

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Wednesday, March 7, 2018/Phalguna 16, 1939 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 160

Unfair practices in cement industry

1281. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether many associations have raised questions about unfair practices in cement industry due to more than 50 per cent rise of price in quick time; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether in the meeting Central Government has proposed incentives for States which play a proactive role in promoting exports;

(d) whether the Central Government has also asked States to appoint at least one nodal officer at district level which is the closest to the local market, if so, response of the State Government thereto; and

(e) the other steps taken by Government to promote overall exports and push the country's industrial growth?

Meeting of Council for Trade Development and Promotion

1282. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently organized third meeting of the Council for Trade Development and Promotion;

(b) if so, details thereof along with number of States that have participated in the meeting;

Import of Chinese goods

†1283. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian market is flooded with Chinese-made goods;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the list of goods that have been allowed to be imported from China;

(c) the steps taken by the Central Government to check the entry of Chinese goods banned for import in India, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of traders against whom action has so far been taken for selling Chinese goods without import permission along with details of action, if not, the reasons therefor?

Relief to tea industry

1284. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tea exports had been flat at around 230 million kilograms which should go up to 260 million kilograms;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to provide relief to tea industry which was badly affected owing to a prolonged shutdown; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Changing the role of Tea Board

1285. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to change the role of Tea Board from being a subsidy disbursement body to an entity which would closely work with the tea industry;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the overall turnover of the tea industry was huge and therefore it is not required for Government to dole out subsidies;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the future orientation of Tea Board would be on quality and sustainability of the produce and the industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Enhancing subsidy on credit to exporters

1286. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has requested the Ministry of Finance for enhancing subsidy from 3 per cent to 5 per cent on credit provided to exporters;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and how it is going to boost the exports; and

(c) what steps are being taken to ensure that this subsidy is not misused?

Impact of WTO regulations on food procurement programme

1287. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the decisions taken by the WTO Ministerial Conference in Buenos Aires with respect to Government procurement programme in the farm sector, if any;

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

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

Stepping up bilateral trade with Japan

1288. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trade between Japan and China is much higher than the trade between Japan and India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government is taking to step up bilateral trade between India and Japan?

Displacement of tribals due to DMIC

1289. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) is proposed to pass through Scheduled Areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof including status of land acquisition in these areas;

(c) the number of persons, including those belonging to Scheduled Tribes displaced by the project; and

(d) the compensation sanctioned and disbursed to those displaced by the aforementioned project?

Fall in tobacco prices

1290. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has seen reports that tobacco prices have fallen steeply in Andhra Pradesh pushing the tobacco growers into distress mode particularly in Nellore district; and

(b) whether Government will direct the Tobacco Board to intervene in aid of the growers?

Facilitators to assist Startups

1291. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formed a panel of facilitators to assist Startups in filing Intellectual Property (IP) applications under Section 2.1(4) of the 'Startup India' Action Plan;

(b) if so, the details of the number of facilitators, State-wise;

(c) the details of the Startups in the country which availed 80 per cent rebate in filing of patent applications under the Startup Intellectual Property Protection (SIPP); and

(d) the break-up of the facilitation cost borne by Government and details of the statutory fees borne by the Startups, Startup wise?

Review of trade reforms

1292. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to review trade reforms in order to help improve the 'ease of doing business' in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any representation/memorandum from business organizations for changing rules for the growth of international trade to achieve the goal of 'Make in India', programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

Import of essential commodities

1293. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the import of essential commodities in the country during the last year and the current year, commodity-wise and country-wise;

(b) whether import of essential commodities has registered any increase during the said period; and

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

Objections of State Farmers' Commissions on FTAs

1294. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:
SHRI K.K. RAGESH:

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

(a) whether State Governments, including their State Farmers' Commissions or Agriculture Commissions, have objected to Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) being negotiated by the Centre and ramifications of the same on agriculture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Ministry thereon?

Dismantling of FIPB

1295. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has dismantled the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB), if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that approvals for FDI will continue and will have to be done through different Ministries, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether RBI is expected to formulate the Standard Operating Procedure for approval of FDIs through Ministries, if so, the details thereof?

Special package for industrial development in Chhattisgarh

†1296. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether inland transportation grants can be given to Chhattisgarh so that industries may get a new character; and

(b) whether administrative cooperation can be extended to Chhattisgarh to encourage the immense possibilities of industrial development by giving special package to the State?

FTA with European Union to boost garment exports

1297. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering signing Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the European Union as it would boost exports of readymade garments and fabrics from the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Import of solar panels

1298. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is importing solar panels 35 times of what it exports;

(b) whether it is also a fact that between April, 2016 and January, 2017, there were imports of solar panels to the value of ₹ 15,000 crores whereas exports was just ₹ 400 crores;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 87 per cent of imports are coming from China; and

(d) how Chinese solar panels are comparable to India's and the reasons for India not producing solar panels to economies of scale so that prices of panels come down?

Failure of 'Make in India' programme

1299. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that since announcement of 'Make in India' programme in 2015, there is no evidence that manufacturing has gathered momentum;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 'Make in India', programme lost its steam in 2016-17, since the growth rate has been halved this fiscal; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons behind this and how the Ministry is planning to push 'Make in India' programme to achieve its real objectives?

Creation of export demand for tea

1300. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the big players of tea have failed in marketing it overseas;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is a need for big players to set up blending and packaging units overseas for which Government will give an assistance;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is a need to create an export demand and the industry to prepare a detailed study; and

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

Measures to narrow trade deficit with China

1301. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any stringent and appropriate measures to narrow trade deficit between India and China;

(b) if so, the details thereof and total value of imports from China during the years 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 till date;

(c) the list of major Chinese products, raw and finished goods flooded into domestic markets in India and their value;

(d) whether Government has adequate support and facilitation to indigenous industries to combat the over dumping of Chinese products in Indian market particularly Chinese toys and play tools, furniture, fire crackers and electronics items; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Amendments to FDI policy

1302. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has brought in amendments to the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy recently;

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

(c) the extent to which these amendments will enhance FDI in the country?

