women are provided training to manufacture solar lamps and the unemployed are provided 'Surya Mitra' training;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to introduce the successful Solar Urja Lamps project of Rajasthan as solar energy utilization model at National level; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Development of solar parks/ultra-mega solar projects

1274. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of solar parks and ultra-mega solar projects developed since 2016;

(b) the number of solar PV Power Plants on Canal Banks/Canal Tops developed since 2016;

(c) whether the 1000 MW of Grid-Connected Solar PV Power Projects by Central Public Sector Undertakings with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) have been implemented; and

(d) if so, how many such projects have been developed since 2016-17?

Increase in prices of electricity

1275. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the spot market power prices and Indian Electricity Exchange prices have risen unexpectedly high in the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) whether the production from wind and hydropower plants have gone down leading to decline in use of more renewable sources to produce electricity;

(d) if so, the reasons for the above decreased production; and

(e) how these increased prices are affecting the consumers and what measures are taken by Government to address the issue?

Electricity generated from Pancheshwar Dam in Uttarakhand

†1276. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total electricity, in megawatts, to be generated from Pancheshwar Dam;

(b) whether the State is provided a royalty for tapping the State resources at National level;

(c) if so, the details of the electricity, in megawatts, and royalty earmarked for the Uttarakhand State from the Pancheshwar Dam to be constructed there; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Assistance to TANGEDCO

1277. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided adequate funds for Government of Tamil Nadu to mitigate and tide over the problems of Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited (TANGEDCO) and Tamil Nadu Electricity Board;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount released in the last two years out of the total grants;

(c) whether Government has taken any decision or plans to increase the power allocation to Tamil Nadu;

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

(e) the steps taken by Government to support Tamil Nadu for increasing power production and for the power projects in Cheyyur and Udankudi in Tamil Nadu ?

Implementation of LED Street Lighting Projects

1278. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going ahead with LED street lighting projects across the country;

(b) whether Government has made any study on the implementation of the projects; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the said projects are facing implementation problems, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to get rid of the problems being faced during their implementation?

NEW DELHI;
The 28th February, 2018
Phalguna 9, 1939 (Saka)

Free power to farmers in Telangana

1279. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Government of Telangana is supplying power free of cost to the farmers of the State;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to ask all other States and Union Territories to supply power free of cost to their farmers on the lines of Telangana; and

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

Electrification of SC/ST villages

1280. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether remote and rural areas as well as settlements of SCs and STs in several States in the country continue to be power deficient;

(b) the efforts being made by Government in this direction along with Government's plans in this regard;

(c) the schemes being implemented, specially in SC & ST villages, towards electrification and the funds allocated therefor during the last three years; and

(d) the number of villages benefited under these schemes and by when the remaining villages would be electrified?

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

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Civil Aviation	:	1126, 1127, 1128, 1129, 1130, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134, 1135, 1136, 1137, 1138, 1139, 1140, 1141, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1145, 1146, 1260,
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New and Renewable Energy	:	1270, 1271, 1272, 1273, 1274,
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