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Monday

31 December, 2018

10 Pausha, 1940 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Obituary Reference (pages 1-2)

Papers laid on the Table (pages 2-23)

Report of the Committee on Government Assurances — *Presented* (page 23)

Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development — *Laid on the Table* (pages 23-24)

Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development — *Laid on the Table* (page 24)

Reports of the Railway Convention Committee — *Laid on the Table* (page 25)

Statements by Ministers —

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests — *Laid on the Table* (page 25)

[P.T.O.]

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Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Fifty-ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture — *Laid on the Table* (pages 25-26)

Cancellation of sitting of Rajya Sabha (page 26)

Matter raised with Permission —

Demand to establish a bench of Allahabad High Court at Meerut (pages 26-28)

Written Answers to Starred Questions (pages 29-47)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 47-276)

Written Answers to Starred and Unstarred Questions set for the 28th December, 2018 (pages 276-553)

Government Bill —

The Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018 — *Introduced* (page 553)

Regarding notice to move motion under Rule 125 (pages 553-558)

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RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 31st December, 2018/10th Pausha, 1940 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of **Shri Mrinal Sen**, a former Member of this House, on the 30th December, 2018, at the age of 95 years. Born in May, 1923 at Kolkata, West Bengal, Shri Sen was educated at the Scottish Church College, Kolkata.

A filmmaker, Shri Sen initially started writing on the aesthetics of cinema, its philosophy, its socio-political relevance and on the possibility of building a new cinema. He made feature films in Bengali, Hindi, Odia and Telugu. He also has several documentaries to his credit. He heralded the 'New Cinema Movement' of 1970 with his film '*Bhuvan Shome*', which won the National Film Award for the best feature film in 1969. Some of his notable movies were '*Chorus*', '*Mrigayaa*', '*Akaler Sandhane*', '*Akash Kusum*', '*Khandhar*' and '*Kharij*'. His cinema was known for its artistic and sensitive depiction of social reality and its vivid portrayal of the large scale political unrest in the country at that time. Shri Sen served as the Chairman of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, the Indian People's Human Right Commission and the International Federation of Film Societies, London/Berne.

Shri Sen was the recipient of several awards, both in India and abroad. He won the '*Swarna Kamal*', the National Film Award for best feature film, four times and the '*Rajat Kamal*' for the best film in various categories many times. He was also honoured with the '*Padma Bhushan*' in 1981 and the '*Dada Saheb Phalke Award*' in 2005.

Shri Mrinal Sen was a Nominated Member of this House from August, 1997 to August, 2003.

In the passing away of Shri Mrinal Sen, the country has lost a legendary filmmaker, a proponent of parallel cinema and a distinguished parliamentarian.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri Mrinal Sen. I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved family our sense of profound sorrow and deep sympathy. माननीय सदस्यों, मैं आपको एक आवश्यक सूचना देना चाहता हूँ। ऑनरेबल चेयरमैन के निजी परिवार में एक अत्यंत निकटस्थ के, कल दिनांक 30.12.2018 को दिवंगत हो जाने के कारण, उन्हें तत्काल अपने नेटिव प्लेस जाना पड़ा है। माननीय चेयरमैन साहब ने जाने से पूर्व सदन के कई माननीय वरिष्ठ नेताओं को फोन द्वारा इसकी सूचना भी दे दी है।

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Reports and accounts (2017-18) of various Companies, Associations, Institutes, Centres, Foundation, Institution, Academies, Board, council and related papers

II. MoU between the Government of India and BIBCOL

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES; AND THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

I. (A) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

(a) Twenty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Limited (BIBCOL), Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10001/16/18]

(B) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Maharashtra Association for the Cultivation of Science (MACS), Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, Maharashtra, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10350/16/19]
- (ii) (a) Fourteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), Nainital, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10351/16/19]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10352/16/19]
- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS), Bengaluru, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10353/16/19]
- (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Kolkata, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Association.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10354/16/19]
- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10355/16/19]
- (vii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Geomagnetism (IIG), Navi Mumbai, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10356/16/19]

- (viii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST), Guwahati, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10357/16/19]
- (ix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST), Mohali, Punjab, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10358/16/19]
- (x) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI), Hyderabad, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10359/16/19]
- (xi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10360/16/19]
- (xii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Satyendra Nath Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, Kolkata, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10361/16/19]
- (xiii) (a) Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Innovation Foundation India, Ahmedabad, for the year 2017-18.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Foundation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10362/16/19]
- (xiv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Vigyan Prasar, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institution.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10363/16/19]
- (xv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bengaluru, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Academy.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10364/16/19]
- (xvi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE), Gurugram, Haryana, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Academy.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10365/16/19]
- (xvii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Academy.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10366/16/19]
- (xviii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Science Congress Association, Kolkata, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Association.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10367/16/19]
- (xix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI), Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Academy.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10368/16/19]
- (xx) (a) Seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Board.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10370/16/19]

- (xxi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Raman Research Institute (RRI), Bengaluru, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10372/16/19]
- (xxii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bose Institute, Kolkata, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10373/16/19]
- (xxiii) (a) Twenty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), Jakkur, Bengaluru, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10371/16/19]
- (xxiv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10375/16/19]
- (xxv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, (WIHG), Dehradun, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10374/16/19]
- II. (a) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology) and the Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Limited (BIBCOL), for the year 2018-19.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Memorandum of Understanding. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10002/16/18]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**II. Reports and Accounts (2016-17 and 2017-18) of various Board, Council, Institute and Authority and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, under sub-section (4) of Section 38 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960:—

(1) G.S.R. 844 (E), dated the 6th September, 2018, publishing the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Pet Shop) Rules, 2018.

(2) G.S.R. 1141 (E), dated the 28th November, 2018, publishing corrigendum to Notification No. G.S.R. 844 (E), dated the 6th September, 2018 to make certain changes in the Hindi version only, along with Explanatory Memorandum.

[Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) See No. L.T. 10372/16/18]

(ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Notification No. S.O. 5120 (E), dated the 3rd October, 2018, notifying in supersession of the Notification No. S.O. 93 (E), dated the 29th January, 1998, the re-constitution of the Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority, under Section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10175/16/18]

(iii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Notification No. S.O. 5799 (E), dated the 19th November, 2018, regarding Reconstitution of Central Pollution Control Board, under sub-section (3) of Section 63 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10173/16/18]

II. A. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 39 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, as amended by the Amendment Act, 1988:—

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Delhi, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Board.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10466/16/19]

B. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun, Uttarakhand, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8821/16/18]

(ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI), Bengaluru, Karnataka for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10169/16/18]

(iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Zoo Authority (CZA), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10168/16/18]

I. Reports and Accounts (2016-17 and 2017-18) of PCI, New Delhi, RGNIYD, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu and IIMC, New Delhi and related papers

II. MoU between the Government of India and BECIL, New Delhi

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

I. (A) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 20 of the Press Council Act, 1978:—

(a) Thirty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Press Council

of India, New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10429/16/19]

B. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10118/16/18]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10119/16/18]

II. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Information and Broadcasting) and the Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL), New Delhi, for the year 2018-19.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10023/16/18]

Statement on Half Yearly Review of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) of Section 7 and sub-section (3) (b) of Section 7 of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Statement on Half Yearly Review of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget, at the end of the first half of the Financial year 2018-19 and the Statement explaining deviations in meeting the obligations of the Government.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10432/16/19]

Reports and Accounts (2017-18) of IRMA, Gujarat, BRLF, New Delhi, CAPART, New Delhi and NRLPS, New Delhi and related papers

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम कृपाल यादव): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

(i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA), Gujarat, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10042/16/18]

(ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation (BRLF), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Foundation.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10043/16/18]

(iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10128/16/18]

(iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society (NRLPS), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10129/16/18]

Reports and Accounts (2017-18) of various companies, Centres and Institutes and related papers

खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा कोयला मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हरिभाई पारथीभाई चौधरी): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:-

(i) (a) Forty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML), Karnataka, for the year 2017-18, together with

the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10132/16/18]

- (ii) (a) Thirty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), Bhubaneswar, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10130/16/18]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL), Kolkata, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10133/16/18]

- (iv) (a) Forty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), Nagpur, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10131/16/18]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre (JNARDDC), Nagpur, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10135/16/18]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Miners' Health (NIMH), Nagpur, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10134/16/18]

(iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Rock Mechanics (NIRM), Bengaluru, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10136/16/18]

Reports and Accounts (2014-15 and 2015-16) of APSIDC Ltd., Hyderabad and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

(i) (a) Forty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Andhra Pradesh State Irrigation Development Corporation Limited (APSIDC LTD.), Hyderabad, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

(ii) (a) Forty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Andhra Pradesh State Irrigation Development Corporation Limited (APSIDC LTD.), Hyderabad, for the year 2015-16, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

(2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. For (i) and (ii) *See* No. L.T. 10056/16/18]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

II. Reports and Accounts (2017-18) of SCL, Chennai and NHIDCL, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING;

AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, under Section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:—

- (1) S.O. 3528 (E), dated the 20th July, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (2) S.O. 3529 (E), dated the 20th July, 2018, directing that the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited shall exercise the function relating to the development and maintenance of the stretch of National Highways in the State of Tripura, as specified in the table therein.
- (3) S.O. 3834 (E), dated the 3rd August, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (4) S.O. 3835 (E), dated the 3rd August, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
[Placed in Library. For (1) and (4) See No. L.T. 10451/16/19]
- (5) S.O. 3991 (E), dated the 16th August, 2018, notifying the levy of user fee for the project of Tolling, Operation, Maintenance and Transfer of Porbandar to Jetpur Section from K.M. 1.960 to K.M. 117.600 of National Highway No 8B on ToT basis in the State of Gujarat.
- (6) S.O. 3992 (E), dated the 16th August, 2018, notifying the levy of user fee for the project of Tolling, Operation, Maintenance and Transfer of Ichapuram to Narsannapeta Section from K.M. 484.000 to K.M. 580.700 of National Highway No. 16 (old NH-5) on ToT basis in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (7) S.O. 3993 (E), dated the 16th August, 2018, notifying the levy of user fee for the project of Tolling, Operation, Maintenance and Transfer of Diwancheruvu to Siddhantham Section from K.M. 901.500 to K.M. 950.542 of National Highway No. 16 (old NH-5) on ToT basis in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

- (8) S.O. 3994 (E), dated the 16th August, 2018, notifying the levy of user fee for the project of Tolling, Operation, Maintenance and Transfer of Puintola to Icchapuram Section from K.M. 419.600 to K.M. 484.000 of National Highway No. 16 (old NH-5) on ToT basis in the State of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.

[Placed in Library. For (5) and (8) *See* No. L.T. 10066/16/18]

- (9) S.O. 4023 (E), dated the 20th August, 2018, declaring New National Highway Nos. 227F, 227J and 227L and inserting their description in the Schedule to the Act.
- (10) S.O. 4024 (E), dated the 20th August, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 689 (E), dated the 4th April, 2011, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (11) S.O. 4025 (E), dated the 20th August, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (12) S.O. 4026 (E), dated the 20th August, 2018, directing that the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited shall exercise the function relating to the development and maintenance of the stretches of the National Highways in the State of Tripura, as specified in the Table therein.
- (13) S.O. 4193 (E), dated the 28th August, 2018, declaring new National Highway Nos. 766E and 766EE and inserting their description in the Schedule of the Act.
- (14) S.O. 4195 (E), dated the 28th August, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (15) S.O. 4203 (E), dated the 29th August, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 689 (E), dated the 4th April, 2011, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (16) S.O. 4204 (E), dated the 29th August, 2018, declaring New National Highway No. 334DD and inserting its description in the Schedule to the Act.
- [Placed in Library. For (9) and (16) *See* No. L.T. 10451/16/19]
- (17) S.O. 4259 (E), dated the 7th September, 2018, notifying the levy of user fee for the project of Salasar-Nagaur Section from K.M.

151.141 to K.M. 270.735 of National Highway No. 65 (New NH-58) on Hybrid Annuity mode in the State of Rajasthan.

- (18) S.O. 4358 (E), dated the 7th September, 2018, notifying the levy of user fee for Chittorgarh-Kota Section from K.M. 891.929 to K.M. 1052.429 of National Highway No. 27 (old NH-76) in the State of Rajasthan.

[Placed in Library. For (17) and (18) See No. L.T. 10066/16/18]

- (19) S.O. 4713 (E), dated the 10th September, 2018, declaring New National Highways No. 911A and inserting its description in the Schedule to the Act.

- (20) S.O. 4714 (E), dated the 10th September, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 689 (E), dated the 4th April, 2011, to substitute certain entry in original Notification.

- (21) S.O. 4809 (E), dated the 13th September, 2018, declaring new National Highway No. 167BG and inserting its description in the Schedule of the Act.

- (22) S.O. 4895 (E), dated the 19th September, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.

- (23) S.O. 4897 (E), dated the 19th September, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 689 (E), dated the 4th April, 2011, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.

- (24) S.O. 4898 (E), dated the 19th September, 2018, declaring certain new National Highways as specified therein and inserting their description in the Schedule of the Act.

[Placed in Library. For (19) and (24) See No. L.T. 10451/16/19]

- (25) S.O. 4969 (E), dated the 25th September, 2018, notifying the levy of user fee for Chappra-Rewaghat-Muzaffarpur Section from K.M. 1.300 to K.M. 74.349 of National Highway No. 722 (old NH-102) in the State of Bihar.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10066/16/18]

- (26) S.O. 4970 (E), dated the 25th September, 2018, notifying the levy of user fee for Gulabpura to Uniara Section from K.M. 69.267 to K.M. 282.936 of National Highway No. 148D in the State of Rajasthan.

- (27) S.O. 5154 (E), dated the 4th October, 2018, notifying the levy of user fee of Manoharpur-Dausa Section from K.M. 0.000 to K.M. 62.318 of National Highway No. 11A (old NH-148) in the State of Rajasthan.
- (28) S.O. 5155 (E), dated the 4th October, 2018, notifying the levy of user fee for Phalodi-Jaisalmer Section from K.M. 163.400 to K.M. 323.857 of National Highway No. 15 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (29) S.O. 5156 (E), dated the 4th October, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 3991 (E), dated the 16th August, 2018 replacing the district named Jamnagar wherever mentioned in the original Notification by the name Porbandar.
[Placed in Library. For (26) and (29) *See* No. L.T. 10066/16/18]
- (30) S.O. 5214 (E), dated the 11th October, 2018, declaring new National Highway No. 148C and inserting its description in the Schedule of the Act.
- (31) S.O. 5215 (E), dated the 11th October, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (32) S.O. 5420 (E), dated the 26th October, 2018, notifying the levy of user fee for the UP/Haryana Border-Yamunanagar-Saha-Barwala-Panchkula Section from K.M. 70.830 to K.M. 118.754 of National Highway No. 73 (New NH-344) in the State of Haryana.
- (33) S.O. 5565 (E), dated the 30th October, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (34) S.O. 5567 (E), dated the 30th October, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
[Placed in Library. For (30) and (34) *See* No. L.T. 10451/16/19]
- (35) S.O. 5569 (E), dated the 30th October, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (36) S.O. 5662 (E), dated the 9th November, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.

- (37) S.O. 5663 (E), dated the 9th November, 2018, directing that the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited shall exercise the function relating to the development and maintenance of stretch from K.M. 671.00 to K.M. 791.00 of National Highway No. 150 in the State of Nagaland.
- (38) S.O. 5664 (E), dated the 9th November, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (39) S.O. 5665 (E), dated the 9th November, 2018, directing the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited shall exercise the function relating to the development and maintenance of stretch from K.M. 330.00 to K.M. 430.00 of National Highway No. 39 in the State of Manipur.
- (40) S.O. 5666 (E), dated the 9th November, 2018, directing the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited shall exercise the function relating to the development and maintenance of stretches of National Highways 54 and 51 given in the table therein.
- (41) S.O. 5667 (E), dated the 9th November, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated the 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.

[Placed in Library. For (35) and (41) See No. L.T. 10451/16/19]

- (42) S.O. 5837 (E), dated the 27th November, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 5666 (E), dated the 8th November, 2018 to substitute certain entries in the Notification.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10451/16/19]

- (ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways Notification No. G.S.R. 920 (E), dated the 25th September, 2018, publishing the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Amendment Rules, 2018, under sub-section (3) of Section 9 of the National Highways Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10067/16/18]

- (iii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, under Section 37 of the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988:-

- (1) S.O. 3833 (E), dated the 3rd August, 2018, regarding entrustment of the stretch of National Highway as specified in the Table therein to the National Highways Authority of India.
- (2) S.O. 3836 (E), dated the 3rd August, 2018, regarding entrustment of certain stretches of the National Highways as specified in the Table therein, to the National Highways Authority of India.
- (3) S.O. 4194 (E), dated the 28th August, 2018, regarding entrustment of National Highway No. 135A, (The highway starting from its junction with NH-35 near Mirzapur connecting to Aura, Bhadohi, Jaunpur, Shahganj Akbarpur and terminating at its junction with NH-27 near Ayodhya in the State of Uttar Pradesh) to the National Highways Authority of India.
- (4) S.O. 4896 (E), dated the 19th September, 2018, regarding entrustment of stretch from K.M. 00.00 to K.M. 68.000 (Kanaktora – Jharsuguda Section) of National Highway No. 200 in the State of Odisha to the National Highways Authority of India.
- (5) S.O. 5216 (E), dated the 11th October, 2018, regarding entrustment of certain stretches of National Highway Nos. 78 and 12A in the State of Madhya Pradesh to the National Highways Authority of India.
- (6) S.O. 5566 (E), dated the 29th October, 2018, regarding entrustment of certain stretch of National Highway No. 65 mentioned therein in the State of Rajasthan to the National Highways Authority of India.
- (7) S.O. 5568 (E), dated the 30th October, 2018, regarding entrustment of the stretch from K.M. 136.600 to K.M. 268.475 excluding from K.M. 239.600 to K.M. 241.520 of National Highway No. 212 in the State of Karnataka to the National Highways Authority of India.

[Placed in Library. For (1) and (7) See No. L.T. 10451/16/19]

(iv) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, under sub-section (4) of Section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, along with explanatory memoranda and delay statements:—

- (1) S.O. 558 (E), dated the 9th February, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1248 (E), dated the 5th November, 2004, to insert certain entries in the original Notification.

- (2) S.O. 1522 (E), dated the 6th April, 2018, in supersession of S.O. 1997 (E), dated the 5th August, 2014, fixing the maximum speed in respect of the class of motor vehicles as specified in the table therein.
- (3) S.O. 1596 (E), dated the 13th April, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 728 (E), dated the 18th October, 1996, to insert certain entries in the original Notification.
- (4) S.O. 2022 (E), dated the 22nd May, 2018, amending the Second Schedule to the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (5) S.O. 2210 (E), dated the 1st June, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1365 (E), dated the 13th December, 2004, to substitute/insert certain entries in the original Notification.
- (6) S.O. 2211 (E), dated the 1st June, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1365 (E), dated the 13th December, 2004, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (7) S.O. 3467 (E), dated the 16th July, 2018, in supersession of S.O. 728 (E), dated the 18th October, 1996, notifying the maximum safe axle weight of each axle type in relation to the transport vehicles (other than motor cabs), having regard to the size, nature and number of tyres as specified in the table therein.
- (8) S.O. 3881 (E), dated the 6th August, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 3467 (E), dated the 16th July, 2018, to substitute/insert certain entries in the original Notification.
- (9) G.S.R. 749 (E), dated the 7th August, 2018, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (10th Amendment) Rules, 2018.
- (10) G.S.R. 870 (E), dated the 13th September, 2018, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Eleventh Amendment) Rules, 2018.
- (11) G.S.R. 871 (E), dated the 13th September, 2018, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (12th Amendment) Rules, 2018.
- (12) G.S.R. 931 (E), dated the 27th September, 2018, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Thirteenth amendment) Rules, 2018.
- (13) G.S.R. 1038 (E), dated the 17th October, 2018, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Regulation of petroleum products supply to bottling plant in Tripura from Bangladesh) Rules, 2018.

- (14) S.O. 5333 (E), dated the 18th October, 2018, publishing order that the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 66 of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 shall not apply to the types of transport vehicles used, or to be used, for the purposes of carriage of goods or passengers as the case may be, as mentioned therein.
- (15) S.O. 5453 (E), dated the 26th October, 2018, publishing the Motor Vehicles (Vehicle Location Tracking Device and Emergency Button) Order, 2018.
- (16) G.S.R. 5454 (E), dated the 26th October, 2018, in supersession of S.O. 1663 (E), dated the 18th April, 2018, exempting upto the 1st day of January, 2019 all public service vehicles registered upto the 31st day of December, 2018 from the provisions of clause (k) of sub-section 1 of Section 110 of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988.
- (17) G.S.R. 1081 (E), dated the 2nd November, 2018, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Fourteenth Amendment) Rules, 2018.