Problems faced by Small Tea Growers of Assam

1303. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dibrugarh based Small Tea Growers (STG) Development Directorate has not been functional;

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

(c) whether Government is aware of the problems being faced by the Small Tea Growers of Assam following closure of the Development Directorate; and

(d) whether Government is serious about activating the Directorate in the larger interest of Small Tea Growers of Assam?

Initiatives by APEDA to promote agricultural exports

1304. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding initiatives taken

by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) to promote export of agricultural products along with details of agricultural products thereon;

(b) the achievements of such initiatives during the last three years;

(c) whether details regarding promotion of agricultural products from different States are available; and

(d) if so, the details in respect of Rajasthan and if not, the reasons therefor?

Import of onion

1305. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country exported a fairly large quantity of onions in 2017-18 and is now importing it again from China and Egypt when the prices skyrocketed during the later months of 2017;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) why concrete timely steps were not taken to keep enough buffer stock of onion in cold storages rather than allowing exports to maintain stability in price for the entire year; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to avoid repeat of such situation in future?

Taking over management of tea gardens in West Bengal

1306. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union

Government has authorised the Tea Board to take over the management of seven tea gardens owned by the Duncan Industries in the Northern part of West Bengal;

- (b) if so, when was the decision made;
- (c) whether the decision has been implemented by the Tea Board;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Impact of allowing 100 per cent FDI in single-brand retail

1307. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently approved 100 per cent FDI in single-brand retail through automatic route;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether associations like Confederation of All India Traders objected to Government's move, apprehending that the decision would lead to easy entry of multi-national companies, harming domestic trade; and
- (d) if so, whether any precautions and restrictions have been made by Government to safeguard the domestic trade?

Measures to strengthen logistics sector

1308. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has been assigned the task to conduct a study for better coordination between various Ministries for expediting the development and transport facilities of international standard by Government;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures taken to strengthen Integrated Development of Logistics Sectors for infrastructure development in the future?

Special packages for tea gardens

1309. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government plans to give any special financial packages for the tea gardens of West Bengal and Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Catch Certification validated by MPEDA

1310. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise Catch Certification validated by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government would provide special assistance to fishermen having Catch Certificate validation; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Archaeological sites of Chandraketurah and Bangarh protected by ASI

1311. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan

to further excavate the archaeological sites of Chandraketugarh and Bangarh presently being protected by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in the district of North 24 Paraganas and Dakshin Dinajpur in West Bengal, respectively;

(b) if so, how soon such excavation work shall be resumed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Heritage regions/towns

1312. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of towns and regions declared as heritage throughout the country, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the salient features of the heritage towns as per existing norms;

(c) whether Government has taken any initiative to conduct survey throughout the country for the heritage sites, regions and towns and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any State Government has given any proposal to declare regions/towns as heritage regions/towns and if so, the details thereof?

Protection of ancient artifacts in Tamil Nadu

1313. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) current status, disposition and protection of ancient artifacts, antiquities discovered in archaeological excavations in Tamil Nadu from Adichchanallur, Sanur, Kaveripumpattinam and other sites;

(b) whether most of artifacts and antiquities discovered are kept abandoned

and left unpublished in excavation branch at Mysore and Chennai circle office;

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

(d) list of excavation reports, memoirs and volumes published so far on archaeological excavations in Tamil Nadu by ASI;

(e) whether Government has allocated funds to conduct excavations at Keezhadi in Tamil Nadu for next season; and

(f) if so, details thereof and Government's stand thereof?

National Mission for Preservation of Manuscripts

1314. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of the National Mission for Preservation of Manuscripts;

(b) whether Government has proposed increase in budget allocation for the Mission in the recent budget;

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

(d) whether Government has any proposal to make available to the public at large the digital copies of old manuscripts; and

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

Cultural training institutes functioning in the country

1315. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how many culture related

institutions, higher training institutes are functioning in various States of the country;

(b) whether the Ministry of Culture came out with any agenda to improve the quality of training for innovation and research being imparted by such institutes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cyber forensic training laboratory

1316. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has sanctioned a sum of ₹ 83 crore for setting up of cyber forensic training laboratory cum training centre for police officers in each State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has asked the States to set up an apex coordination centre to fight cyber crime; and

(d) if so, the response received from the State Governments in this regard?

Loss of livestock and property due to natural calamity

1317. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that large number of people were reported missing and several thousand livestock died and property got damaged in various States in the country due to natural calamities;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported during the current year;

(c) whether any Central team has been deputed by Government to assess the damage in the affected States; and

(d) if so, the details and findings thereof?

Development and promotion of Hindi language

1318. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) details of funds allocated and utilised for development and promotion of Hindi by Department of Official Language, during each of last three years;

(b) whether Government has issued any instructions for promotion and development of Hindi in Central Government Ministries/Departments including banks;

(c) if so, details thereof along with achievements made during last three years;

(d) details of awards/incentives being provided to employees who perform their official work in Hindi;

(e) total expenditure on organising Hindi Pakhwara by different Ministries during each of last three years and current year; and

(f) extent to which Hindi language is promoted through organising Hindi Pakhwara?

FIR against Indian Army personnel in J&K

1319. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that

Jammu and Kashmir police has recently registered an FIR against the Indian Army personnel charging them with murder over the killing of two civilians in Shopian district on 27th January, 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Indian Army personnel opened fire in self-defence after a convoy came under heavy stone pelting by protesters who allegedly tried to snatch their weapons and lynch them and if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

Attacks on journalists in AP and Telangana

1320. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the Indian Union of Journalists, between 2014 and 2017, twenty attacks on journalists were reported in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana out of which seven are cases of murder;

(b) whether Government has observed the trend that journalists who are exposing politics, corruption and crime are being targeted; and

(c) if so, how Government is going to protect journalists in the country, more particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana?

Legislation for capital punishment for rapists

†1321. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that

there has been a sharp increase in incidents of crime and rape in most parts of the country particularly in Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh in the last few months;

(b) if so, the details of the cases of crime and rape registered in the above States from March, 2017 to January, 2018;

(c) the details of the steps taken to curb the increasing incidents of crime and rape; and

(d) whether Government proposes to bring a legislation for capital punishment for the rapists of women and girls, if not, the reasons therefor?