[Placed in Library. For (1) and (17) *See* No. L.T. 10068/16/18]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

- (i) (a) Thirteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Sethusamudram Corporation Limited (SCL), Chennai, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. For (i) and (ii) *See* No. L.T. 10127/16/18]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10163/16/18]

Reports and Accounts (2016-17 and 2017-18) of various companies and Institutes and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10415/16/19]
 - (ii) (a) Forty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), Hyderabad, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10420/16/19]
 - (iii) (a) Fifty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Bengaluru, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10411/16/19]
 - (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Bengaluru, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10412/16/19]
 - (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the BEL-THALES Systems Limited, Bengaluru, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10414/16/19]
- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the BEL Optronics Devices Limited, Pune, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10413/16/19]
- (vii) (a) Sixty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, (HSL), Visakhapatnam, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10421/16/19]
- (viii) (a) Forty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited, (MIDHANI) Hyderabad, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10416/16/19]
- (ix) (a) Fifty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML), Bengaluru, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10418/16/19]
- (x) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), Vasco-da-Gama, Goa, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10417/16/19]
- (xi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and

Engineers Limited (GRSE), Kolkata, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above company.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10419/16/19]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), New Delhi, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10422/16/19]

(ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering and Winter Sports, Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government of the Annual Accounts of the above Institute.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10423/16/19]

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I present the Seventy-second Report (in English and Hindi) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं विभाग संबंधित मानव संसाधन विकास संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदन (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:—

(i) 307th Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Second Report on the Demands for Grants (2018-2019) of the Department of Higher Education; and

- (ii) 308th Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Fourth Report on the Demands for Grants (2018-2019) of the Ministry of Women and Child Development. (Ends)

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं विभाग संबंधित ग्रामीण विकास संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:—

- (i) Fifty-second Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Forty-sixth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' of the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development);
- (ii) Fifty-third Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Forty-fifth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' of the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation;
- (iii) Fifty-fourth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Forty-eighth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj;
- (iv) Fifty-fifth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Forty-seventh Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' of the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Land Resources);
- (v) Fifty-sixth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifty-first Report on 'Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G) in States/UTs' of the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation; and
- (vi) Fifty-seventh Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fiftieth Report on 'Improvement in the functioning of Panchayats' of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
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REPORTS OF THE RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE

SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV (Chhattisgarh): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Railway Convention Committee:—

- (i) Twenty-eighth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on ‘Cleanliness and Hygiene in Coaches and Stations’;
- (ii) Twenty-ninth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on action taken by Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Seventeenth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on ‘Facilities given by Indian Railways to Differently Abled Persons (Divyangjan)’; and
- (iii) Thirtieth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on ‘Human Resource Development and Manpower Planning in Indian Railways’.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the
Three Hundred and Fifth Report of the Department-related
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and
Technology, Environment and Forests**

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES; AND THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on the Action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Two Hundred and Ninety-seventh Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2017-18) pertaining to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the
Two Hundred and Fifty-ninth Report of the Department-related
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport,
Tourism and Culture**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING;

AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Fifty-ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Demands for Grants (2018-19) pertaining to the Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways.

CANCELLATION OF SITTING OF RAJYA SABHA

श्री उपसभापति: विजय गोयल जी, क्या आप कुछ बोलना चाहते हैं?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विजय गोयल): जी हां, सर।

सर, प्रातः सभी दलों के नेताओं की जो बैठक होती है, उसमें यह आम राय बन रही है कि चूँकि कल जनवरी की पहली तारीख है और नववर्ष है, इसलिए सदन के अन्दर अवकाश रखा जाए, क्योंकि इससे पहले भी क्रिसमस बीच में आ गया था, इसलिए 24 और 26 तारीख का अवकाश रखा गया था। इसके बाद इस सत्र के कुल 5 दिन बचेंगे। अगर आप घोषणा करते हैं कि 1 तारीख को अवकाश रहेगा, तो सरकार को इसमें कोई आपत्त नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... परन्तु मैं समझता हूँ कि जो बचे हुए 5 दिन हैं, उनमें अच्छा कामकाज होना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया शान्ति बनाये रखें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री विजय गोयल: यह भी हम सबकी जिम्मेदारी है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जब सबकी, सदन की यह आम राय बन रही है, तो आप इस पर फैसला सुना सकते हैं।

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्यों, श्री गोयल जी ने जो बात सदन के सामने रखी है, यदि आप सब उससे सहमत हों, तो सदन की कल की बैठक रद्द की जाती है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस घोषणा के साथ मैं यह उम्मीद करता हूँ कि सदन कम से कम आज अपना काम सुचारु रूप से करेगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... श्री विजय पाल सिंह तोमर। ..**(व्यवधान)**.. मेरा आग्रह है कि कम से कम आज तो सदन चलने दें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MATTER RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Demand to establish a bench of Allahabad High Court at Meerut

श्री विजय पाल सिंह तोमर (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैंने पहले भी सदन में यह मुद्दा उठाया था कि पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में हाई कोर्ट की एक बेंच स्थापित की जानी चाहिए। ..**(व्यवधान)**.. पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश देश का सबसे बड़ा राज्य है। सहारनपुर से हाई कोर्ट की दूरी 750

किलोमीटर और मेरठ से 620 किलोमीटर है। ...**(व्यवधान)**.. पंजाब, हरियाणा, हिमाचल प्रदेश, उत्तराखंड, राजस्थान, मध्य प्रदेश के हाई कोर्ट पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के जिलों से कम दूरी पर हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के 22 जिले इसे लेकर आंदोलनरत हैं।

उत्तर प्रदेश हाई कोर्ट में approved न्यायाधीशों की strength 160 है, जबकि जनसंख्या की दृष्टि से 200 जज होने चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आज तक वहां कभी भी 109 से अधिक जज नहीं रहे। वर्तमान में वहां 90 जज काम कर रहे हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**.. जहां तक pendency of the cases का सवाल है, इस समय उत्तर प्रदेश में 9,31,000 केस पेंडिंग हैं, जिनमें से पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के 60 परसेंट ..**(व्यवधान)**.. 22 जनपदों के केस पेंडिंग हैं।

महोदय, देश के अन्य राज्यों में, जैसे कर्णाटक, महाराष्ट्र, मध्य प्रदेश, असम में हाई कोर्ट की एक से अधिक बेंच हैं, फिर उत्तर प्रदेश के साथ ऐसा अन्याय क्यों है? ...**(व्यवधान)**.. इस संबंध में उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने दो बार प्रस्ताव भेजा है।...**(व्यवधान)**.. इस संबंध में जो जसवंत सिंह आयोग बना, उसने भी संस्तुति की है कि पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में हाई कोर्ट की बेंच बननी चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जहां तक इस बात का सवाल है कि हाई कोर्ट के चीफ जस्टिस की recommendation हो, मैं आपके माध्यम से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि States Reorganization Act, 1956 जब बना था, उसमें उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार को अलग रखा गया था। केवल पार्लियामेंट में कानून बनाकर 1976 में पटना हाई कोर्ट की एक बेंच रांची में स्थापित की गई थी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसी तर्ज पर मेरठ में हाई कोर्ट की बेंच स्थापित की जानी चाहिए। उत्तर प्रदेश इतना बड़ा राज्य है, 22 करोड़ से अधिक राज्य की आबादी है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... झारखंड का उदाहरण हमारे सामने है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसे आप गोरखपुर में बनाएं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मेरा आपके माध्यम से विधि मंत्री जी से निवेदन है कि हाई कोर्ट की एक बेंच पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के मेरठ में यथाशीघ्र बनाई जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: अभी एल.ओ.पी. बोल रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**.. मेरा आग्रह है कि कम से कम आप उन्हें सुनें। ..**(व्यवधान)**..

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): मैं अपनी पार्टी की तरफ से और विपक्ष की तरफ से कहना चाहता हूँ — जितना यहां विपक्ष बैठा है और हमारी पार्टी है — हम सदन में चर्चा चाहते हैं। ..**(व्यवधान)**.. हम सदन को चलने देना चाहते हैं। इसलिए यहां जो भी शोर है, इसे हमारे हिस्से में न डाला जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अक्सर शाम को कहा जाता है कि विपक्ष सदन को नहीं चलने देना चाहता। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह Government and AIADMK के बीच का मामला है, हमारे बीच का मामला नहीं है, यह ruling party and AIADMK के बीच का मामला है। विपक्ष is not a party to this. ...**(Interruptions)**...

† قائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد): میں اپنی پارٹی کی طرف سے اور وپکش کی طرف سے کہنا چاہتا ہوں۔ جتنا ہ یاں وپکش ہٹ رہا ہے اور ہماری پارٹی ہے۔ ہم سدن میں

چرچا چاہتے ہیں۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ ہم سدن کو چلنے د ن یا چاہتے ہیں۔ اسلئے ہ یاں جو بھی شور ہے، اسے ہمارے حصے میں نہ ڈالا جائے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ اکثر شام کو ہ ی کہا جاتا ہے کہ وپکش سدن کو نہیں چلنے د ن یا چاہتا۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ ہ ی گوورنم ن یٹ اور اے۔آئی۔اے۔ڈی۔ا م ی۔کے۔ کے بیج کا معاملہ ہے، ہمارے بیج کا معاملہ نہیں ہے۔ ہ ی رولنگ پارٹی اور اے۔آئی۔اے۔ڈی۔ا م ی۔کے۔ کے بیج کا معاملہ ہے۔ وپکش از نوٹ اے پارٹی ٹو دز۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

श्री उपसभापति: मैं नेता प्रतिपक्ष का आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ कि हम सर्वसम्मति से हाउस को चलाएं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं पुनः कहना चाहूंगा कि वर्ष 2018 का आज अंतिम दिन है, हम अगले वर्ष की पायदान ...**(व्यवधान)**... दहलीज पर खड़े हैं। वर्ष 2019 दस्तक दे रहा है। पहले मैं आसन की ओर से आप सबको आने वाले वर्ष की मंगल-कामना करता हूँ – आपके निजी जीवन, स्वास्थ्य और परिवार के लिए – साथ ही, हमारे साझा प्रयास के लिए, ताकि यह सदन वर्ष 2019 में देश के लिए सही तरीके से काम करे, इसकी मैं कामना करता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**.. मैं पुनः उल्लेख करना चाहूंगा, ...**(व्यवधान)**... माननीय चेयरमैन ने इस सत्र में जो भी महत्वपूर्ण विषय चर्चा के लिए उठाए गए, उन सब पर चर्चा की मंजूरी दी है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... कम से कम आज जब हम कल की छुट्टी के लिए आम सहमति बना चुके हैं, तो आज सदन में चर्चा करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं आपसे पुनः आग्रह करूंगा कि आप सभी अपनी-अपनी सीटों पर जाएं और हाउस को चलने दें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... श्री मो. नदीमुल हक।

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE : Sir, the House is not in order. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री उपसभापति: हक जी, आप बोलिए। आपकी बात ही रिकॉर्ड पर जाएगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप बोलें।

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Sir, please bring the House in order. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sir, how will I speak? ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री उपसभापति: मैं अपनी तरफ से पूरी कोशिश कर रहा हूँ, ...**(व्यवधान)**... हाउस चलाने के लिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं आपको मौका दे रहा हूँ, आप अपनी बात कहें।

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Sir, the House is not in order. How can I speak? ...**(Interruptions)**...

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Large scale plantation on unused vacant land**

181. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn any action plan for large-scale tree plantation on unused vacant Government, public and private land, with an objective to check pollution and global warming;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any effort has been made to undertake large-scale plantation along roads and highways, canals, rivers, railway tracks, industrial areas, etc., if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government has any proposal to put a complete ban on cutting of trees from reserved forests for timber at least for another ten years or more and liberalise import of timber from other countries for domestic requirement?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) to (c) A massive need based and time bound programme of afforestation and tree planting on degraded and denuded land in the country, whether forest or non forest land is a national imperative as per the National Forest Policy (NFP), 1988. The policy also encourages for planting of trees on private lands under State/corporate, institutional or private ownership along with raising of green belts in urban/industrial areas. The policy also encourages plantation of trees alongside roads, railway lines, rivers, streams, canals etc. under social forestry.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is supporting State/UT Governments to take up afforestation programmes under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as National Afforestation Programme (NAP) and Green India Mission (GIM). Afforestation activities are also being taken up under various programmes/funding sources such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) and Compensatory Afforestation Fund. Further the plantation activities outside forest areas like agro forestry/farm forestry/social forestry including massive plantation on all such lands are also being carried out cross-sectorally by various departments, Ministries, NGOs, Civil Society, Corporate etc., under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and also under different State Plan/Non Plan Schemes including Externally Aided Projects.

With a view to promote tree plantation on unused Railway land along the Railway tracks and along the National Highways, Model Agreements were also issued by the Ministry to all States/UTs for entering into the agreements with concerned Railway Zones in States and NHAI respectively for greening of such unused government lands. The concerned State Forest Departments are taking up plantation activity on railway land in States like Punjab, Haryana, Maharashtra, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand and Tamil Nadu, etc.

Green Highways (Plantation, Transplantation, Beautification and Maintenance) Policy-2015 of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways also promotes plantations along National Highways. Plantations are part of all National Highway projects which are undertaken as per the relevant contract provisions within the Right of Way of a national highway.

MoEF&CC has also prepared Draft National Forest Policy, 2018 which *inter alia* proposes such massive afforestation on degraded forest and promotion of tree outside forests. To boost large-scale tree plantation on unused vacant Government, public and private land, MoEF&CC has also prepared (a) Draft Guidelines for Public Participation in Afforestation of Degraded Forests and (b) Draft Model Agreement between Land owning Entity and Executing agency for tree plantation on non forest government lands.

(d) No, Sir. There is no such proposal in the Ministry to put a complete ban on cutting of trees from reserved forests for timber at least for another ten years or more and liberalise import of timber from other countries for domestic requirement.

Re employment of ex-servicemen of Armed Forces

182. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-servicemen belonging to three wings of the Armed Forces, who have registered themselves for re-employment; and

(b) the manner in which Government proposes to utilise the services of the willing retired ex-servicemen?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) A total of 1,11,408 ex-servicemen belonging to three wings (*i.e.* Army, Navy and Air Force) have registered for re-employment at Rajya Sainik Boards (RSBs)/Zila Sainik Boards (ZSBs)/Directorate General Resettlement (DGR) during the last 5 years as per details given below:—

Registration of Ex-servicemen

Year	Regd. with RSB/ZSB				Regd. with DGR	Grand Total
	Army	Air Force	Navy	Total		
2014	17210	1636	892	19738	1239	20977
2015	16745	1614	934	19293	1534	20827
2016	16079	1526	901	18506	1935	20441
2017	17719	1709	1021	20449	2679	23128
2018	20058	2112	1172	23342	2836	26178
GRAND TOTAL	87811	8597	4920	101328	10080	111408

In addition to the above approximately 3000-4000 ex-servicemen register every year with Indian Air Force Placement Cell. During the year 2018, 1650 Air Veterans have registered in this regard.

(b) Following re-employment opportunities are available to Ex-Servicemen (ESM):—

(i) In Central Government/Central Public Sector Enterprises/Nationalised Banks reservation is available for ex-servicemen as under:—

(a) 10% of the vacancies in the posts upto the level of the Assistant Commandant in all Para-Military Forces.

(b) 10% of the vacancies in Group 'C' Direct Recruitment posts and 20% of the vacancies in Group 'D' Direct Recruitment posts in Central Government Departments.

(c) 14.5% vacancies in Group 'C' posts and 24.5% vacancies in Group 'D' posts (including 4.5% for disabled ESM/dependents of servicemen killed in action) in Central Public Sector Undertakings.

(d) 14.5% vacancies in Group 'C' posts and 24.5% vacancies in Group 'D' posts (including 4.5% for disabled ESM/dependents of servicemen killed in action) in Public Sector Banks.

(e) 100% in Defence Security Corps.

(ii) State Governments have also reserved State Government jobs for Ex-servicemen. The per centage and Groups in which these jobs have been reserved varies from State-to-State.

(iii) Directorate General Resettlement (DGR) sponsors Ex-Servicemen (Officers) to various Government organizations, Public Sector Undertakings,

Corporate Houses, Private Sector, Central Para Military Forces etc. based on their requisition for re-employment of ESM.

(iv) Following schemes are being operated for ex-servicemen and their dependents by Directorate General Resettlement:—

- (a) **DGR Sponsored Security Scheme:** DGR empanels/sponsors ESM run Private Security Agencies, and State ESM Corporations for providing security guards to various Central Public Sector Undertakings, Corporate Houses, Private Sector Undertakings etc.
- (b) **ESM Coal Loading and Transportation Scheme:** This Scheme is administered on the basis of MoU between the Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and DGR.
- (c) **Management of CNG Station by ESM(O) in NCR:** Desirous ESM(O)s registered for the scheme are sponsored by DGR on receipt of requisition from Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL).
- (d) **Allotment of BPCL/IOCL COCO Outlets Pan India:** ESM(O)/JCO who is registered with DGR and has not availed any other benefit is sponsored for the Company Owned Company Operated (COCO) outlets in the State of choice given by ESM(O) based on oil company's requisition.
- (e) **Allotment of Mother Dairy Milk Booths and Fruit and Vegetable (Safal) Shops in NCR:** The ESM are registered for Milk/SAFAL (Fruit and Vegetable booths separately and give multiple choice of zones for the purpose of areas where booths are required.
- (f) **Coal Tipper Attachment Scheme:** This scheme is linked with the ESM Coal loading and transportation scheme.
- (g) **Tipper Attachment Scheme for War Widows and Disabled Soldiers:** War Widows upto age of 65 and disabled soldiers having 50% or more disability are also allowed to enrol for this scheme.
- (h) **Allotment of Regular LPG Distributorship:** War widows/dependents of those who died in war, war disabled/disabled on duty while serving in operational area, widows/dependents of those who died in harness due to attributable or aggravated causes to Military Service and ex-servicemen disabled in peace due to attributable or aggravated causes to Military Service are eligible.

- (i) **LPG Agency under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitruk (RGGLV) Scheme:** War widows/dependents of those who died in war, war disabled/disabled on duty while serving in operational area, widows/dependents of those who died in harness due to attributable or aggravated causes to Military Service and ex-servicemen disabled in peace due to attributable or aggravated causes to Military Service are eligible.
- (j) **Retail Outlet Dealership (Petrol/Diesel):** War widows/dependents of those who died in war, war disabled/disabled on duty while serving in operational area, widows/dependents of those who died in harness due to attributable or aggravated causes to Military Service and ex-servicemen disabled in peace due to attributable or aggravated causes to Military Service are eligible.
- (v) **Training:** To take care of the need for rehabilitation of retiring/ retired service personnel, DGR imparts Resettlement training to the retiring officers/Ex-Servicemen (Officer)/retiring JCOs/OR/Ex-Servicemen (JCOs/OR) in various institutes Pan India and prepares them for a second career. In case of officers 60% course fee is paid by Government while 40% is paid by each individual officer. However, in case of JCOs/OR, 100% course fee is paid by the Government.
- (vi) **ESM Job Fairs:** Based on a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between DGR and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), ESM Job Fairs/DGR ESM Employment Seminars are organized regularly where the suitably identified ESM are provided to the corporate employers based on the openings offered matched with the skills of the ESM.

Disposal of surplus defence land

*183. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Report No. 35 of 2010 by CAG has found excess land held by his Ministry in Bengaluru and Belgaum and recommended its disposal in public interest, if so, details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(b) whether Ministry had asked for land of equal value against surplus/unused defence lands required for infrastructure works in Bengaluru/Belgaum and if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether the said land was originally given by Karnataka Government free of cost but when it is required by State Government for public infrastructure projects, it has been denied by Ministry, if so, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Report No. 35 of 2010-11 of CAG of India in para 2.2 reported excess defence land holding of 1272.46 acres at Bangalore and 1399.20 acres at Belgaum and recommended its disposal.

Ministry of Defence had laid down new land norms in 1991, for key location plans, with 41.8 per cent cut on the land requirement norms of 1947. The new norms were applicable in case of assessment of land requirement for a new station, as also in assessing land requirements of existing stations wherever additional land was required.

Figure of surplus land in Report No. 35 of 2010 by CAG including those for Bengaluru and Belgaum based on land norms of 1991 which were also applied to existing stations. The above fact has been explained to the Lok Sabha Secretariat (PAC Branch) in July, 2015.

(b) There is no surplus land and unused Defence lands for which land of equal value has been sought by the Ministry of Defence. However, Government of Karnataka has sought defence lands for various public infrastructure projects such as widening of roads, Rail/Road over Bridges, Metro Rail projects in Bangalore.

As per the existing policy for transfer of defence land for public infrastructure projects dated 11.03.2015 and 02.02.2016, defence land can be transferred on the basis of exchange of equal value land to be provided by the Indenting Authority which are land owning authority or have an arrangement with the State/UT Governments for providing land for the project.

No proposal has been received in the Ministry for transfer of defence land for infrastructure projects in Belgaum.

(c) The defence land required by the State Government of Karnataka for public infrastructure projects was not given free of cost.

In this connection, it may be mentioned that there are instances of defence land under occupation by State Government of Karnataka and its entities for public purposes.

The proposals for defence lands required by State Government of Karnataka for public infrastructure project have been deliberated upon in meetings between the Raksha Mantri and the Chief Minister of Karnataka.

National project status to Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project

*184. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any request from Telangana Government to declare Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project as a national project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has considered the proposal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (d) The State Governments from time-to-time send requests for inclusion of the projects in the scheme of National Projects. However, their inclusion depends upon appraisal/ approval by Advisory Committee of MoWR, RD & GR from techno-economic angle, statutory clearances, investment clearance, fulfilment of criteria of the scheme of National Projects, availability of funds etc.

Investment clearance proposal in respect of Kaleshwaram Project has been submitted by the State Government in Central Water Commission (CWC) on 14.8.2018. The observations/comments on the same have been communicated to the State Government on 06.09.2018. The State Government has not submitted the requisite information/compliances.

Social media monitoring tool

*185. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry had any plan to float a tender to create a social media monitoring tool that will create digital profiles of citizen to gauge their opinions about official policies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any plan or attempt made by the Ministry to hire a private agency to create a tool for the above-mentioned matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in January, 2018 had proposed to set up a Social Media Communication Hub. For this, it floated a Tender/Request for Proposal (RFP) on 23rd January, 2018, which *inter alia* involved hiring of an agency, through Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Ltd. (BECIL). This was modified and RFP with revised scope of work was floated on 25th April, 2018 through BECIL. The same has since been withdrawn.