Rules for disposing properties of people who left after partition

1322. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to dispose of properties belonging to people who had left for countries like Pakistan after partition and which are free from any legal tangle;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to notify the rules expeditiously; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Training to police force in forensic science

1323. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

is considering to provide basic training to policemen in forensic science as it was going to be the most effective weapon to deal with crimes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to lack of knowledge, there is a risk of evidences getting corrupted or destroyed;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is developing a Central Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Cell to monitor trend of cyber crimes

†1324. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to create any type of cell to monitor the trend of cyber crimes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when this work is to be completed; and

(c) if not, the details of the alternative scheme prepared by Government to prevent the trend of crime, State-wise including that of Chhattisgarh?

Protection of victims and whistle blowers in cases of sexual abuse

1325. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government to protect the details of the victims and whistle blowers in cases of sexual abuse;

(b) the measures taken by Government to prevent the harassment of victims and whistle blower's families during criminal investigation of cases of sexual abuse;

(c) whether Government is contemplating any strict measures to protect database of victims and whistle blowers in cases of sexual abuse; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Complaints of funding of Madrasas by terrorists

†1326. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has received the complaints of funding in Madrasas by the terrorists, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has conducted inquiry of funding in Madrasas by the terrorists, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has got the evidences to prove the above complaints being correct, if not, the action taken against the mischievous elements for spreading misconception regarding Madrasas, the details thereof?

Cross-border crime of child trafficking

1327. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that child trafficking is rampant and is happening across the country and whether it is a cross-border crime and is thriving on black money; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to tackle this organised cross-border crime?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Terrorism and Naxalism posing threat to internal security

‡1328. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has failed to curb terrorism and Naxalism which have always posed threats for our internal security;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the number of terrorist and naxalite attacks that took place throughout the country during the last three years and the number of civilians killed and security personnel martyred in these attacks, the details thereof?

Safety of senior citizens

1329. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that senior citizens in different parts of the country particularly in the national capital and National Capital Region (NCR) have become very insecure and criminals are making them easy targets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that boldness of criminals has increased due to lack of timely action by police against them; and

(d) what action Government has taken or proposes to take to provide optimum security to the senior citizens in Delhi, NCR and other parts of the country?

Riot in Kasganj, Uttar Pradesh

‡1330. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the causes for riot in Kasganj, Uttar Pradesh on 26th January, 2018;

(b) the loss of lives and property in these riots and the number of those injured and killed;

(c) the action taken against guilty persons;

(d) whether action was taken against negligent officers, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government has provided any kind of assistance to the kin of those killed and injured, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Package to people affected by Ockhi cyclone

1331. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has got estimated the loss of Ockhi cyclone affected areas of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details of estimated loss;

(c) whether Government has provided any package or financial help to people affected by Ockhi cyclone;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Saving cyber network from criminal threat

1332. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minister has stated that cyber crime is increasing by 21 per cent every year;

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government has any plan to save our cyber network from criminal threat as it is a serious concern;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Compensation package to Hindu refugees of Bangladesh

1333. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is providing compensation package to the Hindu refugees of the Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK);

(b) what is the amount of financial compensation provided to each of the Hindu refugee families of PoK;

(c) whether any financial compensation package has been provided to the Hindu refugee families migrated from Bangladesh also; and

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

Internal security situation

†1334. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reviewed the situation in view of the current situation of internal security in the country;

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

(c) whether any meeting on this matter with States has been held or is proposed to be held, if so, by when;

(d) whether Government has taken any appropriate steps to prevent internal attacks, stone pelting on security forces especially in Jammu; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Flats/Plots offered by Chandigarh Housing Board

1335. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only residents of Union Territory of Chandigarh and cities of Mohali and Panchkula are eligible to apply for flats/plots offered by Chandigarh Housing Board (CHB);

(b) if so, under which rules/regulations/by-laws;

(c) if not, the details of the eligible citizens of India who can apply for the allotment of flats/plots whenever offered by CHB; and

(d) the details of the forthcoming General Housing Scheme of CHB in Sector 53 and 54 separately, along with time-line for their implementation, separately?

Use of BADP funds for creating social infrastructure

1336. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Border Area Development Programme (BADP) funds are being utilized to create social infrastructure including housing and other facilities for the houses/villages that are located along the international borders;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Safety of children living with female prisoners

†1337. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of children of female prisoners are staying with them in various jails of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Supreme Court has issued any directions with regard to safety and living standards of children staying with female prisoners; and

(d) if so, whether Government regularly monitors the compliance of those guidelines?

Removing language bias in official communications

1338. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to remove the language bias in official communications; and

(b) whether Government plans to make only Hindi as the official language of the country?

Vehicles stolen in East Delhi

1339. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether automobile vehicles including Royal Enfield have been stolen from Mayur Vihar Phase — I, II, III and East Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of vehicles stolen, FIR registered and recovered since January, 2018 till date;

(c) whether automobile thief gangs steal vehicles from Delhi and sell these in markets in Hapur, Meerut, Saharanpur and Aligarh;

(d) if so, details of raids by Delhi Police and vehicles recovered during the period;

(e) whether Delhi Police has failed to recover the stolen vehicles; and

(f) if so, steps taken by Government including forming of Special Investigation Team for such cases?

Attack on journalists

1340. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that attack on journalists in the country has grown up in recent times;

(b) if so, the number of incidents reported during the last three years therefor; and

(c) the action taken by Government and the support that has been extended to the affected families?

Deportation of Rohingyas to Myanmar

1341. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken initiatives to resolve the issue of deportation of Rohingyas to Myanmar on the lines of similar action being taken by Bangladesh in consultation with Myanmar;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the number of Rohingya refugees identified in Indian territory and the steps being taken for their deportation or rehabilitation; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not taking any decision in this regard?

Increase of Assembly Seats in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

1342. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:
SHRI DHARMAPURI
SRINIVAS:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any fresh request from the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana regarding increase of assembly seats;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the matter is pending because of political in decision, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is no need to go for Constitution amendment for this purpose which can alternatively be done by amending Section 26 (1) of the AP Reorganisation Act, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government is considering the matter by adopting this suggestion, if so, the details thereof?

Information of residents of States working in other States

1343. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any information with the Government regarding residents of each State working/living in other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether such data are needed to help such people to assure them of minimum facilities and condition of living in the State where they reside?

Attacks on journalists and their family members

1344. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many journalists and members of their family have been victims of attack during the last three years;

(b) how many of them are dead;

(c) the reasons for such attacks; and

(d) whether such instances are a serious threat to fearless gathering of news, especially about unlawful activities of powerful groups of people?

Cyber crime reporting portal

1345. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is working on a cyber crime reporting portal and a dedicated cyber crime laboratory for cyber crime against women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the States have also been asked to work in this direction and increase their capability to curb such crimes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Construction of bunkers and climate controlled huts by BSF and ITBP

1346. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has sanctioned a sum of ₹ 370 crore to the BSF and the ITBP for construction of bunkers and special climate controlled huts in forward areas along the Indo-Pak and Sino-India borders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Indo-Pak border has been witnessing massive ceasefire violation from across the border since the beginning of 2017; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Release of undertrials

1347. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of jails across the country and its capacity, the total number of prisoners and occupancy rate in central, district, special and other jails;

(b) whether it is a fact that jails in the country are overcrowded, if so, reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has conducted any study to identify the reasons for trial of undertrials, if so, the details and outcome of such study; and

(d) whether Government has taken any measures to ensure speedy disposal of pending cases and release of undertrials in view of increasing number of prisoners in jails, if so, the details thereof?

Damage to human body due to pellets

1348. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 512 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th February, 2018 and state:

(a) the details of possible damage to human body including eye injuries in short and long term that test trial of pellet-firing shotguns conducted by Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory (TBRL), Chandigarh showed;

(b) whether there is a possibility that pellets may not be able to be removed without risk of further damage, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of steps proposed by Government to deal with long term medical consequences of the pellets; and

(d) whether Government consulted any external medical professionals before sanctioning use of pellet-firing shotguns, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Proposal sent by Telangana for quota for Muslims

1349. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Telangana has sent any proposal for reserving 12 per cent quota for Muslims in jobs and admissions in educational institutions to Central Government for its approval;

(b) if so, details of the proposal and what action Government has taken on the same;

(c) whether comments from Department of Personnel and Training have been taken on the above proposal; and

(d) if so, the details of the same and efforts being made to keep it in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution?

Missing girls in the country

†1350. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several cases of girls gone missing from various parts of the country, have come to light;

(b) if so, whether Government is contemplating to take any concrete and effective steps to put a check on it; and

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

Amendment in FCRA

1351. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to amend the repealed Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), 1976;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Representation of Peoples Act and the FCRA bar political parties from receiving foreign funds;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said amendment will help many political parties which have received foreign funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Failure in checking terrorist attacks in the country

1352. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of terrorist attacks and ceasefire violations by Pakistan in the country during February, 2018;

(b) the details of civilians and security personnel killed and injured in these terrorist attacks and ceasefire violation during the said period, State-wise; and

(c) the reasons for repeated failure of Government and intelligence agencies to check terrorist attacks in the country?

Dispute Redressal Committee for States

1353. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has constituted a Dispute Redressal Committee to resolve the issues arisen between the successor States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what are the issues referred to this Committee, when were they referred and what is their present status?

IPS officers of Jharkhand facing investigation

1354. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of serving IPS officers of Jharkhand cadre are facing investigations on a wide range of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

charges including corruption, colluding with mafia and disgruntled elements, falsely implicating innocent citizens, etc.;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that in the name of investigation they are being protected in some cases for almost a decade;

(c) if so, why are cases not being handed over to central investigating agencies, including CBI; and

(d) why have such officers not been placed under suspension to ensure free and fair investigations of cases against the high profile officers?

Unorganised Worker Index Number

1355. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government will begin a drive in April to register over 47 crore unorganized sector workers and provide them with Unorganised Worker Index Number;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to bring them under the social security net;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government wants to complete the exercise by the end of next fiscal; and

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

Social security and regulation of domestic work

1356. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether domestic work is the largest occupation for women in urban India, provide data on the size of this labour

market and the contribution of domestic work in Indian economy;

(b) whether Government has taken steps in order to enhance condition of work and provide social security to domestic workers, if so, details of initiatives taken by Government in last three years; and

(c) whether any mechanism has been introduced by Government to check involvement of placement agencies, employers and individuals in human trafficking, child labour and forced labour in the name of providing services related to domestic work, details thereof?

Unemployed educated youths registered in Employment Exchanges

1357. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of unemployed educated youths registered in Employment Exchanges in various States is increasing;

(b) if so, the numbers of registered unemployed educated youths in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide employment to them?

Hospital for beedi workers in Telangana

1358. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether upkeep of hospital set up in 2012 for the benefit of beedi workers at Naampalli near Vemulawada in Rajanna Sircilla District of Telangana has been neglected;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the permanent buildings for the hospital would be constructed?

Number of self-employed persons under PMMY

1359. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to include the number of self-employed persons created under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) to the job creation data being collected by the Labour Bureau;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the reasons presented for this move; and

(c) whether such a proposal has been accepted?

Modifications made in EPFO

1360. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the changes or modifications made in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the newly included conditions by EPFO for getting pension for an Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) member; and

(d) whether return of capital is eligible and if not, the reasons therefor?

Workers losing their lives in hazardous industries

†1361. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether labourers are getting killed in the hazardous industries of the country;

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

(c) the provisions made by Government for providing facilities to the families of labourers who lost their lives working in such industries; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that labourers do not lose their lives in hazardous industries?