Ban on mining in Goa

*186. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that over six lakh people have lost their livelihoods due to the mining ban in Goa;

(b) if so, legislative measures taken by Government till now or action plan proposed to address this issue; and

(c) whether Government is considering to amend the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulations) Act, 1953, so that mining operations can be resumed in Goa?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) In the matter of Goa Foundation *Vs.* M/s Sesa Sterlite Ltd. and Ors. in Special Leave to Appeal (Civil) No. 32138 of 2015 with SLP (C) Nos. 32699-32727 of 2015, Writ Petition (C) No. 711 of 2015 and Writ Petition (C) No. 720 of 2015, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India *vide* judgement dated 07.02.2018 had cancelled 2nd renewal of 88 mining leases in the State of Goa and directed to stop all mining operations with effect from 16th March, 2018 until fresh mining leases are granted. As per the information provided by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), a sub-ordinate office under the administrative control of Ministry of Mines, no mining activity is presently taking place in the State of Goa for any major mineral. Government of Goa has intimated that, the closure of mining activities has resulted in loss of large number of jobs.

(b) and (c) A proposal has been received from the Government of Goa to amend the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 in order to tide over difficulties faced by the State Government on account of closure of mining operations. The said proposal is under examination in the Ministry of Mines.

Expenditure on capital outlays in Defence Sector

*187. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, despite reports of the defence forces operating with limited and vintage equipment, the per centage share of expenditure on capital outlays which includes expenditure on purchasing defence equipment, weaponry, etc. has decreased over the past few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of measures taken by Government to correct this situation in order to ensure defence preparedness?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN):

(a) to (c) Details of Total allocation (Revenue + Capital) and Capital Expenditure of Defence Forces under Defence Services Estimates (DSE) for the last three years and the current year are as under:—

(₹ in crore)

Year	Total Allocation (Revenue + Capital)	Capital Expenditure	Capital Expenditure as % of Total Allocation
2015-16	2,46,727.00	79,958.31	32.41
2016-17	2,49,099.00	86370.92	34.67
2017-18	2,59,261.90	90,438.39	34.88
2018-19	2,79,305.32	93982.13#	33.65

Budget Estimate figure of 2018-19.

Capital Expenditure in absolute terms has gone up in the past few years. Defence Capital Expenditure is maintained at approximately 34% of the total allocations under Defence Services Estimates to meet the critical and operational requirement of the Armed Forces. The allocated Capital Budget has been fully utilised since 2016-17, reversing the previous trends. In the current Financial Year 2018-19, upto 24th December, 2018, we have already incurred an Expenditure of ₹ 69684.92 crores which is 74.15% of Total Allocation under Capital.

Preparedness of the Defence Forces is the first and foremost priority of this Ministry and it is ensured that critical requirements of Services do not suffer due to want of funds.

Capital procurement of defence equipment is undertaken from various domestic as well as foreign vendors, based on threat perception, operational challenges and

technological changes and to keep the Armed Forces in a state of readiness to meet the entire spectrum of security challenges.

Capital Acquisition of Defence Equipment is undertaken as a continuous activity in accordance with the Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) to keep the Armed Forces in a state of preparedness and remaining equipped with modern weapon System. DPP-2016 contains provisions for reducing the timelines for completion of procurement activities. Further, Government regularly monitors progress of ongoing procurement projects so as to ensure that the Armed Forces are equipped to meet the entire spectrum of Security Challenges.

During the last three years and current year (upto October, 2018), 188 contracts have been signed for Capital Procurement of Defence Equipment for Armed Forces such as Tanks, Rifles, Rockets, Ships, Frigates, Aircraft, Radars, Missiles, Artillery Guns, Ballistic Helmets, Helicopters, Electronic Fuzes, Simulators, Bullet Proof Jackets and Ammunition.

Land banks for compensatory afforestation

*188. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the area for which the Ministry has granted approvals for creation of land banks for compensatory afforestation, under Guideline issued on 8th November, 2017; and

(b) the details of districts, States, area in hectares and type of land over which land banks have been created?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry has issued amended guidelines dated 8th November, 2017 for identification of land bank by the States for Compensatory Afforestation. According to the para 3.2 (ix)(c) of the guideline, the State Governments will identify 'blank forest' or degraded forest lands for compensatory afforestation. The following areas may be identified as 'land bank' by the State Government for the purpose of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

- (i) Degraded forest land with crown density upto 40% under the administrative control of forest department.
- (ii) Areas falling in wildlife corridors to improve connectivity between habitats.
- (iii) Areas falling in and around the Protected Areas (PAs), eco-sensitive zone of Protected Areas, forest areas under direct administrative control of the State Forest Departments to ensure consolidation of such areas.

- (iv) Habitat of rare, threatened and endangered species of flora and fauna located in the areas not under direct administrative and management control of the State Forest Department to ensure long-term conservation of such habitats.
- (v) Areas falling in catchment areas of important rivers, water supply schemes, irrigation projects, hydro-electric projects etc.

So far this Ministry has not received any information in this regard from any of the States.

Projects on unused defence land in Kerala

189. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total defence land (in acres) under the administrative control of the Ministry in the State of Kerala;
- (b) total defence land lying unused at present; and
- (c) the proposal to set up any defence project on the vacant land?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN):

- (a) The total defence land under the administrative control of Ministry of Defence in the State of Kerala is 5279.40 acres.
- (b) No defence land is lying unused at present. Defence land, which may seem to be lying unused, is earmarked for use by Defence Forces/Establishments for meeting Key Location Plan (KLP), Ammunition storage, operational mobilization and other strategic and operational needs such as training, sports, parade grounds, accommodations, depots, future defence use as well for civic/public utilities/revenue generating purposes, for those which are under Cantonment Boards.
- (c) Not applicable as no land is lying vacant.

Allocation for AIBP in Rajasthan

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

- (a) the number of irrigation projects identified under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme;
- (b) the details regarding their completion timelines;

(c) whether any irrigation projects have been identified for Rajasthan, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details regarding quantum of funds allocated for projects in Rajasthan and status of their completion?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) Water resources projects are planned, funded, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priorities. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) etc. under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

During 2016-17, Ninety-nine (99) on-going Major/Medium Irrigation (MMI) projects under PMKSY-AIBP having ultimate irrigation potential of 76.03 lakh hectare and balance estimated cost of ₹ 77595 crore (Central Assistance (CA) component of ₹ 31342 crore) have been prioritized in consultation with States for completion in phases up to December, 2019 along with their Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) works. Funding mechanism through NABARD has also been approved by the Government for both Central and State share. Out of these, AIBP works of 31 priority projects have been completed/almost completed by June, 2018 as per information provided by the States.

(c) and (d) Out of the 99 prioritized projects, 2 projects namely Narmada canal and Modernization of Gang canal having combined ultimate potential of 3.16 lakh ha. are in Rajasthan. The works of both the projects are almost completed. However, some works which have been undertaken due to flood damages in Narmada canal project are scheduled for completion by March, 2019.

The funds are released for projects on receipt of eligible proposals from the State Government. Balance cost of AIBP works of these projects was ₹ 718.92 crore as on 1.4.2016. Central Assistance (CA) of ₹ 262.76 crore and State share of ₹ 101.45 crore has been released for these projects.

CAMPA rules, conflict with Forest Rights Act and PESA

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

(a) the reasons for excluding free, prior and informed consent of the Gram Sabha,

a legal requirement under FRA and PESA, from the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018;

(b) the reasons to why Village Forest Committee (VFC) have been put at par with Gram Sabha, in matters of consultation in managing compensatory afforestation activities, when Gram Sabha is a statutory body under FRA, while VFC is not;

(c) the Ministry's opinion on the recommendation suggested by Ministry of Tribal Affairs, that no afforestation activity shall be approved without the concurrence of Gram Sabha; and

(d) the details of stakeholders consulted in finalising the rules?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) Sir. The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 provides that only those activities provided in the Annual Plan of Operation approved by the State Authority in the State will be carried out by the Forest Department from State Fund. It further provides that the APO should be prepared in consultation with the 'Gram Sabha' having jurisdiction over the forest and non-forest land under consideration. This is in consonance with the provisions of the Rule 4(1) (f) of Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Rules, 2007 which empowers the Gram Sabha to monitor and control the committee constituted under clause 4(1)(e) which shall prepare a conservation and management plan for community forest resources in order to sustainably and equitably manage such community forest resources for the benefit of forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers and integrate such conservation and management plan with the micro plans or working plans or management plans of the forest department with such modifications as may be considered necessary by the committee. The consultation of Gram Sabha was prescribed in the Rule in order to integrate such conservation and management plan prepared by the Gram Sabha with the Annual Plan of Operation prepared as per the Working Plan Code by the Forest Department and approved by the State Authority for compensatory afforestation and other improvement and eco-restoration activities for implementation in the State.

(b) Sir. The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 does not equate Village Forest Committee (VFC) at par with Gram Sabha. In fact the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 does not define the 'Gram Sabha' and sub-rule (2) of Rule 2 of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 provides that: "*The words and expressions used and not defined in these rules but defined in the Act, the Indian Forest Act 1927 (16 of 1927), the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 (53 of*

1972), the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 (69 of 1980), the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (18 of 2003) and the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (2 of 2007) and the rules made under these Acts, shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in those Acts and rules.”

In other words the ‘Gram Sabha’ has the same meaning as per the definitions in the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

(c) Ministry has suitably addressed the concerns raised by Ministry of Tribal Affairs on tribal rights, as protected under Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, while framing the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018. It is informed that the Ministry is very sensitive to the rights of tribal and traditional forest dwellers enshrined in Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. These rights have been protected by the Ministry while dealing matters of forest management. No proposal is considered for diversion of forest land under Section 2 of the FC Act without the certificate of compliance of Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 by the District Collector of the State Government. Further no effort has been made by the Ministry to undermine the authority of the Gram Sabha by equating with the other institutions like Village Forest Management Committee which are created for management of forest by associating local community. The MoTA had also raised concerns regarding the definition of Gram Sabha in draft Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 which was considered as limited in scope and instead it was decided that the Gram Sabha should be defined as per the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. Accordingly the Notified Rule did not define ‘Gram Sabha’ and ‘Gram Sabha’ has the same meaning as defined in Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

(d) The draft Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 were notified in Gazette on 17.02.2018. The responses from various stakeholders were received with valuable suggestions. These suggestions were discussed in several meetings and the recommendations were incorporated as agreed upon and approved by the Government. The list of the stakeholders who contributed is given in the Statement.

Statement

List of State Governments/Organisations/Individuals who have offered their comments on Draft Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Rules, 2018

Sl.No.	Name of State Government/Organisation/Individual
1.	Shri A. K. Verma, Former PCCF and HoFF, Karnataka, Bangalore.
2.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
3.	Shri Arun Kumar Bansal, Former Addl. DG Forests, Government of India
4.	Government of Telangana.
5.	Shri Shankar Gopalakrishnan, Campaign for Survival and Dignity, New Delhi.
6.	Shri O. P. Kaler, Rtd. APCCF, Kerala and Shri James Zacharias, Rtd. DCF, Kerala.
7.	PCCF (HoFF), Government of West Bengal.
8.	Dr. B. Meenakumar, Chairperson, National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.
9.	Sri Gopinath Majhi (Convener), and All members of Campaign for Survival and Dignity (CSD), Odisha.
10.	Dr. Sejal Worah, Programme Director, WWF India, New Delhi.
11.	PCCF (HoFF), Government of Meghalaya.
12.	Shri Manohar Chauhan.
13.	Shri Pravin Mote and Devjeet Nandi, All India Forum for Forest Movements (AIFFM); and Shri Tushar Dass, Sanghamitra Dubey and Radhika, Community Forest Rights – Learning and Advocacy (CFR-LA).
14.	Dr. B. Karthik Navayan, Manager, Amnesty International India, Bangalore.
15.	Shri A. K. Srivastava, Executive Director, Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests.
16.	Shri Ajay Kumar Saxena, Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi.
17.	Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
18.	Shri Prajna Paramita Panda.
19.	Government of Madhya Pradesh.
20.	ICFRE, Dehradun.
21.	Government of Jharkhand.
22.	Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai.

Sl.No.	Name of State Government/Organisation/Individual
23.	Shri Husain Dalwai, MP (Rajya Sabha).
24.	Government of Punjab.
25.	Shri Jitendra Chaudhury, MP (Lok Sabha).
26.	Regional Office (South Zone), MoEF&CC, Bangalore.
27.	Government of Mizoram.
28.	Shri Prasad Khale, Conservation Action Trust, Mumbai.
29.	Government of Uttarakhand.

Status of implementation of MGNREGA

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

(a) whether the implementation of MGNREGA is successfully progressing in different States, if so, the number of families which got 100 days job in the country;

(b) the number of families which got 100 days job, in West Bengal; and

(c) the name of the State which secured first position in MGNREGA in terms of utilisation of fund and man-days creation?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a demand driven scheme. As per Management Information System (MIS), 29.56 lakh families completed 100 days of employment under MGNREGA in the country during the FY 2017-18.

(b) 5.58 lakh families completed 100 days of employment under MGNREGA in West Bengal during the FY 2017-18.

(c) As per MIS, highest persondays generation and highest expenditure have been reported in West Bengal under MGNREGA during the FY 2017-18.

Construction of Road over Bridges

†193. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending with Government as regard to construction of Road over Bridges on National Highways in the State of Chhattisgarh;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) the name of the places to which these cases relate to; and
- (c) the efforts made by Government for speedy disposal of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) No such case is pending with the Government of India as regards to construction of Road Over Bridges (RoBs) on National Highways in the State of Chhattisgarh. One proposal for construction of RoB at L/C No. 42 on Raipur to Visakhapatnam railway line at Railway Chainage 66/4 near Harabandh at Ch. 25.200 on NH-353 (Old NH-217) has been sanctioned. The estimates for preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for 4 number of RoBs have been sanctioned by the Ministry and the State Government has been advised to prepare DPR, acquire the land and submit the proposals for inclusion in annual plans depending upon inter-se-priority of works and availability of funds.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

Reduction of air pollution

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has fixed a target of reducing air pollution by 20 to 30 per cent in 102 cities across the country by 2024;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the target is part of Government's forthcoming National Clean Air Programme; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) to (d) In order to address air pollution across the country in a comprehensive manner, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has finalized the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a pan India time-bound national level strategy. Overall objective of the NCAP is comprehensive mitigation actions for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution besides augmenting the air quality monitoring network across the country. City specific action plans for 102 non-attainment cities for implementing mitigation actions is covered under NCAP. Taking into account the available international experiences and national studies, mid-term target of 20-30% for reduction of PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ concentration by 2024 is part of the NCAP, with reference to 2017 as the base year.

Implementation of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002

*195. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (BD Act) provides for preservation of biological diversity in India and a mechanism for equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of traditional biological resources and knowledge;

(b) whether the National Biodiversity Authority, a statutory autonomous body, under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change was established to implement the provisions under the Act;

(c) number of States that are implementing this Act; and

(d) number of farmers across India benefited by BD Act and details of penal actions, if any, taken in the cases of non-implementation of benefit sharing?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 is aimed towards conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resource and associated traditional knowledge. The Act is implemented through a three-tiered institutional structure: National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs), and Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) at the local body level.

(b) National Biodiversity Authority is a statutory autonomous body of the Ministry established under Section 8 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 for implementation of the provisions under the Act.

(c) All the 29 States have established State Biodiversity Boards, as per Section 22 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. Twenty-six State Biodiversity Boards have notified the State specific Rules in accordance with Section 63 of the Biological Diversity Act for implementation of the Act in their States.

(d) As per Section 2(a) of the Act, benefit claimers are the conservers of biological resources and their by-products, creators and holders of knowledge and information relating to the use of such biological resources, innovations and practices associated with such use and application (which would include farmers also).

As per the available information, approximately ₹ 80 crores have been realised by NBA and approximately ₹ 14 crores by SBBs by way of access and benefit sharing, to be used for purposes such as channelling benefits to benefit claimers,

conservation and promotion of biological resources, development of areas from where such biological resources or knowledge associated thereto has been accessed, and socio-economic development of areas such areas in consultation with the local bodies concerned.

For non-compliance of the provisions of the Act, NBA has filed a criminal complaint before the Court of Hon'ble Judicial Magistrate First Class, Dharwad, Karnataka against University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad and others on 24.12.2012 in C.C.No 579/2012. The case is sub judice before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India *vide* Crl Appeal No. 1720/15 and 1721/15.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Staff shortage in ordnance factories

1921. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is acute shortage of staff in ordnance factories affecting manufacturing schedules, research and development of new products and quality control;

(b) whether Government is aware that as of January 17 ordnance factories collectively have around 70,810 technical staff which is 41 per cent less than the 1.2 lakh sanctioned posts and there is shortage of around 40 per cent in "A" grade officers; and

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to fill-up the vacant posts in the interests of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) No, Sir. There is no shortage of staff in Ordnance Factories.

(b) and (c) Occurrence of vacancies and their filling up is a continuous and on-going process. Vacancies are filled up from time to time on need basis as per the existing procedure/rules.

Sensitive data leak at Brah Mos

1922. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that senior system engineer at Brah Mos Aerospace (P) Ltd.; in Nagpur was arrested for allegedly leaking sensitive data to ISI and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any other officials have been arrested from Border Security Force, Police etc. during the last two years and if so, the details thereof and the status of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Mr. Nishant Agarwal, Senior System Engineer posted at BrahMos Aerospace, Nagpur Unit was interrogated and detained by Indian Authorities on the suspicion of possible leakage of official information. The matter is being investigated by the authorised Indian agencies.

Indo US 2 + 2 dialogue

1923. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the agreements, MoU's signed by the Government in the recently held 2+2 dialogue, if any, mention the details;

(b) what are India's obligation and commitment to US in this dialogue, mention the details thereof;

(c) whether India have any obligation or understanding agreed to US that India gradually be a part of the ongoing sanction on Iran by US; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) The following Agreements/Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) were signed with the United States in the recently held 2 + 2 Dialogue:

(i) Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA);
and

(ii) Memorandum of Intent between the U.S. Defence Innovation Unit (DIU) and the Indian Defence Innovation Organization – Innovation for Defence Excellence (DIO-IDEX).

(b) The outcomes of the 2 + 2 meeting are recorded in the Joint Statement issued by both the countries on 6th September 2018. Copy of the same is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) India and the United States have engaged on the issue of waivers in context of imposition of U.S. sanctions on Iran. In a media interaction on 5th November, 2018, the U.S. Secretary of State stated that India is one of the eight countries that have received exemptions in connection with import of oil from Iran.

Statement*Outcomes of India-U.S. 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue*

September 06, 2018

Minister of External Affairs Sushma Swaraj and Minister of Defence Nirmala Sitharaman welcomed Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo and Secretary of Defence James N. Mattis to India on September 6, 2018 for the inaugural India-U.S. Ministerial 2+2 Dialogue. They welcomed the launch of the 2+2 Dialogue as a reflection of the shared commitment by Prime Minister Modi and President Trump to provide a positive, forward-looking vision for the India-U.S. strategic partnership and to promote synergy in their diplomatic and security efforts. They resolved to continue meetings in this format on an annual basis.

Celebrating over 70 years of diplomatic cooperation, the Ministers reaffirmed their view that India and the United States, as sovereign democracies founded on the values of freedom, justice, and commitment to the rule of law, must continue to lead global efforts to promote peace, prosperity, and security.

Recognizing their two countries are strategic partners, major and independent stakeholders in world affairs, the Ministers committed to work together on regional and global issues, including in bilateral, trilateral, and quadrilateral formats. The two sides further decided to establish secure communication between the Minister of External Affairs of India and the U.S. Secretary of State, and between the Minister of Defence of India and the U.S. Secretary of Defence, to help maintain regular high-level communication on emerging developments.

Strengthening the Defence and Security Partnership:

The Ministers reaffirmed the strategic importance of India's designation as a Major Defence Partner (MDP) of the United States and committed to expand the scope of India's MDP status and take mutually agreed upon steps to strengthen defence ties further and promote better defence and security coordination and cooperation. They noted the rapid growth in bilateral defence trade and the qualitative improvement in levels of technology and equipment offered by the United States to India in recent years. They welcomed the inclusion of India by the United States among the top tier of countries entitled to license-free exports, re-exports, and transfers under License Exception Strategic Trade Authorization (STA-1) and also committed to explore other means to support further expansion in two-way trade in defence items and defence manufacturing supply chain linkages. They welcomed the signing of a Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA) that will

facilitate access to advanced defence systems and enable India to optimally utilize its existing U.S.-origin platforms. The Ministers also announced their readiness to begin negotiations on an Industrial Security Annex (ISA) that would support closer defence industry cooperation and collaboration.

Recognizing their rapidly growing military-to-military ties, the two sides committed to the creation of a new, tri-services exercise and to further increase personnel exchanges between the two militaries and defence organizations. The Ministers reviewed the recent growth of bilateral engagements in support of maritime security and maritime domain awareness, and committed to expand cooperation. Toward that end, the Ministers committed to start exchanges between the U.S. Naval Forces Central Command (NAVCENT) and the Indian Navy, underscoring the importance of deepening their maritime cooperation in the western Indian Ocean.

Acknowledging the unique role of technology in the India-U.S. defence partnership, the Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to continue to encourage and prioritize co-production and co-development projects through the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI), and to pursue other avenues of defence innovation cooperation. In this regard, they welcomed the conclusion of a Memorandum of Intent between the U.S. Defence Innovation Unit (DIU) and the Indian Defence Innovation Organization – Innovation for Defence Excellence (DIO-iDEX).

Welcoming the expansion of bilateral counter-terrorism cooperation, the Ministers announced their intent to increase information-sharing efforts on known or suspected terrorists and to implement UN Security Council Resolution 2396 on returning foreign terrorist fighters. They committed to enhance their ongoing cooperation in multilateral fora such as the UN and FATF. They reaffirmed their support for a UN Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism that will advance and strengthen the framework for global cooperation and reinforce the message that no cause or grievance justifies terrorism. The Ministers denounced any use of terrorist proxies in the region, and in this context, they called on Pakistan to ensure that the territory under its control is not used to launch terrorist attacks on other countries. On the eve of the 10-year anniversary of the 26/11 Mumbai attack, they called on Pakistan to bring to justice expeditiously the perpetrators of the Mumbai, Pathankot, Uri, and other cross-border terrorist attacks. The Ministers welcomed the launch of a bilateral dialogue on designation of terrorists in 2017, which is strengthening cooperation and action against terrorist groups, including Al-Qa'ida, ISIS, Lashkar-e-Tayyiba, Jaish-e-Mohammad, Hizb-ul Mujahideen, the Haqqani Network, Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan, D-Company, and their affiliates. The two sides further reaffirmed their commitment

to ongoing and future cooperation to ensure a stable cyberspace environment and to prevent cyber-attacks.