Job security to workers of unorganised sector

†1362. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has taken several steps during the last three years to provide job security, minimum-wage protection and social security to workers of unorganised sector and also bringing transparency and accountability in getting labour laws implemented and improving the quality of employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether required support is being received from States to ensure transparency and accountability in the implementation of labour laws; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Less pension under EPS-95 scheme

1363. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pensioners of Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS)-95 scheme are getting less than ₹ 2500 per month pension;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the total number of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) pensioners as on 31st December, 2017;

(c) the total accumulated fund in the EPFO account towards Employees' Provident Fund contribution as on 31st December, 2017;

(d) whether Government has accepted and implemented the 'Koshiyari Recommendations' for financial betterment of EPS holders thereof; and

(e) if not, by when it will be implemented?

ESIC infrastructure in Karnataka

1364. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the general details of the progress of various ongoing projects of Government for better Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) infrastructure in Karnataka; the details of District-wise progress in Karnataka and what are the reasons for inadequate pace of implementation in certain Districts of the State; and

(b) what are the comparative figures of amount spent on ESIC related projects implemented in Karnataka between 2009 to 2014 and 2014 to 2017?

Increasing minimum pension under EPS-95 scheme

1365. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to hike minimum pension under Employees'

Pension Scheme (EPS)-95 scheme to ₹ 7500 per month;

(b) if so, by which time the pensioners will get it effectively thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes for interim relief prior to finalization of minimum pension per month thereon;

(d) if so, the proposal details of Government thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

National Employment Policy

1366. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various trade unions demanded for a National Employment Policy; and

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

Unemployment in the country

1367. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of people are unemployed in the country;

(b) if so, the State/Union Territory-wise number of unemployed persons;

(c) the State/Union Territory-wise details of employment opportunities created during last three years and the current year;

(d) whether Government has carried out any assessment with regard to requirement of skilled labour force for different activities; and

(e) if so, various steps taken by Government to provide the necessary skills

to unemployed youths along with number of such youths benefited through the said schemes during last three years and current year, year-wise?

Fixing minimum wages for domestic work

1368. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all Governments of States and Union Territories have started following instructions of Central Government in 2010 regarding fixing minimum wages for domestic work and registration of placement agencies; and

(b) the State/UT-wise details thereof?

Closure of registered SMEs

†1369. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of registered small and medium industrial units in Jharkhand and the units that have been closed out of these during the last three years;

(b) the number of new small and medium industrial units registered during the last three years;

(c) the steps Government is taking for revival/rejuvenation of closed industrial units;

(d) whether Central or State Government has formulated any policy in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Support to West Bengal for development of MSMEs

1370. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether West Bengal secured number one position for the development of MSMEs, if so, the support given by Government of India to West Bengal; and

(b) what would be the additional financial support given by the Central Government to the Government of West Bengal?

Schemes for improvement of Khadi products

†1371. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes being implemented towards improvement in quality of Khadi products for ensuring a greater acceptability and marketing thereof through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC); and

(b) the details of financial assistance provided for its modernisation and study of various projects?

Promotional schemes to encourage SSIs

1372. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the important promotional schemes undertaken by Government to encourage Small Scale Industries (SSIs) in the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government would continue the schemes announced by the previous Government or else new schemes with a fresh concept would be introduced to address the problems faced by SSIs; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to modify the RBI guidelines by making One Time Settlement (OTS) between loss making industries and the Banks?

Closure of small scale industrial units

1373. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:

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

(a) the major factors responsible for closure of small scale industrial units in different parts of the country;

(b) the number of labourers rendered jobless due to their closure, category-wise along with steps taken to provide employment to these workers and technicians;

(c) whether Government is aware that small scale industrialists are facing infrastructural/technical problems like Sales Tax, Income Tax, Electricity Boards, and State financial institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by Government in this regard for smooth functioning of these units?

Blending of methanol in petrol

1374. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering blending of methanol in petrol;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far this step is likely to reduce pollution and make petrol cheaper?

Fall in export of petroleum products

1375. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country's net export of petroleum products reached a peak of 51.16 million metric tonnes in 2013-14 which fell to 29.6 million metric tonnes in 2016-17;

(b) if so, the specific reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to boost exports of petroleum products?

Increase in fuel demand

1376. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's fuel demand rose by 6.2 per cent in November, 2017 as compared with the same month in previous year;

(b) if so, what was the quantity of petrol, sold for November, 2017 as compared to the last year;

(c) whether LPG's consumption/sales have increased in the recent months; and

(d) if so, what steps does Government propose to keep up with the ever increasing demand and dwindling supply?

Assessment of transportation and distribution of petroleum products

1377. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of transportation and distribution of petroleum products including gas cylinders; and

(b) whether Government is making any plans for transportation and distribution of petroleum products by other methods; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

MoU for setting up LNG terminal at Gangavaram in Visakhapatnam

1378. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an MoU was signed in 2012 for setting up of LNG terminal at Gangavaram in Visakhapatnam by Petronet LNG Limited;

(b) the initial estimation of the project;

(c) the reasons for the project languishing in its implementation and problems that the project is encountering;

(d) whether there are any constraints to implement recommendations made by MB Lal Committee on this by the Ministry;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the details of clearances applied for and status of the same; and

(g) the efforts being made by Ministry to get clearances?

Crash of ONGC's helicopter

1379. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Pawan Hans helicopter, with two pilots and five ONGC Deputy General Managers on board, crashed in the Arabian sea about 55 km. north-west of Juhu Airport on 13th January, 2018;

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

(c) whether any bodies have been recovered and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what steps are being taken to avoid such crashes in the near future?

Shale gas exploration through Unified Licences Scheme

1380. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has opened up the field for shale gas exploration through the Unified Licences Scheme;

(b) whether in Gujarat, 15 blocks including 12 onshore and 3 shallow water offshore were put on under the Open Acreage Licensing Programme (OALP) bid round-1; and

(c) whether the Cambay, Kutch and Saurashtra basins have promising potential for exploration of shale gas as confirmed by the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons?

Fire fighting mechanism at petrol pumps

1381. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism to ensure availability

of adequate fire fighting mechanism, including scheduled routine and surprise inspections, at petrol pumps in the country;

(b) the number of petrol pumps penalized for inadequate fire fighting mechanisms during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise along with the penal action taken thereon, case-wise; and

(c) the number of minor and major fire accidents that took place during the last three years, State-wise along with the damage details and action taken thereon, case-wise?

Surrender of subsidized LPG connections

1382. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether people from higher income groups and middle income groups have surrendered subsidized LPG connections in the country;

(b) if so, State-wise details of such connections during 2016-17 and 2017-18;

(c) whether Government has introduced Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana which aims to provide LPG connections to BPL families;

(d) if so, district-wise details of LPG connections allotted to BPL families during above period;

(e) funds allocated, released and utilized on implementation of the scheme during above period, State-wise including Himachal Pradesh; and

(f) whether the scheme is being monitored to check any irregularities; if, so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Projects/programmes undertaken by oil PSUs

1383. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the date-wise details of projects/programmes undertaken by ONGC, GAIL, BPCL and IOCL since 2014, till date; and

(b) the details of the amount spent on these projects?

Progress of infrastructure projects in Karnataka

1384. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the general details of the progress of various ongoing projects of Government for better petroleum, oil and natural gas related infrastructure in Karnataka, the details of district-wise progress in Karnataka and the reasons for inadequate pace of implementation in certain districts of the State;

(b) the estimate of livelihood opportunities made available through new infrastructure projects implemented in the State of Karnataka after June, 2014; and

(c) the comparative figures of amount spent on petroleum, oil and natural gas related projects implemented in Karnataka between 2009 to 2014 and 2014-2017?

Funds spent on promotion of PMUY under CSR

†1385. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large amount was spent on promotion and publicity and other programmes related to Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in the States where assembly elections were going to be held;

(b) the State-wise and head-wise details of amount spent under CSR during the last three years;

(c) whether the Ministry's practice of spending the amount under this fund only on the States where assembly elections were to be held, doesn't amount to influencing the voters; and

(d) the amount spent in Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat after assembly elections under CSR?

Reduction of Excise Duty on petrol and diesel

1386. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR
BALMUCHU:
SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:
SHRI DHARMAPURI
SRINIVAS:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the prices of petrol and diesel have soared to the highest level during the last three years, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Ministry has any plan of reducing the Excise Duty on petrol and diesel keeping in view of the record level high prices, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures being taken by Government to control the prices of petrol and diesel?

GEC rankings of Indian Energy PSUs

1387. DR. SANJAY SINH:
SHRI RIPUN BORA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Energy PSUs have lost their rankings in the Global Energy Company (GEC) rankings in comparison to the Indian Multinational Agencies;

(b) if so, the three years comparative financial statements of the Indian companies thereon;

(c) the details in terms of audited financial performance and the debt position of all the energy companies listed into the S&P Global Platts Top 250 Global Energy Company (GEC) rankings thereof; and

(d) the merger/acquisition proposals of the energy PSUs of the country in present position thereof?

Increase in petroleum prices

1388. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of petrol and diesel have been raised on various occasions in the country during the last two years;

(b) if so, the number and the time of the hikes in the said period;

(c) the basis for this price rise; and

(d) the formula devised for determining prices of petrol and diesel in the country?

Petrol pumps equipped with ethanol

†1389. SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is contemplating to bring petrol pumps equipped with ethanol in order to reduce pollution; and

(b) if so, the details of cities where it is being contemplated in the initial stage?

Amount spent under PMUY

1390. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise amount that Government has spent under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) since the inception of the scheme and the details thereof;

(b) the number of LPG connections provided under PMUY in the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Manipur and Sikkim; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase the pace of provision of LPG connections in the above mentioned States?

Rationalisation of tax and duty structure

1391. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry intends to rationalise the tax and duty structure prevailing in the oil and gas sector;

(b) the steps undertaken to develop transportation and distribution assets in the oil and gas sector that provide services under common carrier principles;

(c) whether there is any proposal to invite foreign operators to bring technology and investment to recover oil/gas from currently abandoned fields on economic considerations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Availability of 5 kg. LPG cylinders under FTL

1392. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 5 kg. capacity LPG cylinders are available under Free Trade LPG (FTL) category through retail outlets and various points of sales like kirana stores;

(b) the number of such outlets in Rajasthan, particularly in Jaipur;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Free gas connections under PMUY

1393. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise distribution of free

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

gas connections to poor families under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY);

(b) whether there are any guidelines fixed for quota of free gas connections to all the States/UTs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

BPL persons under PMUY in Bihar

†1394. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made a plan to provide free gas connection to every BPL person under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of BPL persons in the country, particularly in Bihar, who are yet to be covered under this scheme?

Placement of trainees

1395. SHRI HARIVANSI: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 29.69 lakh people trained as on 1st January, 2018, only 5.39 lakh people have been able to get placement;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons for this shortfall;

(c) what are the new initiatives that have been taken in the last six months to improve the employability of those who have been provided training;

(d) what is the mechanism to monitor that those placed are actually working or not; and

(e) whether any data of such people is being maintained?

Training of youth under PMKVY in Manipur

1396. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the details of training and the number of youth trained under PMKVY, State-wise and the status of implementation of this scheme in Manipur, district-wise details thereof;

(b) the details of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras (PMKKs) set up, State-wise and locations of those PMKKs set up in Manipur, district-wise; and

(c) whether the Ministry would take cognizance of the large unemployment in the State and take up special measures for employment in the State, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Skill Development Centres in Odisha

†1397. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the locations in Odisha where Skill Development Centres have been opened during the last two years and the number of Skill Development Centres working at present;

(b) the number of people trained so far in these Skill Development Centres; and

(c) the amount allocated to Government of Odisha for Skill Development Centres and their adequate operation?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Development of formal academic structure for skill development

1398. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has developed formal academic structure for imparting positive influences on the youth to engage into various skill development programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds for ITIs in Andhra Pradesh

1399. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding release of funds for the development of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry has taken any decision in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

Setting up of Skill Development Centres in ITIs

1400. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are around 13,353 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in the country;

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

(c) whether Government had set up Skill Development Centres under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) in all these ITIs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Complete assessment of PMKKs by mid 2018

1401. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to cover up the remaining unallocated districts/parliamentary constituencies, proposal from market were invited through request for proposal for setting up of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there would be complete assessment of the PMKKs by around mid 2018, when the placement data would be available; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Setting up of Indian Skills Service

1402. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to set up the Indian Skills Service (ISS) and deploy a separate cadre of officers for skill development sector;

(b) whether Government has rectified lacunae mentioned in the Sharada Prasad

Committee to review the performance of various Sector Skill Councils; and

(c) the details of all the steps taken to review 'Skill India' programme?