Partners in the Indo-Pacific and Beyond:

The Ministers reviewed cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region, noting that the common principles for the region articulated in the India-U.S. Joint Statement of June, 2017 have been further amplified by President Donald Trump at Danang, Vietnam on November 10, 2017, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Singapore at the Shangri-La Dialogue on June 1, 2018. Both sides committed to work together and in concert with other partners toward advancing a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific region, based on recognition of ASEAN centrality and on respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, rule of law, good governance, free and fair trade, and freedom of navigation and overflight. Noting the importance of infrastructure and connectivity for the Indo-Pacific region, both sides emphasized the need to work collectively with other partner countries to support transparent, responsible, and sustainable debt financing practices in infrastructure development.

The Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to a united, sovereign, democratic, inclusive, stable, prosperous, and peaceful Afghanistan. The two sides expressed support for an Afghan-led, Afghan-owned peace and reconciliation process. The United States acknowledged India's longstanding and ongoing contributions of economic assistance to Afghanistan and also welcomed India's enhanced role in Afghanistan's development and stabilization.

India welcomed the recent U.S.-North Korea summit. The two sides pledged to work together to counter North Korea's weapons of mass destruction programs and to hold accountable those countries that have supported them.

The United States welcomed India's accession to the Australia Group, the Wassenaar Arrangement, and the Missile Technology Control Regime and reiterated its full support for India's immediate accession to the Nuclear Suppliers Group.

Promoting Prosperity and People-to-People Ties:

The Ministers recognized the importance and the potential for increasing bilateral trade, investment, innovation, and job creation in both countries. Both sides committed to further expanding and balancing the trade and economic partnership consistent with their leaders' 2017 joint statement, including by facilitating trade, improving market access, and addressing issues of interest to both sides. In this regard, both sides welcomed the ongoing exchanges between the Ministry of Commerce of India

and the Office of the United States Trade Representative and hoped for mutually acceptable outcomes.

Both sides looked forward to full implementation of the civil nuclear energy partnership and collaboration between Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and Westinghouse Electric Company for the establishment of six nuclear power plants in India.

Observing the strong ties of family, education, and business, and the spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation that unite their people, the Ministers highlighted the unmatched people-to-people ties between their countries and recognized the benefits to both nations and the world from these ties, including the free flow of ideas and collaboration in health, space, oceans, and other areas of science and technology.

The next 2+2 meeting is to be held in the United States in 2019.

September 06, 2018

New Delhi.

Carelessness in destroying unused arms

1924. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that carelessness in destroying unused arms at Arms Depot at Pulgaon, Wardha District of Maharashtra has caused loss of human lives recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has initiated any enquiry into the incident and the steps Government is taking to avoid such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b): No, Sir. There was an accident during destruction of old/unserviceable/obsolete/rejected ammunition by Ordnance Factory Khamaria (OFK) under technical supervision of CAD, Pulgaon which caused loss of human lives. On 20.11.2018, Ammunition boxes containing unserviceable ammunition were being unloaded and shifted from the vehicle to the demolition pit. During this shifting of ammunition, one of the boxes fell down and exploded. In the incident, 6 persons died and 19 persons were injured.

(c) Board of Enquiry (BOE) headed by Controller, Controllerate of Quality Assurance (Military Explosives) [CQA (ME)], Pune as Chairman comprising members

drawn from CQA (ME), OFK and Centre for Fire, Explosive and Environment Safety (CFEES), New Delhi has been constituted. Demolition of old/unserviceable/obsolete/rejected ammunition is carried out from time to time by following the laid-down procedures/methods to ensure safety of personnel and equipment.

Joint military exercises by Indian Army

1925. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Joint Military Exercises held during the past three years;
- (b) benefits to Indian Army holding such Joint Military exercises;
- (c) whether some of the countries refused to engage Joint Military exercises in recent years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) The year wise Military exercises conducted by Indian Army during the past three years are as under:—

- (i) 2015-16 : 16
- (ii) 2016-17 : 16
- (iii) 2017-18 : 18

(b) Military exercises provide operational exposure to the armed forces, enhance interoperability, enable mutual exchange of best practices and develop cooperation among the armed forces of participating nations. In this process the current tactical and technological practices/techniques etc., are exchanged.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Defence manufacturing contract to non Governmental agencies

1926. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has awarded any defence manufacturing contract to non-Governmental agencies in the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) details about the current status of such projects, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (d) Government is pursuing initiatives to achieve higher levels of indigenization and self-reliance in the defence sector by harnessing the capabilities of the public and private sector industries in the countries. These measures include according priority and preference to procurement from Indian vendors and liberalization of the licensing regime. Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) accords the highest priority to Buy Indian (Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured) (IDDM). The 'Make' procedure has been simplified with provisions for earmarking projects not exceeding development cost of ₹ 10 crores (Government funded) and ₹ 3 crores (Industry funded) for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs); and with provisions for involving private industry as production agencies and technology transfer partners. Government has also promulgated the policy on Strategic Partnership in the Defence Sector to encourage broader participation of the private sector in manufacture of major defence platforms and equipment.

During last three financial years, out of 99 contracts signed with Indian vendors, 49 contracts have been signed with Indian private vendors for procurement of defence equipment. Delivery schedule of equipment is specified in each contract.

Defence projects under Make in India

1927. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether no defence projects have been taken up under the Make in India framework during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether such delays render India strategically vulnerable and also disadvantaged in being dependent on large military hardware imports and if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any Defence Production Policy to herald a new era in providing domestically manufactured Military Hardware for the Indian Armed Force; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) 'Make in India' in defence sector is primarily driven by capital acquisition of defence equipment and other policy measures taken to promote indigenous design, development and manufacture of defence equipment

in the country by harnessing the capabilities of the public and private sector. In the last three financial years *i.e.* from 2015-16 to 2017-18, Government has accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) to 111 proposals, worth ₹ 1,78,900 crore approximately, under 'Buy (Indian-IDDMM)', 'Buy (Indian)', 'Buy and Make (Indian)' or 'Make' categories of capital procurement as per Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP), which means Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued only to Indian Vendors. In the last three financial years *i.e.* from 2015-16 to 2017-18, 99 contracts worth about ₹ 65,471.28 crore have been signed with Indian vendors for procurement of defence equipment. DPP stipulates a time schedule for completion of the procurement cycle. The time taken to undertake capital procurement of defence equipment depends on the nature and complexity of the equipment being procured.

(c) and (d) The Government had promulgated the Defence Production Policy in 2011 which aimed at achieving substantive self-reliance in the design, development and production of equipment, weapon systems, platforms required for defence in as early a time frame as possible; creating conditions conducive for private industry to play an active role in this endeavour; enhancing potential of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in indigenisation and broadening the defence R&D base of the country. Recently, a draft Defence Production Policy-2018 was prepared and placed in public domain to provide a focused, structured and significant thrust to development of defence design and production capabilities in the country. The Defence Production Policy 2018 has not yet been finalized.

Recruitment drive for serving armed officers in DRDO

1928. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has invited applications from serving officers of the three services already working with it, for permanent absorption as civilian officials into its Defence Research and Development Cadre;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that once absorbed, the officers will be treated as civilian scientists for pay and promotion; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per existing provision, Service Officers on tenure in Defence

Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) as well as Permanently Seconded (PS) officers are eligible for consideration for Permanent Absorption in civilian capacity in Defence Research and Development Service (DRDS) Cadre of DRDO. This is an existing practice as per the requirement and availability of vacancies.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Officers once found suitable on selection for absorption as Scientist are offered different grades as per extant rules depending on their ranks and experience.

Indo-US joint air exercise

1929. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air Forces of India and US conducted 112 days military exercise in India with an aim to enhance operational coordination;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether, it is also a fact that the exercise was held at two air force bases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The Indian Air Force and the US Air Force conducted the COPE-India exercise for 12 days from 03-14 December, 2018. The aircraft for the exercise operated from Air Force Stations Kalaikunda and Panagarh.

Pension of sailors

1930. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court *vide* judgement dated 27.10.2016 had directed to consider and grant Special Pension to all sailors prior to 03.07.1976 who had not exercised option of discharge and yet could not be/were not drafted to Fleet Reserve;

(b) the number of sailors affected by the same and have they all been notified of the same;

(c) whether it is a fact that the same is not being implemented in letter and spirit across the board as it has come to light that many justified claims are being rejected; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In compliance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment dated 27.10.2016, Ministry of Defence issued letter No.4/10/2017/D(P/L) dated 26.09.2017 to implement the order. A total 3828 ex-sailors applied for Special Pension. However, on scrutiny of records, only 568 were found eligible. Accordingly, blank forms were sent to them. As per records, out of 568 ex-sailors, only 450 have submitted the forms.

(c) and (d) In compliance of Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment dated 27.09.2018, Ministry of Defence issued letter No.4(10)/2017-D(Pen/Legal) dated 22.10.2018, for grant of Special Pension under Regulation 95 of Navy (Pension) Regulation, 1964 to eligible ex-sailors at an uniform rate of ₹ 9000/- per month.

**Effect of LEMOA, BECA, COMCASA agreements
on access to military spaces**

1931. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Logistic Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA), Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA), Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA) will further allow to access military spaces; and

(b) if so, the details of affect on military structure and future security challenges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) Agreements such as the LEMOA and COMCASA with the United States provide enabling framework for cooperation between Indian armed forces and their United States counterparts in specific circumstances. These Agreements do not provide unfettered access to each other's military facilities. India shall continue to exercise full control over access to its military facilities.

Defence expenditure as per centage of total expenditure

1932. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that defence expenditure as a per centage of total Central Government expenditure has declined from 2014-15 to 2017-18;

(b) whether Government plans to allocate greater financial resources for defence preparedness; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (c) Details of defence expenditure *vis-à-vis* Central Government Expenditure from 2014-15 to 2017-18 is as follows:—

(₹ in crore)			
Year	Defence Expenditure*	Total CGE (Actuals)	Def. Exp % of CGE
2014-15	285103.95	16,63,673	17.13
2015-16	294054.93	17,90,783	16.42
2016-17	377542.01	19,75,194	19.11
2017-18	380690.97	22,17,750	17.16

* including Defence Pension.

It is true that the Defence expenditure as per per centage of Central Government. Expenditure has fallen, however, the Defence expenditure in absolute terms has been showing a steady increase.

The projections made by the Services are forwarded to Ministry of Finance for favourable consideration as it is the nodal Ministry for allocation of funds. Based on the overall resource position, funds are allocated by Ministry of Finance. While distributing these allocations among the Services, it is ensured that sufficient funds are available to meet critical requirements.

Also depending on expenditure during the year and additional requirements projected, funds are sought at Supplementary/Revised Estimate (RE) stage. The allocated funds are optimally and fully utilized towards operational activities. Further, if required, schemes are reprioritized to ensure that urgent and critical capabilities are acquired without any compromise to operational preparedness.

Grant of disability pension

1933. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided not to grant disability pension to officers of Armed Forces who have opted for Voluntary retirement;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, by when this pension would be granted to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (c) As per Ministry of Defence order dated 31.01.2001,

Armed Forces Personnel who retire voluntarily/or seek discharge on request are not eligible for any award on account of disability. Provided that Armed Forces Personnel who are due for retirement/discharge on completion of tenure, or on completion of service limits, or on completion of the terms of engagement or on attaining the prescribed age of retirement, and who seeks pre-mature retirement/discharge on request for the purpose of getting higher commutation value of pension will remain eligible for disability element.

Further, Armed Forces personnel who are retained in service despite disability, which is accepted as attributable to or aggravated by Military Service and have forgone lump sum compensation in lieu of that disability, may be given disability element/war injury element at the time of their retirement/discharge whether voluntary or otherwise in addition to Retiring/Service Pension or Retiring/Service Gratuity. These provisions are effective from 1.1.2006.

Allowance to armed forces

†1934. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that soldiers, Non Commissioned officers and Junior Commissioned officers who are deployed at frontline on Line of Control and deal with adverse weather conditions and enemies, are paid less allowances as compared to senior officers and nurses on different rates and are getting Military Service Pay despite Sixth Pay Commission clearly stating that Jawans as well as officers face similar difficulties in field area;

(b) whether Seventh Pay Commission had recommended to pay the allowances with more difference; and

(c) the engine-wise capacity and interval in years allowed as regards vehicle purchase for officers and Jawans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) Taking note of the rigours of military life, the 6th Central Pay Commission (CPC) had recommended an additional, separate element of Pay for the Defence Forces called Military Service Pay (MSP) which the CPC intended would also maintain the edge enjoyed by the Defence Forces over the civilian scales. The Commission was of the view that the rate of MSP as a per

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

centage of the existing pay has to be maintained in case of officers (up to the level of Brigadier/ equivalent) as well as PBORs because the difficulties faced in field situations by both these categories are similar.

The 7th Central Pay Commission (CPC) had considered all aspects with regard to applicability of MSP including the rates while making its recommendations. This was done after considering the views of the Services in the matter. The 7th CPC has consciously decided not to create additional categories of personnel for the grant of MSP or to disturb the slab rates for the four categories for which it is being paid up to the level of Brigadiers. The Government after carefully considering the recommendations of the 7th CPC in respect of MSP has accepted and notified the same.

Besides MSP, Service personnel are entitled to several other allowances such as High Altitude Allowance, Field Area/Modified Field Area Allowance, Counter Insurgency Allowance etc which are paid based on risks and hardships involved at a location/in an operation.

(c) The information is given in the Statement.

Statement

*Engine-wise capacity and interval in years allowed as regards
vehicle purchase for officers and jawans*

Eligibility				
Sl.No.	Category	CC	Periodicity	
(a)	Officers (including Retd./ Widows)	3000	Once in Four Years.	
(b)	JCOs granted Honorary Commission and Equivalent (including Retd. and Widows)	2500	Once in Seven Years.	
(c)	JCOs and Equivalent (including Retd. and Widows)	2000	Once in Service and Once after Retirement. First Car after ten years of Service. Gap between purchases of Two Cars to be Ten years. If the late husband had purchased a car each while in service/after retirement then the widow will not be eligible to	

Sl.No.	Category	CC	Periodicity
			buy a car. In case late husband had purchased only one car then widow can buy one car through CSD after gap of 10 years from the date of last purchase.
(d)	OR and Equivalent (including Retd. and Widows)	1800	Once in Service and Once after Retirement. First Car after ten years of Service. Gap between purchases of Two Cars to be Ten years. If the late husband had purchased a car each while in service/after retirement then the widow will not be eligible to buy a car. In case late husband had purchased only one car then widow can buy one car through CSD after gap of 10 years from the date of last purchase.

Status of INS Virat

1935. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra has put forth a proposal before the Ministry to hand it over INS Virat with an estimated cost of ₹850 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that INS Virat has first been given to Andhra Pradesh so as to put it at Visakhapatnam; and

(d) if so, whether INS Virat is now proposed to be given to Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Maharashtra has forwarded a Preliminary Project Report (PPR) on conversion of INS Virat into a Museum/Hotel.

(c) No such decision was taken by the Ministry.

(d) Proposal of Government of Maharashtra regarding conversion of INS Virat, post-decommissioning, as a Museum/Hotel has been approved in-principle.

Adherence to ceasefire agreement between India and Pakistan

1936. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Pakistan decided at a Brigade Commander level flag meeting to adhere to the 2003 ceasefire understanding between the two countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this understanding was arrived at after a spurt in cross border firing duels over the last several months;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Pakistan army assured that it will institute measures to maintain peace and tranquillity along LoC; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Pakistan Army has suggested measures to maintain peace and tranquillity along the Line of Control (LC) and prevent unnecessary escalation.

Construction of portable bridges to improve road network in Gadchiroli

1937. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal received from the Maharashtra Government is pending with Government for entering into a tripartite MoU between Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Ship Builders Ltd. for construction of portable bridges in Gadchiroli District of Maharashtra to improve connectivity between 250 villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) time Government is likely to take to finalise the MoU?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal of an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was received by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE) from the Government of Maharashtra on 3rd August, 2018 for supply of 100 Bailey type Bridges.

(b) and (c) The initial draft MoU for construction of 100 Bailey type Portable Steel Bridges was submitted by GRSE to the concerned authorities on 9th August, 2018. After deliberation with the State Government, GRSE has resubmitted a revised draft MoU proposal on 11th September, 2018 and is awaiting confirmation from the Government of Maharashtra regarding the finalization and signing of the MoU.

Progress in production of Tejas

1938. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's first indigenous combat fighter aircraft Tejas which was first approved in 1983 is not yet combat ready;

(b) if so, the reason that this indigenous fighter aircraft had been missing its target for getting the FOC (Final Operational Clearance) for the last couple of years; and

(c) number of aircrafts of this type that are in the making and by when they are to be delivered for combat use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) Light Combat Aircraft Tejas has already achieved Initial Operational Clearance (IOC) in December, 2013 for fighter version of aircraft and 10 fighter version aircraft have been delivered to Indian Air Force. These aircraft are equipped with various combat equipment as envisaged for IOC version of aircraft.

(b) Final Operational Clearance (FOC) was initially planned by Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) for December, 2012. However the same has not yet been achieved by ADA.

Delays in attaining FOC have been mainly due to delay in finalization of Air to Air Refuelling contract; challenges faced in integration of Air to Air Refuelling probe and associated major hardware (structural modification) and software (Flight control software) modification and flight testing etc.

(c) Two contracts were signed between Indian Air Force (IAF) and Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., (HAL) for procurement of (i) 20 Initial Operational Clearance (IOC) standard aircraft, including 16 IOC fighters and 04 trainers on 31st March, 2006 to be completed in December, 2011 and (ii) 20 Final Operational Clearance (FOC) standard aircraft including 16 FOC fighters and four trainers on 23rd December, 2010 to be completed by December, 2016.

Till date, out of 16 IOC fighter aircraft, 10 fighters have been delivered by HAL and are operational with IAF's 45 Squadron. The delivery of remaining 6 IOC fighter aircraft is planned by March, 2019. The production of 4 IOC trainer aircraft would be taken up only after design clearance from ADA. Production of 20 FOC aircraft will be taken up only after FOC by ADA.

Functional toilets under Swachh Bharat Mission

1939. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to conduct or is currently in the process of conducting a survey of operability and usage of toilets built under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM);

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

(c) whether all toilets constructed under SBM are in working condition with functional water connection and proper drainage, and if not, the details and reasons therefor;

(d) the fall back rate of ODF declared villages to non-ODF and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the number of functional toilets with water connection constructed for people with disabilities, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) and (b) Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation is conducting a survey in the rural areas of the country of sanitation status including usage of toilets through an independent agency under the World Bank support project to Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) [SBM(G)].

(c) Under SBM(G), the incentive for individual toilet has been increased from ₹ 10,000 to ₹ 12,000 to provide for water availability, including for storing water for hand-washing and cleaning. The SBM(G) and National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) guidelines also provide for convergence towards implementation of the programmes of sanitation and water, and to maximize the availability of water for sanitation purposes. ODF declared villages are being prioritized for providing Piped Water Supply Schemes (PWSS) under NRDWP. As per Swachhata Status Report 2016, published by National Sample Survey Office, 93.9% of the rural households having toilet had access to water for use in toilets. A third-party survey conducted by an Independent Verification Agency (IVA) under the World Bank Support Project, in

2017-18, found that 93.2% of households with access to toilets used them. Further, under SBM(G), for disposal of human excreta, use of safe and eco-friendly onsite sanitation technologies such as twin leach pit toilets is encouraged. Under this technology, human feces automatically becomes manure in 1-2 years and no sewage/ drainage system is required.

(d) The third-party survey conducted by an Independent Verification Agency (IVA) under the World Bank Support Project in 2017-18, had found that 95.6% of ODF verified villages were confirmed to be ODF.

(e) State/UT-wise number of Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs) constructed for households with physically differently abled persons under SBM(G) from 2.10.2014 to 27.12.2018 are given in the Statement.

Statement

State/UT-wise number of Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs) constructed for households with physically differently abled persons, under SBM(G) from 2.10.2014 to 27.12.2018

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of IHHLs constructed for households with physically differently abled persons
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	134
2.	Andhra Pradesh	68
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
4.	Assam	7648
5.	Bihar	4265
6.	Chandigarh	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	2612
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
9.	Daman and Diu	2
10.	Goa	0
11.	Gujarat	5734
12.	Haryana	685
13.	Himachal Pradesh	466
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	374

1	2	3
15.	Jharkhand	652
16.	Karnataka	1161
17.	Kerala	12
18.	Lakshadweep	0
19.	Madhya Pradesh	27170
20.	Maharashtra	13961
21.	Manipur	190
22.	Meghalaya	7
23.	Mizoram	1
24.	Nagaland	2
25.	Odisha	10284
26.	Puducherry	16
27.	Punjab	277
28.	Rajasthan	4154
29.	Sikkim	0
30.	Tamil Nadu	24160
31.	Telangana	229
32.	Tripura	159
33.	Uttar Pradesh	38058
34.	Uttarakhand	330
35.	West Bengal	14814
TOTAL		1,57,628

Pollutants in drinking water

1940. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that drinking water in several districts in the country is affected by pollutants such as Arsenic, Fluoride, Iron, Nitrates etc.;

(b) the details thereof, State-wise, district-wise and pollution-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry to solve this problem including the special steps taken in badly affected districts in the country;

(d) the current status of laboratories in various districts to evaluate the quality of drinking water and whether they are able to fulfil their targets; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) and (b) State-wise and contamination-wise number of districts affected by Arsenic, Fluoride, Iron, Nitrate, salinity and heavy metal as reported by the States in Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of this Ministry as on 26.12.2018 is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) to (e) Rural Drinking water supply is a State subject. For improving the coverage of safe drinking water to rural population, this Ministry supplements the efforts of the States by providing them with technical and financial assistance through the centrally sponsored scheme National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). It is the State Governments who plan, design, approve, execute, operate and maintain the schemes for providing safe drinking water to rural population. The funds provided to the States under NRDWP can be utilized for providing safe drinking water to rural population of the country.

Upto 5% of the funds released to states under NRDWP can be utilized for Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance (WQMS), which *inter alia* includes taking up works relating to setting up of new/up-gradation of State/districts/sub division/block level/mobile water quality testing laboratories, providing chemicals and consumables to laboratories, providing field test kits/refills to Gram Panchayats etc.

To deal with arsenic and fluoride contamination, with the recommendation of National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog), Government of India had released ₹ 1,000 crore in March 2016 for commissioning of Community Water Purification Plants (CWPPs) and last mile connectivity of piped water supply schemes.

In addition, the Ministry had launched National Water Quality Sub-Mission (NWQSM) on 22.03.17 to provide safe drinking water to 27,544 arsenic/fluoride affected rural habitations in a span of 4 years, subject to availability of funds.

State-wise number of water quality testing laboratories set up at various level as reported by the states in Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of this Ministry as on 26.12.2018 is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise and contamination-wise number of districts affected by Arsenic, Fluoride, Iron, Nitrate, salinity and heavy metal as reported by the States in Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of this Ministry as on 26.12.2018

Sl. No.	State	Nos. of affected Districts						
		Total	Arsenic	Fluoride	Iron	Salinity	Nitrate	Heavy Metal
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andhra Pradesh	10	0	9	1	7	3	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	0	0	3	0	0	0
3.	Assam	28	18	7	25	0	0	1
4.	Bihar	24	11	11	9	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	17	0	10	13	0	1	0
6.	Haryana	9	0	9	0	0	0	0
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	0	1	5	0	0	0
8.	Jharkhand	10	3	9	7	0	0	0
9.	Karnataka	25	2	17	10	11	18	1
10.	Kerala	14	0	2	12	11	6	0
11.	Madhya Pradesh	6	0	5	0	1	0	0
12.	Maharashtra	17	0	10	7	10	10	0
13.	Meghalaya	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
14.	Nagaland	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
15.	Odisha	23	0	8	21	7	0	0
16.	Punjab	21	17	19	18	6	15	21
17.	Rajasthan	33	0	32	3	31	26	0
18.	Tamil Nadu	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
19.	Telangana	21	0	0	9	19	18	0
20.	Tripura	8	0	0	8	0	0	0
21.	Uttar Pradesh	32	17	24	8	2	3	0
22.	Uttarakhand	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
23.	West Bengal	20	9	6	20	3	0	14
TOTAL		330	77	179	183	108	101	37

Note: Number of affected districts may overlap in between the columns.

Statement-II

State-wise number of water quality testing laboratories set up at various level as reported by the States in Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of this Ministry as on 26.12.2018

Sl. No.	State	State Level Labs	District Level Labs	Block Level Labs	Sub-Division Level Labs	Mobile Labs	Total Labs (State/District/Block/Sub-division Level/mobile labs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	0	0	0	2	3
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1	32	0	74	0	107
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	16	0	31	1	49
4.	Assam	1	29	0	54	23	107
5.	Bihar	1	41	0	1	0	43
6.	Chhattisgarh	1	27	1	24	18	71
7.	Goa	1	0	1	9	0	11
8.	Gujarat	1	32	48	0	6	87
9.	Haryana	1	21	0	22	0	44
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1	14	0	30	0	45
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	22	4	76	0	102
12.	Jharkhand	1	26	1	7	5	40
13.	Karnataka	1	44	39	107	45	236
14.	Kerala	1	14	0	33	0	48
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1	51	3	106	0	161
16.	Maharashtra	1	65	2	140	1	209
17.	Manipur	1	9	0	2	0	12
18.	Meghalaya	1	7	0	24	0	32
19.	Mizoram	1	8	0	18	0	27
20.	Nagaland	0	11	0	1	2	14
21.	Odisha	1	33	0	44	0	78
22.	Puducherry	0	2	0	0	0	2
23.	Punjab	3	22	8	0	1	34

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24.	Rajasthan	1	34	165	0	0	200
25.	Sikkim	0	2	0	0	0	2
26.	Tamil Nadu	1	34	0	55	0	90
27.	Telangana	1	19	0	56	0	76
28.	Tripura	1	8	7	6	0	22
29.	Uttar Pradesh	1	76	3	3	0	83
30.	Uttarakhand	0	29	1	14	0	44
31.	West Bengal	1	19	1	199	0	220
TOTAL		28	747	284	1136	104	2299

Increased budget for schemes

1941. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in 2015-16 the Ministry enhanced its budget by 178 per cent, leading to an increased allocation of ₹ 22,357 crore in the present budget; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and details of the various policies/schemes under which such additional funds were required?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) and (b) There are two central schemes being administered by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation namely-Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G) and National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), which are being implemented in rural areas. The fund allocations made during 2014-15, 2015-16 and in the current year 2018-19 for both the programmes are as follows:—

	(₹ in crores)		
	2014-15	2015-16	2018-19
SBM-G	2850.00	6525.00	15343.10
NRDWP	9250.00	4373.00	7000.00

SBM(G) was launched with effect from 2nd October, 2014 with the aim to achieve universal sanitation coverage by 2nd October, 2019 by providing access to toilet facilities to all rural households in the country. When the programme gained

momentum, increased allocations were required in later years of the Mission, to achieve its goal within the scheduled time line. There was no increase in budget allocation in the year 2015-16 in case of NRDWP over the previous year.

Swachh Survekshan Grameen in Himachal Pradesh

1942. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey of Gram Panchayats in rural areas under Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG), 2018 recently and if so, the details thereof including the details of the norms in this regard;

(b) whether Government has taken steps to impart training to employees associated with Swachh Bharat Mission and in Gram Panchayats of Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has allocated funds under SSG, 2018 to Himachal Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation has conducted Swachh Survekshan Grameen-2018 (SSG-2018) in rural areas of the country through a survey agency for ranking of all Districts and States of India on the basis of quantitative and qualitative sanitation (Swachhata) parameters. Under SSG-2018, the evaluation of the States and Districts has been done on the basis of following three key components:-

- Direct Observation of sanitation in public places in sampled villages.
- Citizen's Feedback including feedback from key influencers at the village level.
- Service Level Progress on sanitation related parameters.

The survey evoked feedback from 1.8 lakh citizens through face to face interaction, another 1.16 crore citizens through mobile app and 45 lakhs through Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation portal.

(b) and (c) The State and district officials, especially the Collectors/CEOs of Zilla Parishads and other district functionaries are being trained regularly in community approaches to sanitation and triggering for collective behavior change by the Key Resource Centres (KRCs) which have been empaneled by the Ministry. State/District/Block level officials, Swachhagrahis, Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) functionaries

etc. are being trained by these KRCs. Various national, regional and State level workshops are being conducted to encourage cross sharing of best practices and dissemination of information.

(d) and (e) Under Swachh Survekshan Grameen-2018, no funds were allocated for States/UTs including Himachal Pradesh.

Scarcity of drinking water

1943. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a scarcity of drinking water in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the availability and shortfall, State and UT-wise; and

(c) details of steps taken by Government to fulfil the requirement of drinking water in the State of Maharashtra including Solapur, Aurangabad and other parts of the State where water scarcity exists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by the State son Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry. State-wise availability and scarcity of drinking water in terms of Fully covered (getting at least 40 litre per capita per day), Partially covered (getting less than 40 lpcd) and Quality affected (where some sources are chemically contaminated) is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) As per the information furnished by State Govt. of Maharashtra, Comprehensive guidelines have been issued by them for tackling scarcity conditions *vide* Resolution dated 28.09.2018. Accordingly, district-wise Scarcity Action Plan for 2018-19 has been prepared. The measures include:—

- (i) Digging new bore wells
- (ii) Hand pump repairs
- (iii) Requisition of wells and bore wells
- (iv) Deepening of wells
- (v) Sanction of new temporary piped water supply schemes
- (vi) PWS special repairs
- (vii) Water Supply through tankers

(viii) The action plan for period October to December, 2018 includes 13755 measures for 6931 villages and 8360 hamlets with likely expenditure of ₹ 244.29 crore.

The State Government is supplying water by tankers to 1166 villages and 2479 hamlets using 1379 tankers in the last week of December, 2018.

In Solapur District, the drinking water is being supplied by tankers to 5 villages and 37 hamlets using 5 tankers in the last week of December, 2018.

In Aurangabad District, the drinking water is being supplied by tankers to 381 villages and 30 hamlets using 497 tankers in the last week of December, 2018.

Statement

State-wise details of availability and scarcity of drinking water

Sl. No.	State	Total No. of Habitations	No. of Fully Covered Habitations	No. of Partially Covered Habitations	No. of Quality Affected Habitations
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	400	324	76	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	48,363	34,604	13,392	367
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	7,525	3,210	4,287	28
4.	Assam	88,047	54,962	23,251	9,834
5.	Bihar	1,10,218	70,632	35,670	3,916
6.	Chhattisgarh	74,619	72,966	1,140	513
7.	Goa	347	345	2	0
8.	Gujarat	35,996	35,996	0	0
9.	Haryana	7,517	7,298	116	103
10.	Himachal Pradesh	53,269	43,094	10,175	0
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	15,778	9,292	6,474	12
12.	Jharkhand	1,19,832	1,19,022	270	540
13.	Karnataka	59,774	23,651	35,351	772
14.	Kerala	21,520	6,052	15,141	327
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1,27,448	1,27,298	0	150
16.	Maharashtra	99,533	89,427	9,912	194

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Manipur	2,962	2,133	829	0
18.	Meghalaya	9,980	3,983	5,990	7
19.	Mizoram	718	487	231	0
20.	Nagaland	1,450	735	711	4
21.	Odisha	1,57,013	1,54,386	133	2,494
22.	Puducherry	266	153	113	0
23.	Punjab	15,038	10,534	1,358	3,146
24.	Rajasthan	1,21,526	59,229	43,819	18,478
25.	Sikkim	2,076	830	1,246	0
26.	Tamil Nadu	1,00,014	96,037	3,976	1
27.	Telangana	24,359	15,144	8,865	350
28.	Tripura	8,723	4,935	1,361	2,427
29.	Uttar Pradesh	2,60,018	2,56,468	2,176	1,374
30.	Uttarakhand	39,311	22,781	16,515	15
31.	West Bengal	1,05,669	56,608	32,550	16,511
TOTAL		17,19,309	13,82,616	2,75,130	61,563
PER CENTAGE			80.42	16.00	3.58

Provision of clean drinking water

†1944. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures adopted to keep the water flowing through rivers clean and fit for drinking purposes; and

(b) the action plan desired towards provision of clean drinking water to schools and water management for cleanliness in toilets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) As per the information received from Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD&GR), in order to prevent pollution of river Ganga and its tributaries (sources of raw drinking water), programmes to prevent

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

direct discharge of untreated waste water into the river, sewerage treatment project are being taken up under Namami Gange Programme along with other activities. The projects for creation of 819 Million Litre Per Day (MLD) Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) capacity are at advanced stages of completion. In addition, the projects for creation of 731.5 MLD have been approved and are under tendering. The completion of these projects shall ensure the STP requirement of 97 Ganga main stem towns for the year 2035 design population load. The sewerage projects are being sanctioned to ensure that no untreated sewage may find its ways into the rivers in Ganga basin. In addition for rejuvenation, protection and management of river Ganga basin, variety of coordinated activities meant for cleaning of river Ganga have been taken up under Namami Gange programme. So far, a total of 254 projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of ` 24,672 crore.

(b) As per the information furnished by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Section 19 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides the norms and standards for a school as specified in Schedule to the Act. The appropriate Governments have the responsibility and mandate to provide school infrastructure including safe and adequate drinking water facility to all children in a school as per the RTE norms.

Under Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) till 2017-18 and Samagra Shiksha effective from 2018-19, 10.63 lakh school toilets and 2.40 lakh drinking water facilities have been sanctioned for elementary education to States and UTs. Out of which, States and UTs have reported completion of construction of 10.11 lakh school toilets and 2.33 lakh drinking water facilities till 30.09.2018. Under erstwhile Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhiyan (RMSA) till 2017-18 and Samagra Shiksha from 2018-19, 20,403 toilet blocks and 11,892 drinking water facilities have been sanctioned for secondary/senior secondary schools to States and UTs. Out of which, States and UTs have reported completion of construction of 14,474 toilet blocks and provision of 10,059 drinking water facilities till 30.09.2018.

Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) SBM(G) and National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) guidelines provide for convergence towards implementation of the programmes of sanitation and water, and to maximize the availability of water for sanitation purposes. Open Defecation Free (ODF) declared villages are being prioritized for providing Piped Water Supply Schemes (PWSS) under NRDWP. Under SBM(G), rural pans are used which are specially designed to consume less amount of water *i.e.* only 1-2 liters of water for flushing.

Supply of drinking water to rural areas

1945. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA; Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that drinking water supply problem exists in rural areas of the country and various schemes have failed to give desired result;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that the schemes have not been properly implemented and have been poorly monitored in Assam and North Eastern States; and

(d) if so, details of remedial action taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) and (b) Under centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), this Ministry provides technical and financial assistance to States for improving coverage of safe drinking water in rural areas. Coverage of safe drinking water in rural areas is maintained in terms of Fully Covered habitations (*i.e.* getting more than 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd) safe drinking water), Partially Covered habitations (*i.e.* getting less than 40 lpcd safe drinking water) and Quality Affected habitations (*i.e.* containing chemical contaminant). As reported by States on Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, 80.42% habitations are Fully Covered, 16.00% habitations are Partially Covered and 3.58% habitations where some source is contaminated with chemical contaminant. Various challenges like source sustainability, contaminated ground water are addressed by States with the technical and financial support of NRDWP and schemes such as NWQSM specifically focused on tackling quality issues in water.

(c) and (d) Rural drinking water supply being a State subject, it is for the State to plan, design, implement and execute drinking water supply schemes. However, online 'Integrated Management Information System (IMIS)' is in place to monitor the progress of the schemes and expenditure of the funds released to all States including Assam and North-Eastern States under NRDWP. From time to time, review meetings are also held with the Secretaries In-charge of rural water supply in the State for effective monitoring and execution of the schemes. In addition to this, as a long term solution, this Ministry has directed the States to cover the rural households with Piped Water Supply with sustainable safe source. Further, the Ministry has restructured National Rural Drinking Water Program (NRDWP) to make it competitive, outcome based and result oriented which will help in attaining the ultimate goal.

Uranium and Arsenic contamination of potable water

1946. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in some parts of the country potable water is laced with Uranium and Arsenic, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(b) steps taken by Government to make available pure drinking water for the people affected in those parts of the country, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) State-wise number of habitations affected by Uranium and Arsenic as reported by the States in Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of this Ministry as on 26.12.2018 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Rural Drinking water supply is a State subject. For improving the coverage of safe drinking water to rural population, this Ministry supplements the efforts of the States by providing them with technical and financial assistance through the Centrally sponsored scheme National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). It is the State Governments who plan, design, approve, execute, operate and maintain the schemes for providing safe drinking water to rural population. The funds provided to the States under NRDWP can be utilized for providing safe drinking water to water quality affected population of the country including Uranium and Arsenic.

To deal with arsenic and fluoride contamination, with the recommendation of National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog), Government of India had released ₹ 1,000 crore in March, 2016 for commissioning of Community Water Purification Plants (CWPPs) and last mile connectivity of piped water supply schemes. In addition, the Ministry had launched National Water Quality Sub-Mission (NWQSM) on 22.03.17 to provide safe drinking water to 27,544 Arsenic/Fluoride affected rural habitations in a span of 4 years, subject to availability of funds.

Statement

State-wise number of habitations affected by Uranium and Arsenic as reported by the States in Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of this Ministry as on 26.12.2018

Sl.No.	State	Uranium	Arsenic
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-

Sl.No.	State	Uranium	Arsenic
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-
4.	Assam	-	4320
5.	Bihar	-	815
6.	Chhattisgarh	-	-
7.	Goa	-	-
8.	Gujarat	-	-
9.	Haryana	-	-
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-
12.	Jharkhand	-	19
13.	Karnataka	-	3
14.	Kerala	-	-
15.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-
16.	Maharashtra	-	-
17.	Manipur	-	-
18.	Meghalaya	-	-
19.	Mizoram	-	-
20.	Nagaland	-	-
21.	Odisha	-	-
22.	Puducherry	-	-
23.	Punjab	448	652
24.	Rajasthan	-	-
25.	Sikkim	-	-
26.	Tamil Nadu	-	-
27.	Telangana	-	-
28.	Tripura	-	-
29.	Uttar Pradesh	-	745
30.	Uttarakhand	-	-
31.	West Bengal	-	9250
TOTAL		448	15804

Construction of toilets under SBM

1947. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of toilets constructed under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), State/UT-wise;

(b) the number of Gram Panchayats, blocks and districts, which have become open defecation free during the last three years and the current financial year, State/UT-wise;

(c) the number and names of the States which are likely to be open defecation free by the end of March, 2019; and

(d) the details of factors responsible for the said States becoming open defecation free in such a short period of time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) State/UT-wise number of Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs) constructed under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) [SBM(G)] from 02.10.2014 to 27.12.2018 are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) State/UT-wise number of Gram Panchayats, Blocks and Districts, which have become Open Defecation Free (ODF) as on 27.12.2018 are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) and (d) SBM(G) was launched on 2nd October, 2014 with the aim to achieve 100% open-defecation free India by 2nd October, 2019 by providing access to toilet facilities to all rural households in the country. Under the programme, the States/UTs have been provided flexibility to adopt mechanism for smooth implementation of the programme best suited to them. The focus of the scheme is on behavior change and usage of toilets. 26 States/UTs namely Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh (except some Left Wing Extremist affected Gram Panchayats), Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Puducherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) as on 27.12.2018. The remaining States are on track to become ODF by 2nd October, 2019.

Statement-I

*State/UT-wise number of Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs)
constructed under SBM(G) from 2.10.2014 to 27.12.2018*

Sl.No.	State/UT	IHHLs constructed from 2.10.2014 to 27.12.2018
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	18535
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3807367
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	114907
4.	Assam	3185438
5.	Bihar	10176940
6.	Chhattisgarh	3307460
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	18758
8.	Daman and Diu	1600
9.	Goa	28637
10.	Gujarat	3175863
11.	Haryana	633610
12.	Himachal Pradesh	172734
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	1077147
14.	Jharkhand	3344400
15.	Karnataka	4191742
16.	Kerala	226602
17.	Madhya Pradesh	6288078
18.	Maharashtra	5537303
19.	Manipur	243298
20.	Meghalaya	209357
21.	Mizoram	33997
22.	Nagaland	130781
23.	Odisha	5165343
24.	Puducherry	28002
25.	Punjab	301395
26.	Rajasthan	7642973

1	2	3
27.	Sikkim	4514
28.	Tamil Nadu	4717339
29.	Telangana	2808998
30.	Tripura	286799
31.	Uttar Pradesh	17059824
32.	Uttarakhand	478496
33.	West Bengal	6064743
TOTAL		9,04,82,980

Statement-II

*State/UT-wise number of Gram Panchayats, Blocks and Districts declared
Open Defecation Free (ODF) as on 27.12.2018*

Sl. No.	State/UT	ODF declared Gram Panchayats	ODF declared Blocks	ODF declared Districts
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	65	7	3
2.	Andhra Pradesh	12850	661	13
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1777	109	20
4.	Assam	2412	204	25
5.	Bihar	3329	139	5
6.	Chandigarh	12	1	1
7.	Chhattisgarh	10775	146	27
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	20	1	1
9.	Daman and Diu	15	2	2
10.	Goa	9	0	0
11.	Gujarat	14057	247	33
12.	Haryana	6205	140	22
13.	Himachal Pradesh	3231	77	12
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	4171	316	22
15.	Jharkhand	4396	263	24
16.	Karnataka	6017	175	29

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Kerala	940	152	14
18.	Lakshadweep	9	9	1
19.	Madhya Pradesh	22839	313	51
20.	Maharashtra	27667	350	34
21.	Manipur	2245	44	16
22.	Meghalaya	5965	39	11
23.	Mizoram	690	26	8
24.	Nagaland	1451	74	11
25.	Odisha	1689	48	3
26.	Puducherry	98	3	2
27.	Punjab	12971	147	22
28.	Rajasthan	9892	295	33
29.	Sikkim	176	32	4
30.	Tamil Nadu	12524	385	31
31.	Telangana	5743	210	14
32.	Tripura	854	35	0
33.	Uttar Pradesh	58587	760	56
34.	Uttarakhand	7542	95	13
35.	West Bengal	2880	284	14
TOTAL		2,44,103	5,789	577

Filtered water for Gram Panchayats

1948. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Gram Panchayats in the country where safe and filtered drinking water has been provided during the last three years and the current year along with the details thereof, State-wise including Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the status and number of such villages or Gram Panchayats in the country where safe drinking water is unavailable at present, State-wise; and

(c) if so, the details of such villages, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) This Ministry maintains the coverage in terms of habitations and not in terms of villages or Gram Panchayats. Under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), coverage of safe drinking water in rural areas is maintained in terms of Fully Covered habitations (*i.e.* getting more than 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd) safe drinking water), Partially Covered habitations (*i.e.* getting less than 40 lpcd safe drinking water) and Quality Affected habitations (*i.e.* containing chemical contaminant). As reported by States on Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, State-wise details of habitations including Madhya Pradesh where safe drinking water has been provided during last three years and current year till 26.12.2018 is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) and (c) State-wise details of quality affected habitations (which are getting less than 40 lpcd safe drinking water and wherein one or more sources are affected with chemical contamination) are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise details of coverage of habitations

Sl.No.	State	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19*
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1905	1373	1071	1352
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	143	126	114	58
4.	Assam	1659	382	245	675
5.	Bihar	7189	1289	266	194
6.	Chhattisgarh	3670	997	971	447
7.	Goa	0	0	0	0
8.	Gujarat	1193	1605	1781	0
9.	Haryana	317	290	278	108
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1536	938	873	176
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	233	260	322	66
12.	Jharkhand	1868	3074	4007	162
13.	Karnataka	19791	17434	12448	2257
14.	Kerala	432	291	192	96

Sl.No.	State	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19*
15.	Madhya Pradesh	11478	7420	9849	5013
16.	Maharashtra	1566	1270	638	118
17.	Manipur	80	103	77	8
18.	Meghalaya	242	82	71	55
19.	Mizoram	28	35	20	35
20.	Nagaland	168	167	106	47
21.	Odisha	15224	8196	4007	9315
22.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0
23.	Punjab	251	647	1046	265
24.	Rajasthan	2763	2908	3922	3002
25.	Sikkim	81	14	31	171
26.	Tamil Nadu	1390	2910	2291	780
27.	Telangana	1669	1121	1475	652
28.	Tripura	938	571	142	52
29.	Uttar Pradesh	4300	1838	403	105
30.	Uttarakhand	479	484	565	346
31.	West Bengal	5295	5217	6200	3125
TOTAL		85888	61042	53411	28680

* as on 26.12.2018.