Introduction of Indian Skills Service

1403. SHRI DHARMAPURI
SRINIVAS:
DR. PRADEEP KUMAR
BALMUCHU:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to introduce Indian Skills Service on the lines of IAS, IPS and IRS, etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Introduction of new programmes in PMKVY

1404. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements made under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yajana (PMKVY) till 31st January, 2018;

(b) the details of beneficiaries, under the scheme, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government has introduced any new programmes to train various categories of people including labourers in unorganised/organised sectors under the Yojana particularly in the State of West Bengal?

Fake enrolment of trainees under PMKVY

†1405. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH
YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR
PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the actual number of trainees at several centres being operated under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is less, whereas various centres are getting the funds by just showing the inflated number of enrolments;

(b) the details of the centres indulging in getting the funds by showing inflated number of nominations as against the actual attendees, State-wise details thereof; and

(c) the number of centres that have been subjected to action, which are receiving/ have received funds by showing the fake nominations?

Mapping skill requirements of countries

1406. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has directed the Ministry to map skill requirements of various countries and also States;

(b) whether the Ministry has mapped the skill requirements of various countries; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the Ministry will help and facilitate skilled people to get employment opportunities in those countries?

Mid-term review of PMKVY

1407. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated, released and spent under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) since its inception, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether any mid-term review of the scheme has been undertaken by the Ministry;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the scheme is a 'demand-driven' or 'supply-driven' scheme?

Implementation of SANKALP and STRIVE programmes

1408. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to take forward the Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) and Skill Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE) programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the SANKALP has US 250 million dollar loan assistance from the World Bank to boost the National Skill Development Mission (NSDM); and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Demand and production of steel

1409. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the demand of steel in the country and how much steel is being produced in the country, places of production and capacity; and

(b) the details of plan for self sufficiency in the coming five years thereon?

Disinvestment of under construction steel plant at Nagarnar

†1410. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to disinvest the under construction steel plant at Nagarnar in Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Chhattisgarh Government has requested to reconsider the proposal of disinvestment of under construction steel plant in Nagarnar; and

(d) whether, in view of special circumstances of Nagarnar which is located in naxal-affected Bastar area, Government will reconsider the proposal of disinvestment of under construction steel plant over there, if so, by when?

Dumping of steel

1411. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating on any steps to check the dumping of steel and predatory pricing in the market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Steel plant at Bayyaram

1412. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has constituted a Task Force for establishing an integrated steel plant at Bayyaram, Khammam district in Telangana, as the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) stated that the plant is not viable;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Task Force and the present status of establishment of steel plant?

Marketing policy of SAIL

1413. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) proposes to put in revamped marketing policy with a view to grab a larger share in the market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Expansion of list of countries for Visa-on-Arrival

†1414. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has expanded the list of countries under the scope of Visa-on-Arrival;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the status of influx of international tourists for the last two years, year-wise; and

(e) the places where the international tourists visit upon their arrival in the country, and the number of tourists who visited these places in last two years?

Development of tourism circuits in Rajasthan

†1415. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether special efforts have been made by the Ministry of Tourism with the the purpose to encourage domestic tourism and to make people aware about their heritage after NDA Government came to power in 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several tourism circuits are being developed in Rajasthan under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme started by the Central Government; and

(d) if so, whether development work of these tourism circuits is to be completed at the earliest?

Proposal for encouraging tourism in Chhattisgarh

†1416. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received by the Central Government from Government of Chhattisgarh for encouraging tourism in the State and the number of proposals still pending with Government;

(b) the number of proposals sanctioned

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

out of these and the funds issued for each of them separately;

(c) whether Government has formulated any policy to encourage tourism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Sustainable Tourism areas

1417. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing any comprehensive Sustainable Tourism criteria for fragile ecological areas of the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to regulate the influx of tourists into places which have a fragile ecological system;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the regulations made by Government to prevent illegal construction in such areas?

Decline in domestic and foreign tourists in Himachal Pradesh

1418. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tourism industry has incurred huge losses owing to a steep decline in the inflow of both domestic and foreign tourists in Himachal Pradesh;

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

(c) whether Government proposes to take any steps to provide relief/assistance to stakeholders engaged with tourism industry in Himachal Pradesh; and

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

Development of tourism in the country

1419. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

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

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

Air connectivity at Buddhist Circuit

1420. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the places included in Buddhist Circuit have not been connected by Air;

(b) if so, how many of these places are yet to be given air connectivity; and

(c) what is the status of plan to develop Buddhist sites in the country?

India's rank in Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index

1421. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is India's rank in Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index released by the World Economic Forum;

(b) whether it is a fact that India has moved upwards in the rankings;

(c) if so, how the Ministry is going to capitalize on this and attract more foreign tourists and earn foreign exchange for the country; and

(d) the details of growth of tourism, domestic and foreign, in the country during the last three years, year-wise?

Development and promotion of tourism in North-Eastern States

1422. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Assam and other North-Eastern States have many tourism destinations which require development and promotion, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of proposals received from the State of Assam for Central Financial Assistance (CFA) during current year along with the funds sanctioned, released and utilised, respectively during this period;

(c) whether Government has received any proposal for CFA and the inclusion of Majuli Island and Kaziranga National Park in the India Tourism Circuit by promoting the eco-tourism ventures in Assam; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Development of tourist circuits in Jharkhand and Gujarat

1423. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from the States of Jharkhand and Gujarat for the Development of Tourist Circuits and Destination Development Schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and present status of this proposal; and

(c) the details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred along with the progress and achievement made so far in this regard?