Source: Format-1.

Statement-II

State-wise details of quality affected habitations

Sl.No.	State	Numbers of Quality Affected habitations
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	367
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	28
4.	Assam	9,834
5.	Bihar	3,916
6.	Chhattisgarh	513
7.	Goa	0
8.	Gujarat	0

Sl.No.	State	Numbers of Quality Affected habitations
9.	Haryana	103
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	12
12.	Jharkhand	540
13.	Karnataka	772
14.	Kerala	327
15.	Madhya Pradesh	150
16.	Maharashtra	194
17.	Manipur	0
18.	Meghalaya	7
19.	Mizoram	0
20.	Nagaland	4
21.	Odisha	2,494
22.	Puducherry	0
23.	Punjab	3,146
24.	Rajasthan	18,478
25.	Sikkim	0
26.	Tamil Nadu	1
27.	Telangana	350
28.	Tripura	2,427
29.	Uttar Pradesh	1,374
30.	Uttarakhand	15
31.	West Bengal	16,511
TOTAL		61,563

Source: Format C-17.

National Water Quality Sub-Mission

1949. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the States covered under National Water Quality Sub-Mission

(NWQSM) which addresses the urgent need of providing clean drinking water to Arsenic and Fluoride affected habitations in the country;

(b) the details of fund allocated, released and utilized during 2018-19 till 31st December, 2018 under NWQSM, State-wise; and

(c) the details of districts of Uttar Pradesh covered under NWQSM as on date, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal States are considered under National Water Quality Sub-Mission to provide safe drinking water to arsenic/fluoride affected habitations.

(b) State-wise fund released and utilized during 2018-19 till 27st December, 2018 as reported by the States in Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of this Ministry under National Water Quality Sub-Mission is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) District-wise number of arsenic and fluoride affected habitations as reported by Uttar Pradesh State on Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) under National Water Quality Sub-Mission as on 18.08.2016 is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise fund released and utilized during 2018-19 till 27th December, 2018 as reported by the States in Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of this Ministry under National Water Quality Sub-Mission

(₹ in crore)

Sl.No.	State Name	NWQSM Release	NWQSM Expenditure
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.19	0
2.	Assam	110.33	10.95
3.	Bihar	70.62	6.66
4.	Chhattisgarh	0.9	0.02
5.	Haryana	0	0.5
6.	Jharkhand	0	0
7.	Karnataka	18.71	0

Sl.No.	State Name	NWQSM Release	NWQSM Expenditure
8.	Kerala	2.12	0
9.	Madhya Pradesh	1.26	0.43
10.	Maharashtra	3.96	0.78
11.	Odisha	0	1.11
12.	Punjab	21.05	0
13.	Rajasthan	104.58	74.02
14.	Telangana	0	238.77
15.	Uttar Pradesh	15.17	2.33
16.	West Bengal	505.77	128.72
TOTAL		864.66	464.29

Statement-II

District-wise number of arsenic and fluoride affected habitations as reported by Uttar Pradesh State on Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) under National Water Quality Sub-Mission as on 18.08.2016

Sl.No.	Name of the Districts	Number of affected habitation as on 18.08.2016 considered under NWQSM	
		Arsenic	Fluoride
1	2	3	4
1.	Agra	-	10
2.	Allahabad	-	4
3.	Ambedkar Nagar	10	7
4.	Azamgarh	2	5
5.	Baghpat	-	3
6.	Bahraich	48	-
7.	Ballia	112	2
8.	Basti	7	2
9.	Bulandshahr	-	5
10.	Chitrakoot	-	2
11.	Deoria	8	1
12.	Etah	-	2

1	2	3	4
13.	Farrukhabad	-	3
14.	Ghaziabad	-	4
15.	Ghazipur	-	30
16.	Gorakhpur	8	1
17.	Hapur	-	5
18.	Jhansi	-	14
19.	Kanpur Dehat	-	5
20.	Kheri	23	5
21.	Kushi Nagar	19	-
22.	Lucknow	1	-
23.	Maharajganj	3	-
24.	Mahoba	-	1
25.	Mau	8	5
26.	Pilibhit	-	2
27.	Rae Bareli	-	1
28.	Sambhal	1	-
29.	Sant Kabeer Nagar	6	-
30.	Siddharth Nagar	5	4
31.	Sonbhadra	1	61
32.	Sultanpur	-	1
33.	Unnao	-	4
34.	Varanasi	-	11
TOTAL		262	200

Districts declared as ODF

1950. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the districts declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) till date, State-wise;

(b) the details of fund allocated, released and utilized under Swachh Bharat Mission during current year, State-wise;

(c) the details of criteria for declaring district as ODF; and

(d) the details of districts which have been declared ODF only on paper, while in reality these are not ODF, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) State/UT-wise number of districts which have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) as on 27.12.2018 are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) [SBM(G)] is a demand driven scheme, hence fixed State/UT-wise allocation of funds is not made under the programme. However, the details of State/UT-wise Central share funds released and utilised as per the data reported by the States/UTs on the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of SBM(G), during 2018-19 are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) As per SBM(G) guidelines, ODF would mean the termination of faecal-oral transmission, defined by, (i) no visible faeces found in the environment/village, and (ii) every household as well as public/community institution(s) using safe technology option for disposal of faeces. Villages and districts declare themselves Open Defecation Free (ODF) through a rigorous process of self-declaration, followed by a multi-level decentralized verification process by the districts and States. A district is declared ODF when all the villages of the district have been declared ODF.

(d) Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation had conducted National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey (NARSS) 2017-18 through an independent agency under World Bank support project to SBM(G), as per which 95.6% of ODF verified villages were confirmed to be ODF.

Statement-I

*State/UT-wise number of districts declared Open Defecation Free (ODF)
as on 27.12.2018*

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of ODF declared districts
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3
2.	Andhra Pradesh	13
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	20
4.	Assam	25

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of ODF declared districts
5.	Bihar	5
6.	Chandigarh	1
7.	Chhattisgarh	27
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
9.	Daman and Diu	2
10.	Goa	0
11.	Gujarat	33
12.	Haryana	22
13.	Himachal Pradesh	12
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	22
15.	Jharkhand	24
16.	Karnataka	29
17.	Kerala	14
18.	Lakshadweep	1
19.	Madhya Pradesh	51
20.	Maharashtra	34
21.	Manipur	16
22.	Meghalaya	11
23.	Mizoram	8
24.	Nagaland	11
25.	Odisha	3
26.	Puducherry	2
27.	Punjab	22
28.	Rajasthan	33
29.	Sikkim	4
30.	Tamil Nadu	31
31.	Telangana	14
32.	Tripura	0
33.	Uttar Pradesh	56

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of ODF declared districts
34.	Uttarakhand	13
35.	West Bengal	14
TOTAL		577

Statement-II

*State/UT-wise Central share funds released and utilised
during 2018-19 under SBM(G)*

(₹ in crore)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Central share released	Central share utilised
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	11.85
2.	Andhra Pradesh	562.99	451.28
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	25.66	28.10
4.	Assam	280.60	746.63
5.	Bihar	2088.18	1595.27
6.	Chhattisgarh	224.25	236.46
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	16.59
8.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.99
9.	Goa	0.00	15.15
10.	Gujarat	0.00	73.50
11.	Haryana	70.24	4.62
12.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	16.04
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	278.37	121.08
14.	Jharkhand	376.48	425.12
15.	Karnataka	369.86	466.47
16.	Kerala	12.47	12.33
17.	Madhya Pradesh	590.94	780.24
18.	Maharashtra	1352.92	315.81
19.	Manipur	37.53	30.92
20.	Meghalaya	0.00	46.88
21.	Mizoram	4.98	5.44
22.	Nagaland	0.00	60.31

Sl.No.	State/UT	Central share released	Central share utilised
23.	Odisha	1052.27	645.15
24.	Puducherry	0.00	20.24
25.	Punjab	0.00	24.90
26.	Rajasthan	373.50	292.54
27.	Sikkim	1.96	2.26
28.	Tamil Nadu	225.65	226.53
29.	Telangana	515.05	370.44
30.	Tripura	58.47	85.74
31.	Uttar Pradesh	6592.64	5615.76
32.	Uttarakhand	0.00	72.76
33.	West Bengal	127.06	153.10
TOTAL		15222.07	12970.50

Improvement of hygiene sanitation and waste management

1951. DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to improve the quality of personal hygiene sanitation and solid as well as liquid waste management in rural areas through enhanced technical and financial support to all rural household;

(b) if so, the enhancements in technical and financial measures proposed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) to (c) The Government had launched Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) [SBM(G)] on 2nd October, 2014 with the aim to attain Open Defecation Free India by 2nd October, 2019. The objective of SBM(G) is to bring about improvement in the cleanliness, hygiene and the general quality of life in rural areas. Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) is one of the key components of the programme to create clean villages. Sanitation is a State subject. Under the SBM(G), technical and financial support is provided to the State Governments to supplement their efforts in achieving the goal of the programme, with flexibility to the States to adopt the technologies and

mechanism for smooth implementation of the programme best suited to them. Under the programme, to encourage construction and use of toilets, financial incentive of ₹ 12,000 is provided to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) households and certain identified categories of Above Poverty Line (APL) households (all SCs/STs, small and marginal farmers, landless labourers with homestead, physically handicapped and women-headed households). Under SLWM, activities like compost pits, vermi composting, biogas plants, low cost drainage, soakage channels/pits, reuse of waste water and system for collection, segregation and disposal of household garbage and menstrual hygiene management etc. can be taken up. Funds for SLWM activities with cap of ₹ 7/12/15/20 lakh are provided to Gram Panchayats having upto 150/300/500/ more than 500 households respectively. The funding pattern under the programme between the Centre and the States is 60:40 between (90:10 in case of North-Eastern and special category States). Any additional cost requirement is to be met by funds from the State/Gram Panchayat funds and other sources like Performance Incentive Grants under World Bank support project to SBM(G), Finance Commission, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Swachh Bharat Kosh and Public Private Partnership (PPP) and by dovetailing funds from other programmes and sources of funding like MGNREGS, MPLAD and MLALAD funds.

Monitoring and Evaluation of Swachh Bharat Mission

1952. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the share of the fund sanctioned for Swachh Bharat Mission Programme, which was spent on monitoring and evaluation;
- (b) whether monitoring and evaluation was contracted to private consultants;
- (c) if so, the details of the consultants, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of the amount paid to the consultants, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) Under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) [SBM(G)], expenditure on Monitoring and Evaluation is booked under Administrative Expenses component. Up to 5% of total project cost can be spent on Administrative Expenses.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Drinking water and sanitation scheme

1953. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government implements a number of schemes pertaining to drinking water and sanitation in the country; and

(b) the names of the schemes presently under implementation, funds approved and allocated, during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) and (b) Rural drinking water supply is a State subject. This Ministry provides technical and financial assistance to State Government under centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for improving coverage of safe drinking water in rural areas. It is for the States to plan, design, implement and execute drinking water supply schemes in rural areas. State-wise details of funds allocated and released under NRDWP during the last three years is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

Government had launched Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) [SBM(G)] with effect from 2nd October, 2014 with the aim to achieve universal sanitation coverage by 2nd October, 2019 by providing access to toilet facilities to all rural households in the country.

SBM(G) is a demand driven scheme, hence fixed State-wise allocation of funds is not made. However, State/UT-wise details of Central share funds released during the last 3 years are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise details of funds allocated and released under NRDWP during the last three years

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18	
		Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.38	0.16	0.45	0.22	0.43	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	156.69	170.05	181.02	204	159.51	233.09
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	58.08	65.4	82.89	92.84	77.51	63.08

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Assam	261.34	277.58	401.43	348.06	524.1	474.8
5.	Bihar	227.65	202.73	314.79	373.81	394.53	355.6
6.	Chhattisgarh	63.69	60.83	70.65	84.28	64.33	49.84
7.	Goa	2.08	1.66	2.44	1.19	2.32	0
8.	Gujarat	230.68	229.46	281.14	278.5	231.62	290.86
9.	Haryana	97.65	122.65	114.53	111.53	118.95	88.82
10.	Himachal Pradesh	59.58	58.77	69.65	83.31	66.02	101.85
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	199.4	192.12	232.88	225.14	222.26	325.33
12.	Jharkhand	126.85	132.09	115.86	131.74	172.68	209.09
13.	Karnataka	307.62	278.08	360.07	343.72	290.86	365.81
14.	Kerala	52.78	48.05	62.54	75.22	56.88	95.16
15.	Madhya Pradesh	181.76	193.73	213.87	232.26	195.67	135.51
16.	Maharashtra	344.16	330.88	413.57	404.45	338.13	282.47
17.	Manipur	28.98	27.92	40.6	39.38	32.2	66.25
18.	Meghalaya	30.52	31.24	42.02	40.42	41.86	85.91
19.	Mizoram	17.71	17.32	25.33	24.49	22.4	46.1
20.	Nagaland	35.27	34.53	37.93	36.84	27.66	17.88
21.	Odisha	96.9	103.19	114.99	134.96	102.69	83.59
22.	Puducherry	0.74	0	0.86	0.29	0.82	0
23.	Punjab	39.77	42.79	46.02	51.89	115.25	173.29
24.	Rajasthan	547.17	526.75	1,114.55	1,072.92	891.95	714.24
25.	Sikkim	10.64	12.05	14.77	19.42	9.3	17.51
26.	Tamil Nadu	135.46	150.35	155.29	174.68	121.61	185.1
27.	Telangana	88.77	97.71	117.03	133.09	775.01	843.56
28.	Tripura	28.07	31.68	39.48	43.73	32.26	83.93
29.	Uttar Pradesh	454.93	490.31	628.08	621.95	539.09	472.52
30.	Uttarakhand	63.57	60.06	74.55	71.86	68.42	110.28
31.	West Bengal	199.78	216.85	417.68	418.97	810.48	996.68
TOTAL		4,148.67	4,206.99	5,786.96	5,875.16	6,506.80	6,968.15

Statement-II

*State/UT-wise Central share funds released under SBM(G)
during the last 3 years*

(₹ in crore)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3.40	3.00	30.72
2.	Andhra Pradesh	234.17	342.21	1219.88
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	38.71	65.09	137.30
4.	Assam	474.27	747.58	1171.95
5.	Bihar	221.55	131.86	875.92
6.	Chhattisgarh	144.72	584.46	677.83
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	17.68
8.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	2.00
9.	Goa	1.05	0.00	0.52
10.	Gujarat	478.22	751.23	466.04
11.	Haryana	32.76	68.79	39.66
12.	Himachal Pradesh	4.37	117.30	20.68
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.05	59.51	202.38
14.	Jharkhand	97.32	455.46	698.66
15.	Karnataka	450.77	419.56	983.39
16.	Kerala	8.50	196.28	59.36
17.	Madhya Pradesh	374.33	1210.77	1380.61
18.	Maharashtra	567.45	528.94	1235.34
19.	Manipur	44.19	27.28	77.02
20.	Meghalaya	35.65	75.70	153.89
21.	Mizoram	3.32	10.98	46.24
22.	Nagaland	10.83	64.12	71.41
23.	Odisha	571.50	863.65	457.02
24.	Puducherry	4.40	0.00	50.25
25.	Punjab	38.70	197.02	283.48
26.	Rajasthan	938.73	777.30	981.51
27.	Sikkim	6.12	6.87	12.98

Sl.No.	State/UT	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
28.	Tamil Nadu	78.94	537.02	865.94
29.	Telangana	128.39	135.72	481.94
30.	Tripura	38.89	24.98	24.00
31.	Uttar Pradesh	565.39	1153.33	3155.37
32.	Uttarakhand	49.37	348.05	146.69
33.	West Bengal	712.92	655.50	583.23
TOTAL		6,362.96	10,559.58	16,610.88

Mechanism for rainfall prediction

1954. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the current mechanism being followed to predict the rainfall;
- (b) whether the Ministry is considering to take any step to devise an intelligent prediction/expectation system with modern analytic tools by using local weather information for prediction of rainfall;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of the current flood warning system being used in country; and
- (e) whether Government is taking any step to improve the system, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) India Meteorological Department (IMD) issues three types of rainfall forecasts *i.e.*, seasonal forecast (for the whole season), extended range forecast (10-30 days), short-medium range forecast (0-10 days). These forecasts are prepared using dynamical prediction models. Under the National Monsoon Mission, MoES has implemented two state-of-the-art dynamical prediction systems for short range to medium, extended range and seasonal forecasts. All these initiatives have helped to improve the skill of forecasts over the country.

An improved suite of prediction models has already been implemented operationally at India Meteorological Department (IMD) for enhanced short range weather forecasting through assimilation of all available Indian and global satellite data in real time.

Since December, 2016 India Meteorological Department is using the Global Forecast System (GFS) and unified model run at National Centre For Medium Range Weather Forecast (NCMRWF) operationally every day to generate deterministic forecasts at 12 km. horizontal resolution in the short to medium range (Upto 10 days). The GFS model assimilates global conventional atmospheric data as well data from the data from satellites and weather radars. There is also high resolution meso-scale model with 3 km resolution to provide location specific forecast.

In addition, a high resolution (12 km. grid scale) state-of-the-art Global Ensemble Prediction System (EPS) namely Global Ensemble Forecasting System (GEFS) and unified model Ensemble Prediction System (UMEPS) was commissioned on 01 June, 2018 for generating operational probabilistic weather forecasts for 10 days. The EPS will enhance the weather information being provided by the current models by quantifying the uncertainties in the weather forecasts. The above-mentioned forecast systems will be improved further for better accuracy.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The above, mentioned forecast systems are in continuous upgradation to improve the accuracy of prediction based on the advancement in modeling of weather and climate variability.

(d) and (e) IMD has a shared mandate with Central Water Commission (CWC) for flood forecasts. River basin floods are dealt by the CWC. Flood Meteorological Offices (FMOs) operated by IMD provide meteorological support to the CWC for issuing flood warnings in respect of the 43 rivers of India covering 146 river basins. CWC issues flood forecasts 6 hrs. to 30 hrs. in advance for 176 stations using quantitative precipitation forecasts (QPF) received from FMOs of IMD and *in-situ* hydro-meteorological data.

India Meteorological Department (IMD) operates Flood Meteorological Offices (FMOs) at thirteen locations *viz.*, Agra, Ahmedabad, Asansol, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jalpaiguri, Lucknow, New Delhi, Patna, Srinagar, Bengaluru and Chennai. Apart from this, IMD also supports Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) by providing Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF) for Damodar river basin areas for their flood forecasting activities.

Central Water Commission is working in close association with IMD and State Governments for timely flood forecasts whenever the river water level rises above the warning level. To meet the requirement of State Governments, IMD Officers invariably attend all the meetings called by the State Governments for reviewing the preparedness on floods by various agencies and provide required inputs.

Rainfall during monsoon

1955. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State has received less than normal rainfall during the last monsoon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) details regarding normal rainfall and rainfall during this monsoon in the State of Rajasthan;

(d) details regarding accuracy of rainfall predictions made by weather department during the last monsoon; and

(e) details regarding States where variances between predicted and actual rainfall are high?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Eight States and 1 Union Territory have received less than normal rainfall during the 2018 monsoon.

(b) The State-wise details which received less than normal rainfall during the monsoon season (June-Sept.), 2018 are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) District-wise details of normal rainfall and actual rainfall for the State of Rajasthan during the monsoon-2018 are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(d) and (e) During the last South West monsoon-2018, as per the 2nd stage Long Range Forecast made by IMD on 30th May, 2018, the predicted rainfall over the country as a whole was Normal (*i.e.* 96% to 104% of Long Period Average (LPA) with a model error of 4%). As per the “End of Season Report Monsoon-2018”, the forecast was mostly accurate as the country observed 91% rainfall of its LPA during June-September, 2018, slightly lower than the error limit.

Main features of the 2nd stage LRF are given in the Statement-III (*See* below). and the Rainfall statistics for SW Monsoon-2018 is given in the Statement-IV and V respectively.

Statement-I

The State-wise details which received less than normal rainfall during monsoon season (June-Sept.), 2018

Sl. No.	States	Season	Monsoon, 2018	
		Actual (MM)	Normal (MM)	% DEP.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1198.4	1768.0	-32%
2.	Meghalaya	1652.6	2786.8	-41%
3.	Manipur	644.1	1404.5	-54%
4.	Tripura	1165.1	1489.1	-22%
5.	West Bengal	1102.0	1390.4	-21%
6.	Jharkhand	784.3	1091.9	-28%
7.	Bihar	770.8	1027.6	-25%
8.	Gujarat	484.6	672.7	-28%
9.	Lakshadweep (UT)	553.2	998.5	-45%

Large Excess : + 60% or more
 Excess : + 20% to + 59%
 Normal : + 19% to -19%
 Deficient : - 20% to -59%
 Large Deficient : - 60% to -99%

Statement-II

The details of Rajasthan State regarding normal rainfall and rainfall during Monsoon-2018

Sl.No.	State/Districts	Season (01.06.2018 to 30.09.2018) Monsoon, 2018		
		Actual (MM)	Normal (MM)	% DEP.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rajasthan	393.6	419.0	-6%
I.	East Rajasthan	635.3	615.8	3%
1.	Ajmer	421.0	429.6	-2%
2.	Alwar	518.1	555.3	-7%
3.	Banswara	808.3	831.8	-3%

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Baran	946.6	792.2	19%
5.	Bharatpur	755.4	557.6	35%
6.	Bhilwara	606.7	580.9	4%
7.	Bundi	608.4	655.9	-7%
8.	Chittorgarh	706.8	709.7	0%
9.	Dausa	592.8	612.1	-3%
10.	Dholpur	708.2	650.0	9%
11.	Dungarpur	761.8	637.8	19%
12.	Jaipur	508.6	524.6	-3%
13.	Jhalawar	958.5	855.1	12%
14.	Jhunjhunu	402.1	410.0	-2%
15.	Karauli	591.8	637.4	-7%
16.	Kota	719.4	746.3	-4%
17.	Pratapgarh	1135.0	845.8	34%
18.	Rajsamand	514.4	506.0	2%
19.	Sawai Madhopur	1008.7	664.0	52%
20.	Sikar	565.6	402.5	41%
21.	Sirohi	409.0	868.6	-53%
22.	Tonk	512.3	566.0	-9%
23.	Udaipur	562.3	591.3	-5%
II. West Rajasthan		201.7	263.2	-23%
1.	Barmer	123.2	243.4	-49%
2.	Bikaner	259.1	228.7	13%
3.	Churu	324.4	313.7	3%
4.	Hanumangarh	138.1	252.5	-45%
5.	Jaisalmer	110.5	158.4	-30%
6.	Jalore	155.9	394.2	-60%
7.	Jodhpur	232.0	274.5	-15%
8.	Nagaur	287.1	348.5	-18%
9.	Pali	316.9	446.7	-29%
10.	Sri Ganganagar	172.4	201.4	-14%

Statement-III

*Details regarding accuracy of rainfall predictions and variances
between predicted and actual rainfall*

(A) 2nd Stage Long Range Forecast for the 2018 South West Monsoon Rainfall

30 May, 2018

Highlights

- Rainfall over the country as a whole for the 2018 South West Monsoon season (June to September) is most likely to be Normal (96% to 104% of Long Period Average (LPA)).
- Quantitatively, monsoon season (June to September) rainfall for the country as a whole is likely to be 97% of the LPA with a model error of $\pm 4\%$.
- Region-wise the season rainfall is likely to be 100% of LPA over North West India, 99% of LPA over Central India, 95% of LPA over South Peninsula and 93% of LPA over North-East India all with a model error of $\pm 8\%$.
- The monthly rainfall over the country as whole is likely to be 101% of its LPA during July and 94% of LPA during August both with a model error of $\pm 9\%$.

(B) India Meteorological Department: End of Season Report for the 2018 South West Monsoon

2 November, 2018

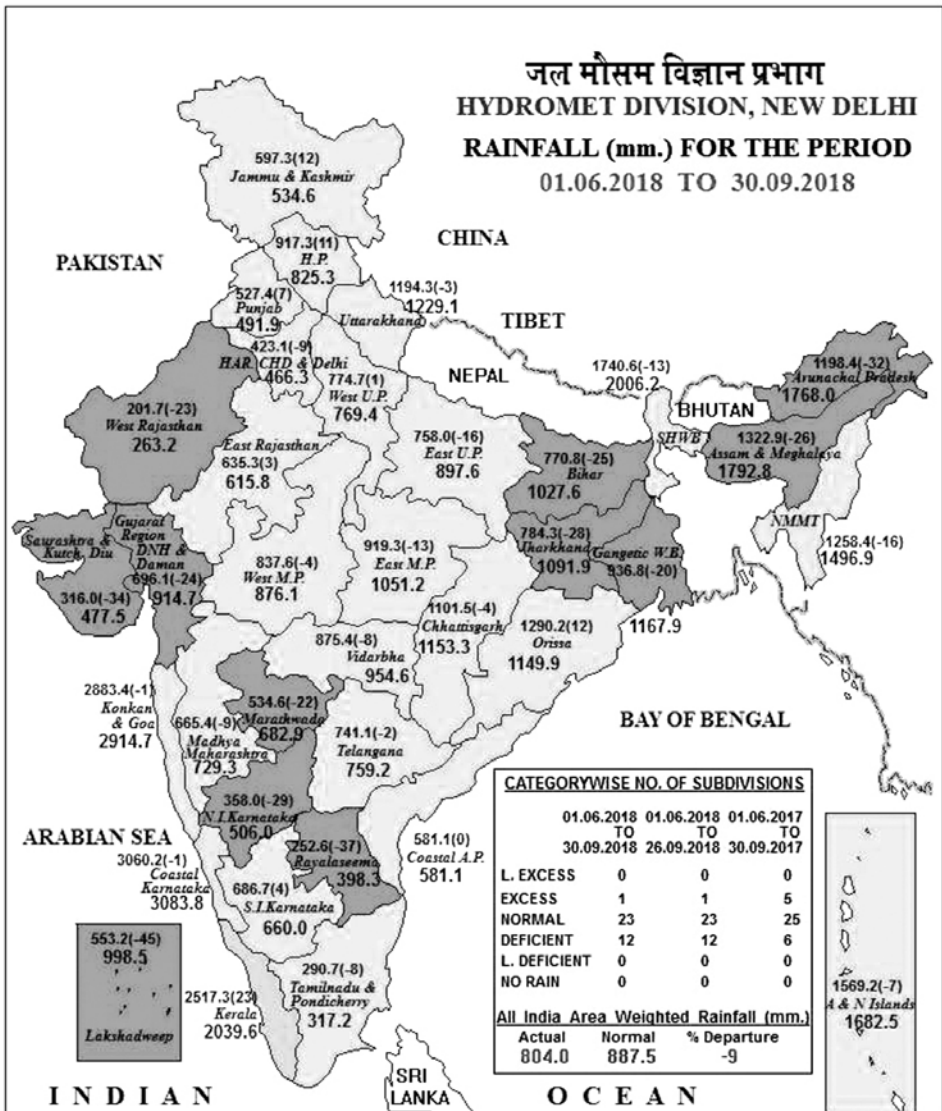
Highlights

- The season (June-September) rainfall over the country as a whole was 91% of its Long Period Average (LPA).
- Seasonal rainfalls over North West India, Central India, South Peninsula and Northeast (NE) India were 98%, 93%, 98% and 76% of respective LPA.
- Out of the total 36 meteorological subdivisions, 23 subdivisions constituting 68% of the total area of the country received normal season rainfall, 1 subdivision received excess rainfall (1% of the total area), and 12 subdivisions (31% of the total area) received deficient season rainfall.
- Monthly rainfall over the country as a whole was 95% of LPA in June, 94% of LPA in July, 92% of LPA in August, and 76% of LPA in September.

Statement-IV

Details of rainfall statistics

**भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग
INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT**



LEGEND: L. EXCESS (+60% OR MORE) EXCESS (+20% TO +59%) NORMAL (+19% TO -19%) DEFICIENT (-20% TO -59%) L. DEFICIENT (-60% TO -99%) NO RAIN (-100%) NO DATA

NOTES:
 [a] Rainfall figures are based on operational data.
 [b] Small figures indicate actual rainfall (mm.), while bold figures indicate Normal rainfall (mm.)
 Percentage Departures of Rainfall are shown in Brackets.

Statement-V*Rainfall statistics for SW Monsoon 2018*

(A) Subdivision-wise Rainfall (MM) Distribution

Sl. No.	Meteorological Subdivisions	Period: 01.06.2018 to 30.09.2018			
		Actual	Normal	% Dep.	Cat.
1	2	3	4	5	6
East and North East India		1087.5	1438.3	-24%	
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1198.4	1768.0	-32%	D
2.	Assam and Meghalaya	1322.9	1792.8	-26%	D
3.	NMMT	1258.4	1496.9	-16%	N
4.	SHWB and Sikkim	1740.6	2006.2	-13%	N
5.	Gangetic West Bengal	936.8	1167.9	-20%	D
6.	Jharkhand	784.3	1091.9	-28%	D
7.	Bihar	770.8	1027.6	-25%	D
North West India		603.2	615.0	-2%	
1.	East Uttar Pradesh	758.0	897.6	-16%	N
2.	West Uttar Pradesh	774.7	769.4	1%	N
3.	Uttarakhand	1194.3	1229.1	-3%	N
4.	Haryana Chandigarh and Delhi	423.1	466.3	-9%	N
5.	Punjab	527.4	491.9	7%	N
6.	Himachal Pradesh	917.3	825.3	11%	N
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	597.3	534.6	12%	N
8.	West Rajasthan	201.7	263.2	-23%	D
9.	East Rajasthan	635.3	615.8	3%	N
Central India		911.3	975.5	-7%	
1.	Odisha	1290.2	1149.9	12%	N
2.	West Madhya Pradesh	837.6	876.1	-4%	N
3.	East Madhya Pradesh	919.3	1051.2	-13%	N
4.	Gujarat Region	696.1	914.7	-24%	D
5.	Saurashtra and Kutch	316.0	477.5	-34%	D
6.	Konkan and Goa	2883.4	2914.7	-1%	N

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Madhya Maharashtra	665.4	729.3	-9%	N
8.	Marathwada	534.6	682.9	-22%	D
9.	Vidarbha	875.4	954.6	-8%	N
10.	Chhattisgarh	1101.5	1153.3	-4%	N
South Peninsula		704.4	716.1	-2%	
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1569.2	1682.5	-7%	N
2.	Coastal Andhra Pradesh	581.1	581.1	0%	N
3.	Telangana	741.1	759.2	-2%	N
4.	Rayalaseema	252.6	398.3	-37%	D
5.	Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	290.7	317.2	-8%	N
6.	Coastal Karnataka	3060.2	3083.8	-1%	N
7.	N. I. Karnataka	358.0	506.0	-29%	D
8.	S. I. Karnataka	686.7	660.0	4%	N
9.	Kerala	2517.3	2039.6	23%	E
10.	Lakshadweep	553.2	998.5	-45%	D
Country As A Whole		804.0	887.5	-9%	

(B) Category-wise No. of Subdivisions and % Area (Subdivisional) of the country

Category	Period: 01.06.2018 to 30.09.2018	
	No. of Subdivisions	Subdivisional % Area of country
Large Excess	0	0%
Excess	1	1%
Normal	23	68%
Deficient	12	31%
Large Deficient	0	0%
No Rain	0	0%

Sewage disposal system for SBM toilets

1956. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the toilets under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) are posing serious pollution and health hazards to the people and their fields in the

adjacent areas to toilets, on account of poorly designed toilets and lack of sewage disposal system; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure availability of proper solid waste management systems for the toilets built under SBM so far, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) According to Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MDWS) and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India, which are nodal Ministries for Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) – Gramin and Urban respectively, no incident related to pollution and health hazards has been reported. The toilets being constructed under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) are based on safe and eco-friendly onsite sanitation technology in which human excreta automatically becomes manure in 1-2 years and no sewerage system is required.

Whereas, Household toilets constructed under SBM (Urban) have two main structures – the toilet superstructure (including the pan and water closet), and the sub-structure (either an on-site treatment system, or a connection to existing underground sewerage system). Whenever a sewerage system is available within 30 meters from the proposed household toilet, only the toilet superstructure may be constructed and connected to the existing sewerage system. Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) facilitate these connections for household toilets under SBM (Urban), wherever applicable and economical.

In the event that a sewerage system is not available within 30 meters from the proposed household toilet, in addition to the construction of the toilet superstructure, an on-site treatment system (such as twin pits, septic tanks, bio-digesters, or bio-tanks) is constructed for the collection, treatment and/or disposal off sewage at, or near the point of generation.

ULBs have to ensure that all household toilets being constructed under SBM are built in tandem with water supply arrangements in ULBs. Beneficiary households are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the household toilets.

Enactment to use CAMPA fund

†1957. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Act has been enacted to provide for depositing money for

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

compensatory afforestation and other activities by the institutions using forest land, after diversion of its use by the Central Government;

(b) if so, the rules to be framed under this Act; and

(c) by when the said rules will be notified and made available to Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 [38 of 2016] was notified on 3rd August, 2016 and this Act came into effect with effect from 30th September, 2018 *vide* Gazette Notification dated 13th August, 2018. Section 4 of the Act provides for establishment of State fund in which compensatory levies are to be deposited by user agency for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose.

(b) and (c) The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 has been notified in Government Gazette on 10th August, 2018. The Compensatory Afforestation Fund (Accounting Procedure) Rules, 2018 has been notified in Government Gazette on 20.11.2018. The rules are available on website egazettee.nic.in. All State Governments/UTs including Madhya Pradesh have been informed accordingly.

Air pollution in the country

†1958. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to curb the problem of increasing air pollution all over the country;

(b) if not, reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that due to negligence of Government, air pollution in the National Capital, Delhi NCR and other major cities has reached deadly levels, if so, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The Government has taken several steps to address air pollution which *inter alia*, include Notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; introduction of cleaner/alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending; launching of National Air Quality index;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

universalization of BS-IV from 2017; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards by 1st April, 2020; notifications regarding implementation of dust mitigation measures for construction and demolition activities; notification of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules; banning of burning of biomass; promotion of public transport network; streamlining the issuance of Pollution Under Control Certificate; issuance of directions under Section 18(1)(b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices by major industries; etc.

The Central Government has also finalized National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) under the Central Sector "Control of Pollution" scheme as a long-term time-bound national level strategy to tackle the increasing air pollution problem across the country in comprehensive manner. Hundred and two (102) non-attainment cities have been selected for formulation and implementation of city specific action plan under NCAP.

(c) As per available data, PM₁₀ (Particulate Matter having an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 10 µm) levels have been higher than the Ambient Air Quality Standards in 94 non-attainment cities during 2011-15. Various sources contributing to PM₁₀ are soil and road dust, construction activities, vehicular emissions, industrial emissions, biomass/municipal solid waste burning etc.

Tiger protection plan

†1959. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special plan is being implemented by Government for the protection of tigers; and

(b) if so, the amount being provided to the State of Madhya Pradesh under this plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) The Government of India implements the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats which has Project Tiger as one of the three components.

(b) Under the ongoing Scheme, following amount has been provided to the State of Madhya Pradesh since 2014-15:—

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Year	Amount released (₹ in lakhs)
2014-15	4335.1182
2015-16	1421.00700
2016-17	12885.59790
2017-18	11455.457
2018-19 (as on 30.11.2018)	4707.124

Measures to control air pollution level in Delhi

1960. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the air pollution in Delhi is at alarming level;

(b) if so, details of the steps taken by Government for promoting the use of commercial and private electric vehicle in Delhi;

(c) whether Government has any roadmap for allowing only electric commercial and private vehicles in Delhi;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) As per available data, high levels of air pollution with respect to particulate matter is witnessed in Delhi.

(b) For promotion of electric vehicles, Government has notified GSR 629(E) dated 24th June, 2016 for retro-fitment of hybrid electric system or electric kit to vehicles and S.O. 1013(E) dated 15th April, 2015 specifying the type approval procedure of electric hybrid vehicles. Further, the Government, *vide* S.O. 5333(E) dated 18th October, 2018 has also granted exemption to the Battery Operated Transport Vehicles and Transport Vehicles running on Ethanol and Methanol fuels from the requirements of permit.

(c) to (e) At present, there is no specific proposal under consideration in this Ministry for allowing only electric commercial and private vehicles in Delhi.

Blueprint for meeting Paris Climate Change Agreement

1961. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a blueprint for fulfilling the commitments of the Paris Agreement on climate change;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is committed to check the increase in the global temperature and reduce it by 1.5 degree Celsius;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) details of any other steps being taken to curb the emission of carbon and reduce the carbon footprint of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (e) Under the Paris Agreement, India submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) outlining eight (8) targets for 2021-30, including (i) to reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 33 to 35 per cent by 2030 from 2005 level, (ii) to achieve about 40 per cent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030 with the help of transfer of technology and low cost international finance including from Green Climate Fund (GCF), (iii) to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO₂ equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030. The other targets pertain to sustainable lifestyles; climate friendly growth path; climate change adaptation; climate change finance; and capacity building and technology.

Many steps have been already initiated under National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) by the eight Missions namely National Solar Mission, National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency, National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, National Water Mission, National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system, National Mission for a "Green India", National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and National Mission on Strategic knowledge for Climate Change. Further, 32 States and Union Territories have prepared State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) consistent with the objectives of NAPCC to address their State specific action. The Government is also supporting adaptation actions of States and Union Territories through National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change.

Paris Agreement lays down a global goal, to be achieved collectively by all

Parties, to hold the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

IPCC report on frequency and impact of severe heat waves

1962. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of a report, released in October, 2018 by the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which states that increase in average world temperature by 1.5 degree Celsius and 2 degree Celsius will lead to increased frequency of deadly heat waves in several parts of India;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in light of this report to curb temperature increase and reduce the severity of heatwaves; and

(c) if not, whether Government plans to conduct any research on the impact of heatwaves and create a comprehensive plan to reduce their severity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) As per the Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released in October 2018, an average warming of 1.5°C across the globe raises the risk of heat waves and heavy rainfall events, amongst many other potential impacts; and limiting warming to 1.5°C rather than 2°C can help reduce these risks. At 1.5°C of warming, twice as many megacities (such as Lagos and Shanghai) than at present are likely to become heat stressed, potentially exposing more than 350 million more people to deadly heat stress by 2050. At 2°C of warming, Karachi (Pakistan) and Kolkata (India) could experience conditions equivalent to their deadly 2015 heat waves on an annual basis. Further, urban heat islands often amplify the impacts of heat waves in cities.

(b) and (c) India is a Party to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Paris Agreement. Aim of the Paris Agreement is to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Under the Paris Agreement, India submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) outlining eight (8) targets for 2021-2030 which, *inter alia* includes (i) to reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 33 to 35 per cent by 2030 from 2005 level; and (ii) to achieve about 40 per cent cumulative electric power installed capacity

from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030 with the help of transfer of technology and low cost international finance including from Green Climate Fund.

As part of its climate action agenda, Government of India is implementing National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) comprising eight Missions namely National Solar Mission, National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency, National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, National Water Mission, National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system, National Mission for a “Green India”, National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and National Mission on Strategic knowledge for Climate Change. Further, 32 States and Union Territories have prepared State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) consistent with the objectives of NAPCC to address their State specific action. The Government is also supporting adaptation actions of States and Union Territories through National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change. As an adaptive measure, the India Meteorological Department in collaboration with local health departments have started heat action plans in many parts of the country to forewarn about the heat waves and advising action to be taken during such events.

Funds to cope up with climate change

1963. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has allocated enough fund for the latest technology to study the climate change issue in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) development plans proposed by Government to study climate change issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) The studies on various aspects of climate change *vis-à-vis* energy, water, agriculture, forestry, human health, habitat, transportation, etc. are embedded in respective sectoral schemes of various Ministries for which allocations are made in the annual budget based on the projected requirements from time to time.

The Ministry of Earth Sciences has augmented its High Performance Computer (HPC) facilities at Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune and at National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), Noida. With these facilities the weather and climate modeling capability has been substantially augmented in the country.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has launched two programs, namely, National Carbonaceous Aerosols Program (NCAP) and Long Term Ecological Observatories (LTEO) Program to study black carbon impact on climate and monitor impact of climate change on flora and fauna respectively by using state of the art technologies. Sufficient funds have been provided for these projects under the scheme “Climate Change Action Plan”.

The Centre of Climate Change Research (CCCR) at IITM focuses on development of new climate modeling capabilities to address global and regional issues concerning the science of climate change. The IITM Earth System Model - a global modeling framework for long-term climate investigations was developed indigenously at CCCR. It is the first climate model from India to contribute to the Coupled Modeling Inter-comparison Project Phase-6 (CMIP6) experiments and to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. This model is used for the future climate change projections over India.

The Coordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment (CORDEX), an international scientific project led by IITM, aims to produce regional downscaled projections to better understand relevant regional/local climate phenomena, their variability and changes. The information for the South Asia region has been used to evaluate climate change impacts on processes that are sensitive to finer-scale climate gradients and the effects of local topography on climate conditions.

Study to assess impact of climate change

1964. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study to assess the impact of climate change on different systems including agriculture in India during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any action plan has been chalked out by Government to combat ill effects of climate changes in coordination with the global agencies; and
- (d) if so, the features of such action plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a body jointly formed by the World Meteorological Organisation and the United Nations Environment Program, periodically assesses the global climate change. Scientists from all over the world, including India, contribute

to the IPCC assessment reports. Nationally, a study was conducted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change titled “Climate Change and India: A 4X4 Assessment – A Sectoral and Regional Analysis for 2030s” which provides assessment of impacts of climate change on four key sectors of Indian economy, namely, agriculture, water, forests and human health in four climate sensitive regions of India, viz. the Himalayan region, the Western Ghats, the Coastal region and the North-Eastern Region.

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) has launched studies on assessment of impact of climate change on different ecosystems. DST has established two thematic task forces to undertake studies to assess the health of Himalayan ecosystem in the areas of water, ice, snow, including glaciers and agriculture. In addition, State Climate Cells have been set up in 20 States for undertaking vulnerability assessment, training, public awareness and capacity building. Under National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change, eight Centers of Excellence have been set up at various leading national institutions to conduct studies in different areas of climate science and adaptation.