Basic infrastructure for games and sports in schools

1424. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools not having basic infrastructure for games and sports in the country, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by Government to ensure that all the schools have basic infrastructure for games and sports in the country to make the said programme a success; and

(c) how Government plans to take 'Khelo India' to schools particularly in Jharkhand and Gujarat?

Recognising yoga/yogasananas as competitive sports

1425. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal to include yoga/yogasananas in the category of competitive sports;

(b) whether Government is planning to recognise any organisation as National Sports Federation (NSF), if so, the list of various recognised and unrecognised yoga federations in India; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to improve and facilitate yoga/yogasananas as competitive sports?

Social mobilisation and outreach programme

1426. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a social

mobilisation and outreach programme is run by the Ministry at district and local level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the districts where this programme is being implemented;

(d) whether funds are entirely met by Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Youth delegations exchange programmes

1427. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) how many programmes of exchange of youth delegations were undertaken during the last two years under international exchange programme;

(b) the details of the countries thereof during last one year;

(c) the funds earmarked for such purpose;

(d) the amount spent on such exchange giving details in each programme; and

(e) the basis on which youth are selected?

Pension for former international medal winner sportspersons

1428. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the former international medal winner sportspersons will get pension;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such former players from Jharkhand?

National Sports Development Fund

1429. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that more than 30 Public Sector Banks/Public Sector Undertakings (PSBs/PSUs) have not made any contribution to the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) since its inception as per the Parliamentary Standing Committee on HRD Report, if so, the steps taken to ensure that contributions to the NSDF are increased;

(b) what is the percentage of contribution to the NSDF by PSBs in terms of their profits since the last three years including the current year; and

(c) what was the achievement/performances of the beneficiaries to whom the expenditure from the NSDF was incurred?

Promotion of sports in schools and colleges

1430. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put in place any roadmap for promotion of sports in schools and colleges in Maharashtra and rest of the country;

(b) if so, the State and Union Territory-wise details of the activities undertaken thereunder along with the number of sporting events organised in schools and colleges during each of the last three years in particular in the State of Maharashtra; and

(c) the State-wise funds allocated and spent for the purpose during the said period?

Financial support to skiing sportspersons

1431. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is for the first time that India has won a medal (Bronze) at Italy in January, 2018 in the Alpine Ejder 3200 Cup organised by the Federation International De Ski (FIS), the international skiing Governing body;

(b) whether it is a fact that skiing is a costly sport as its outfit and connected gear are expensive, if so, whether Government provides any financial support to skiing sportspersons, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how does Government propose to compensate the sportsperson who won the first international medal in skiing and brought laurels to the country?

Reduced fund allocation for SAI

1432. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fund allocation for the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has been proposed to be reduced by ₹ 66.17 crores in the current budget;

(b) the reasons for the curtailment of funds;

(c) whether this will affect the functional prospects of SAI; and

(d) which are the activities of SAI that are going to suffer due to the budgetary curtailment proposed?

Outstanding sportspersons in penury

1433. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many of our outstanding sportspersons of yesteryears are living in penurious circumstances;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of initiatives taken to alleviate the financial condition of such sportspersons of yesteryears who have won medal or participated in National/International events/championships;

(d) whether there is any proposal to give pension facility to such outstanding sportspersons and their family;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the details of steps taken to promote sports in rural areas?

Sanction of synthetic track in Warangal

1434. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Sports Authority of Telangana State (SATS) has requested the Ministry for sanction of a synthetic track in Warangal, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has also sought for release of funds for pending proposals sent by the State, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of proposals sent by Government of Telangana and the proposals that are pending till now; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Ministry for early release of pending proposals along with sanctioning of synthetic track in Warangal?

National Sports Federations

1435. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) how many National Sports Federations (NSFs) are assisted by the Ministry in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of funds allocated by the Ministry for this scheme for the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) how is this assistance used by the NSFs, along with the details thereof?

Creating sports infrastructure in the country

1436. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a plan to integrate Union Ministry, State Governments, Federations and Private Sports Academies under 'Khelo India' for creating sports infrastructure in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time-line fixed for this, if any?

National Youth Festival, 2018

1437. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National

Youth Festival, 2018 was organised at Gautam Budh Nagar (Noida) in January, 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the aims and objectives of the Festival;

(c) whether Government is aware that students from North-Eastern States had to boycott the closing ceremony of the Festival due to discrimination;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether Government had ordered any probe against the organisers; and

(e) if so, the details of the outcome and action taken by Government against erring officials and other responsible for the incident?

Sports events cancelled due to severe air pollution levels

1438. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incidents where sports events had to be cancelled or venue had to be changed due to severe air pollution levels from 2014 onwards, year-wise;

(b) whether the Ministry takes into consideration the levels of air pollution in a city before deciding the venue for sports events, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Ministry has conducted tests to assess the health impacts of air pollution on the players of different outdoor sports, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Privatisation of stadia under SAI

†1439. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA:
Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating privatisation of stadia under Sports Authority of India (SAI) in order to improve the quality of their management and facilities;

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

(c) if so, the details of steps taken thereon and if not, the reasons therefor?

Contributions to NSDF

1440. SHRIMATI SASIKALA
PUSHPA: Will the Minister of YOUTH
AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to
state:

(a) whether the request made to various stakeholders requesting them to make generous contributions to National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) has yielded good results;

(b) if so, the details of contributions received in this fund;

(c) the details of persons/entities/organisations/institutes, which have contributed to NSDF; and

(d) the quantum of funds contributed, person/entity/organisation/institute-wise?

NEW DELHI;
The 1st March, 2018

Phalguna 10, 1939 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Commerce and Industry	:	1281, 1282, 1283, 1284, 1285, 1286, 1287, 1288, 1289, 1290, 1291, 1292, 1293, 1294, 1295, 1296, 1297, 1298, 1299, 1300, 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, 1306, 1307, 1308, 1309, 1310,
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Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	:	1369, 1370, 1371, 1372, 1373,
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