(c) and (d) India is a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), its Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. India is meeting its commitments under the aforesaid instruments. Through eight missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change, being implemented by various Ministries, the Government is addressing climate change concerns in the area of solar energy, energy efficiency, sustainable habitat, water, Himalayan ecosystem, Green India, sustainable agriculture and strategic knowledge for climate change.

Rainfed Area Development under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) focuses on integrated farming system for enhancing productivity and minimizing risks associated with climate variability. National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) under NMSA aims at demonstration of climate resilient technologies and creating awareness among farmers and other stakeholders to minimize climate impacts on agriculture.

Further, India’s Nationally Determined Contributions under Paris Agreement, submitted in October, 2015, for post-2020 period envisages reduction of its emission intensity of GDP by 33 to 35% by 2030 from 2005 level, achieve about 40% cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030, and create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tons of CO₂ equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

Pollution caused by cement industries

†1965. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pollution by cement industries is causing serious diseases among the rural population in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether adequate steps have been taken/are being taken by Central and State Governments to check such pollution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (d) This Ministry has notified emission standards *vide* GSR 612 (E) dated 25.08.2014 and GSR 496 (E) dated 09.05.2016 for cement industries not carrying out co-processing and GSR 497(E) dated 10.05.2016 for cement industries carrying out co-processing relating to particulate matter, Sulphur dioxide, oxides of Nitrogen, etc. Compliance to these standards is ensured by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)/State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) which helps in mitigating the impacts, including health impact, from cement industries. Further, the compliance with laid down standards by cement industries is monitored 24x7 through online continuous emission monitoring systems (OCEMS) and inspections are carried out by CPCB/SPCBs, if necessary, and in the event of non-compliance, directions are issued under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Status of the draft National Forest Policy, 2018

1966. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) present status of the draft National Forest Policy, 2018;

(b) details of comments by the Ministry received on the policy;

(c) whether Ministry has received concerns and objections of forest and tribal rights groups and civil society on violation of FRA and PESA; and

(d) if so, the manner in which Ministry plans to address these concerns?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had prepared the Draft National Forest Policy, 2018 and placed it in public domain for comments. Comments/suggestions were received from various stakeholders *viz.* Government Sectors from major Ministries like Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, etc including State Governments, Private Sectors, NGOs, civil Society, Experts and other concerned individuals. The responses received from these stakeholders were mostly related to inadequate focus in the draft Policy on the provisions of Forest Rights Act and its implementation, role of Gram Sabha, concerns on Public Private Participation (PPP) in afforestation of degraded forests, seeking a balance between conservation and country's development in new policy along with incentivizing people for taking up trees plantation outside forests etc.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has addressed all these concerns and suggestions in the revised Draft National Forest Policy, 2018. The role and responsibility of Gram Sabha, Forest Dwelling Communities and Panchayati Raj Institutions in conservation and management of forests have been reflected in the Draft National Forest Policy, 2018. Further plantation in PPP mode has been proposed only in (a) areas outside forests (b) revenue land recorded forest but not notified forest (c) scrub/ degraded forest (d) areas provided to FDC, local communities etc. The Draft National Forest Policy of 2018 ensures that under no case forest land will be transferred. The Draft Policy harmonizes the provisions of FRA and PESA in its objectives and strategies. In addition the revised Draft National Forest Policy, 2018 has incorporated separate provisions for harmonization and synergy with policies, plans and laws of other concerned sectors such as Tribal Affairs, Mining, Water, Roads, Tourism, Agriculture, Rural Development, Industry, Irrigation and Power Transmission etc. and the actions pursuant to the National Forest Policy will be in tandem with the Government policies in these sectors.

Compost centre for waste

1967. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) details of compost centres for domestic and commercial waste which have been established in various parts of the country in the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that such compost centres are a very effective medium of reducing waste materials and if so, whether Government has taken any steps to increase their numbers in various parts of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) As per the information available with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) there are 635 functional waste to compost plants in the country with a processing capacity of 40.37 lakh tonne waste per annum. Further, 206 plants are under construction, with approximate processing capacity of 6.84 lakhs tonne per annum.

(b) to (d) The Government has notified Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. The Rules prescribe, *inter alia*, to collect biodegradable waste in segregated manner from households, vegetable market, fruit and flower market, meat, poultry and fish market on day to day basis and local bodies to set up decentralized compost plants at suitable locations. The Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers has approved a policy on promotion of city compost which has been notified by the Department of Fertilizers on 10.02.2017 in which market development assistance of ₹ 1500/- per tonne has been provided for scaling up production and consumption of city compost.

Further, the Ministry of Agriculture has dispensed with the requirement of obtaining certificate for producing organic/city compost, which was earlier required under Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985. In order to encourage the sale of city compost at a comparatively low price, the Government has notified around 90 units for bulk sale of such compost directly to farmers. Municipalities have also been permitted bulk sale of the city compost. Further, Ministry of Agriculture is creating awareness through newspaper advertisements on promotion of use of city compost.

Untreated sewage flowing into the rivers

1968. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data regarding the untreated sewage flowing into the rivers and seas every year;

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

(c) whether Government has taken or is considering to take any concrete steps to address the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the status of sewage water treatment facilities in Jharkhand and Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (d) As per a report published by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in March, 2015, the sewage generation from urban areas in the country is estimated at 61,948 million litres per day (mld), against which the available sewage treatment capacity is only 23,277 mld (37% of the sewage generation). The untreated sewage is discharged into various rivers, other water bodies as well as the sea. The State-wise details of sewage generation from urban areas, corresponding sewage treatment capacity available and number of sewage treatment plants, including Jharkhand and Gujarat, are given in the Statement (*See* below).

This Ministry has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in identified stretches of various rivers under the scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), on a cost sharing basis between the Central and State Governments.

NRCP [excluding Ganga and its tributaries, which are handled by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD&GR) from 01.08.2014 onwards] has so far covered polluted stretches of 33 rivers in 76 towns spread over 15 States in the country at a sanctioned cost of ₹ 4801.57 crore, and Central share of ₹ 2337.73 crore has been released to the State Governments for implementation of various pollution abatement schemes. Sewage treatment capacity of 2520.43 mld (million litres per day) has been created so far under the NRCP. Out of this, Central funds amounting to ₹ 4.26 crore have been released to the Government of Jharkhand for pollution abatement of river Subarnarekha under NRCP. Similarly, ₹ 383.28 crore has been released to the Government of Gujarat for pollution abatement of river Sabarmati and Mindhola and treatment capacity of 333 mld has been created so far under NRCP.

To protect and conserve the coastal and marine environment, this Ministry through the Society of Integrated Coastal Management (SICOM) is implementing the World Bank assisted Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) project in the coastal States of Gujarat, Odisha and West Bengal. Under the project, a sewage treatment capacity of 70 mld has been created at Jamnagar in Gujarat to control discharge of untreated sewage into the Marine National Park and Sanctuary.

State Governments, apart from their own budgetary allocation, are also accessing financial assistance for creation of sewerage infrastructure, including Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), in various cities/towns under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and Smart Cities Mission of Ministry of Housing and Urban

Affairs as well as Namami Gange programme of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD&GR). Under the Namami Gange programme, projects have been approved for the towns of Sahibganj and Rajmahal in Jharkhand for creation of sewage treatment capacity of 15.5 mld and laying of sewerage network at an estimated cost of ₹ 156.21 crore.

To ensure proper treatment of municipal wastewater before discharge into the rivers, CPCB has issued directions under Section 18 1(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 in April, 2015 to all the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in the country for setting up of STPs in their respective States. CPCB has also issued directions in October, 2015 to municipal authorities of 66 metropolitan cities and State capitals under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to ensure proper treatment and disposal of sewage generated for abatement of pollution of rivers.

Further, to control discharge of industrial effluents, CPCB and respective SPCBs/PCCs monitor industries with respect to effluent discharge standards and take action for non-compliance under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. To improve the monitoring of compliance, directions have been issued by CPCB to specific industries to install online 24x7 effluent monitoring systems. Steps have also been taken by CPCB to promote low waste concept in grossly water polluting industries, particularly those located on the river banks.

Statement

State-wise details of sewage generation in urban areas and treatment capacity available

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Sewage Generation in urban areas	Installed Treatment Capacity (mld)	Number of STPs
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	22	-	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2871	247.27	12
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	50	-	-
4.	Assam	703	0.21	1
5.	Bihar	1879	124.55	6
6.	Chandigarh	164	314.5	5

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Chhattisgarh	951	-	-
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	26	-	-
9.	Daman and Diu	29	-	-
10.	Goa	145	74.58	7
11.	Gujarat	4119	3062.92	51
12.	Haryana	1413	852.7	41
13.	Himachal Pradesh	110	114.72	66
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	547	264.74	19
15.	Jharkhand	1270	117.24	15
16.	Karnataka	3777	1304.16	57
17.	Kerala	2552	152.97	10
18.	Lakshadweep	8	-	-
19.	Madhya Pradesh	3214	482.23	17
20.	Maharashtra	8143	5160.36	76
21.	Manipur	132	-	-
22.	Meghalaya	95	1	1
23.	Mizoram	90	10	1
24.	Nagaland	92	-	-
25.	Delhi	4155	2693.7	35
26.	Odisha	1121	385.54	13
27.	Puducherry	136	68.5	6
28.	Punjab	1664	1245.45	86
29.	Rajasthan	2736	865.92	63
30.	Sikkim	24	31.88	11
31.	Tamil Nadu	5599	1799.72	73
32.	Telangana	1671	685.8	18
33.	Tripura	154	0.05	1
34.	Uttar Pradesh	7124	2646.84	73

1	2	3	4	5
35.	Uttarakhand	495	152.9	24
36.	West Bengal	4667	416.9	28
TOTAL		61948	23277	816

Recognition of Forest Rights in Tiger Reserves

1969. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the order issued by National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) dated 28th March, 2017 directing authorities to cease recognition of Forest Rights in Tiger Reserves;

(b) the State/UT-wise details of the compliance of this order with compliance date;

(c) whether Ministry has undertaken a State-wise assessment of FRA claims to be affected because of this order;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether Government has made plans to compensate forest dwellers who are unable to exercise their entitlements under FRA because of this order, if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) The said order has been superceded in light of direction of the Wildlife Wing of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, communicating guidelines for notification of Critical Wildlife Habitats as per relevant provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

(b) to (g) Questions do not arise.

Beach pollution

1970. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per a recent study by the National Centre for Coastal Research

(NCCR), India has to cope up with a new category of pollution, beach pollution in addition to the already vexed problems of water and air pollution;

(b) whether the study by the NCCR established that plastics left by tourists on beaches along the nation's coast alone accounted for 40 per cent of the all the litter, while at Gopalpur in Odisha, it was as high as 96 per cent; and

(c) whether fishing nets and litter from processing of fish on beach, also produced a lot of litter on beaches like Fort Kochi, Kerala and Karwar in Karnataka coasts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) In recent years, plastic pollution has been identified as a key component of marine debris in beaches all over the world. Among different coastal segments studied, beach pollution was observed to be high at places that are in close proximity to the river mouths. Beaches adjacent to rivers exhibit relatively higher beach debris compared to those influenced by tourism and fishing activities.

According to the National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), studies on qualitative analysis of litter on different beaches along the east and west coast of India shows that, plastic litter from tourism accounted for 40% at Elliot's Beach in Chennai and 96% at Gopalpur Beach in Odisha. Indian beaches attract thousands of tourists and the hotels and small time vendors located at the tourist hot spots eventually contribute to plastic waste such as single use carry bags, polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles, packing materials, Styrofoam food wrappers/containers, straw and plastic tea cups, which results in Beach littering.

The recent studies carried out by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Ministry of Earth Sciences reveal that most of the fishing harbours and beaches adjacent to fishing villages have occurrence of high beach litter. Being most important fishing states, Kerala and Karnataka beaches especially Fort Kochi, in Kerala and Karwar in Karnataka have profound influence of beach debris especially synthetic materials like biologically non-degradable nylon fabrics, widely used in the preparation of fishing nets.

Climate Change Conclave at Poland

1971. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the Climate Change Conclave at Katowice (Poland), for evolving mechanisms to implement the landmark 2015 Paris Agreement, India has called

for funds from developed nations to enhance the scope, scale and speed of funds they are mandated to provide to developing nations to fight the climate change issues;

(b) whether developed countries are mandated to mobilize at least \$ 100 billion every year from 2020 to help the developing world deal with the impacts of climate change; and

(c) whether India's discussion paper published in 2015 on climate change had contested the claims of developed countries to raise \$ 100 billion a year by 2020, and whether there is a scope for a consensus on this issue at Katowice (Poland) conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) The 24th Conference of Parties (COP 24) to United Nations Framework Convention (UNFCCC) was held in Katowice, Poland from 2nd-15th December, 2018 with the focus to negotiate and finalize the Paris Agreement Work program (PAWP), which is for post-2020 period. As per the Article 9.1 of the Paris Agreement, "Developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties with respect to both mitigation and adaptation in continuation of their existing obligations under the Convention." India in its various interventions made during COP 24 called for developed countries to fulfill and further enhance their commitments to provide climate finance to developing countries.

In COP 15 held in 2009 in Copenhagen, developed country Parties committed to a goal of mobilizing jointly USD 100 billion annually by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries. The discussion paper published by Ministry of Finance, Government of India in 2015 highlighted the issues of double counting, accuracy, lack of clarity and definitional issues related to self-reported financial provisions by developed countries to developing countries.

At COP 24, the work on climate finance agenda items progressed and Parties agreed to initiate in November, 2020, "deliberations on setting a new collective quantified goal from a floor of USD 100 billion per year, in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency of implementation and taking into account the needs and priorities of developing countries".

Rehabilitation of contaminated sites

1972. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether hazardous waste is still lying at the Union Carbide factory in Bhopal, and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether under the prevalent law it is the responsibility of the polluter to restore contaminated sites like the Union Carbide factory;

(c) if so, details regarding the action that the polluter is bound to take under the prevalent laws and whether there is a retrospective liability on polluters;

(d) if not, the details of mechanism in place for the restoration of these contaminated sites; and

(e) whether Government plans to formulate the 'National Program for Rehabilitation of Polluted Sites'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Approximately 337 tonne hazardous waste is stored in the premises of the erstwhile Union Carbide India Ltd. (UCIL), Bhopal.

(b) to (d) The Government has decided to undertake remedial measures including the safe disposal of identified waste of the erstwhile Union Carbide India Ltd. (UCIL), Bhopal. As decided by the Union Cabinet on 24.06.2010, disposal of the remaining 337 tonne waste and remediation of the site will be undertaken by the Government of Madhya Pradesh (MP). Further, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has assisted the Government of Madhya Pradesh in the preparation of Request for Proposal (RFP) documents for inviting competitive bids for disposal of the remaining waste from hazardous waste operators.

For the remediation of contaminated site and nearby areas, various studies have been conducted by reputed institutions such as National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) and Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (IITR). The studies indicate that there is contamination of soil and ground water in and around the UCIL premises. The Government of MP has come out with proposal for remediation of identified sites in and around UCIL premises and the construction of a memorial to commemorate the Bhopal Gas Tragedy. CPCB has also given technical comments on the Government of MP proposal.

(e) The National Programme for Rehabilitation of Polluted Sites (NPRPS) was undertaken by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) under World Bank aided Capacity Building for Industrial Pollution Management Project (CBIPMP). Three major studies namely (i) Inventory and Mapping of Probably Contaminated Sites in India by M/s COWI India Pvt Ltd; (ii) Development of Methodologies for NPRPS by M/s Grontmij, Netherland and (iii) Development of

the NPRPS by M/s PWC India Pvt. Ltd have been completed. The CBIPM project was closed on 31.03.2018.

NGT directions on cleaning river

1973. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Green Tribunal has directed all States and Union Territories to prepare action plans within two months to clean the polluted stretches of rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the action plans should aim at improving the polluted stretches for at least bathing purposes; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that further action is needed to restore the minimum prescribed standards for all the rivers of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) As per the report published by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in September 2018, 351 polluted river stretches have been identified on 323 rivers based on Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), a key indicator of organic pollution. Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench, New Delhi has passed an order on 20.09.2018 in Original Application No. 673/2018 directing all the States and Union Territories to prepare action plans within 2 months for improving the water quality of the polluted river stretches upto the bathing standards [*i.e.* BOD<3 milligrams/litre and fecal coliform<500 Most Probable Number (MPN)/100 millilitre]. Hon'ble NGT has also directed the States for constitution of River Rejuvenation Committees (RRCs) comprising of Director-Environment, Director-Urban Development, Director-Industries and Member Secretary-State Pollution Control Board (SPCB)/Pollution Control Committee (PCC) for preparation and finalization of the action plans. The RRCs will function under the overall supervision and coordination of the Principal Secretary, Environment of the concerned State/Union Territory.

(d) Pollution abatement of rivers is a continuous and ongoing process. It is the responsibility of the State Governments/concerned local bodies to set up facilities for collection, transportation and treatment of sewage being generated and ensure that untreated sewage does not fall into the rivers, thereby polluting them. This Ministry has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in identified stretches of various rivers under the scheme of National

River Conservation Plan (NRCP), on a cost sharing basis between the Central and State Governments.

NRCP [excluding Ganga and its tributaries, which are handled by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD&GR) from 01.08.2014 onwards] has so far covered polluted stretches of 33 rivers in 76 towns spread over 15 States in the country at a sanctioned cost of ₹ 4801.57 crore, and Central share of ₹ 2337.73 crore has been released to the State Governments for implementation of various pollution abatement schemes. Sewage treatment capacity of 2520.43 mld (million litres per day) has been created so far under the NRCP.

State Governments, apart from their own budgetary allocation, are also accessing financial assistance for creation of sewerage infrastructure, including Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), in various cities/towns under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and Smart Cities Mission of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs as well as Namami Gange programme of MoWR, RD&GR.

To ensure proper treatment of municipal wastewater before discharge into the rivers, CPCB has issued directions under Section 18 1(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 in April, 2015 to all the SPCBs/PCCs in the country for setting up of STPs in their respective States. CPCB has also issued directions in October, 2015 to municipal authorities of 66 metropolitan cities and State capitals under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to ensure proper treatment and disposal of sewage generated for abatement of pollution of rivers.

Further, to control discharge of industrial effluents, CPCB and respective SPCBs/PCCs monitor industries with respect to effluent discharge standards and take action for non-compliance under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. To improve the monitoring of compliance, directions have been issued by CPCB to specific industries to install online 24x7 effluent monitoring systems. Steps have also been taken by CPCB to promote low waste concept in grossly water polluting industries, particularly those located on the river banks.

Implementation of NCAP

†1974. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched a National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) to tackle the problem of increasing air pollution during winter season;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the target and objectives of the programme along with its main features;

(c) whether Government plans to implement NCAP in other parts of the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has made any efforts to increase the usage of technology in enhancing plantation and forest areas in the country and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) In order to address the increasing air pollution across the country in a comprehensive manner, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has finalized the National Clean Air Program (NCAP) as a pan India time bound national level strategy. Overall objective of the NCAP is comprehensive mitigation actions for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution besides augmenting the air quality monitoring network across the country. City specific action plans for 102 non-attainment cities identified for implementing mitigation actions is covered under NCAP. Taking into account the available international experiences and national studies, midterm target of 20-30% for reduction of PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ concentration by 2024 is part of the NCAP. This is keeping 2017 as the base year for comparison of concentration.

Other main features of NCAP include mainstreaming and integrating the air pollution in existing policies and programmes of Government of India, emphasizing enforcement, extensive plantation drive, increasing number of monitoring stations in the country including rural monitoring stations, creation of Technical Assessment Cell, technology support, emphasis on awareness and capacity building initiatives, public participation in planning and implementation, setting up of certification agencies for monitoring equipment, setting up of Air Information Centre for data analysis, resource apportionment studies, national inventory, guidelines for Indoor Air Pollution and setting up of Rural Monitoring stations etc.

(d) National Mission for a Green India (GIM) is one of the eight Missions outlined under the National Action Plan on Climate Change. It aims at protecting, restoring and enhancing India's forest cover and responding to Climate Change. The mission integrates application of modern technology like Remote Sensing and GIS etc. for identification of landscapes and also for Monitoring and Evaluation purposes.

Exemption of residential projects from environmental clearances

1975. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to exempt residential projects

upto 1.5 lakh sq.m. requirement of environmental clearance to quicken building construction in urban areas;

(b) whether the above exemption is also applicable to educational institutions in the vicinity of residential projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (d) Yes sir. The Ministry has issued a Notification *vide* S.O.5733 (E) dated 14th November, 2018 wherein in exercise of the powers conferred by section 23 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), the Central Government has delegated the power to local bodies such as Municipalities, Development Authorities, District Panchayats as the case may be, to ensure the compliance of the environmental conditions as specified in the Appendix of the Notification in respect of building or construction projects with built-up area >20,000 sq. mtrs. to 50,000 sq. mtrs. and industrial sheds, educational institutions, hospitals and hostels for educational institutions \geq 20,000 sq. mtrs. upto 1,50,000 sq. mtrs. along with building permission and to ensure that the conditions specified in the Appendix are complied with, before granting the occupation certificate/ completion certificate.

Subsequently, *vide* Notification no. S.O.5736 (E) dated 15th November, 2018, the Ministry has increased the threshold for obtaining a prior environmental clearance upto 50,000 square metres built up areas for Building or Construction projects and empowered the local bodies such as Municipalities, Development Authorities and District Panchayats, to stipulate environmental conditions while granting building permission, for the Building or Construction projects with built-up area \geq 20,000 sq. m. and <50,000 sq. m. and industrial sheds, educational institutions, hospitals and hostels for educational institutions from built-up area \geq 20,000 sq.m. to <1,50,000 sq.m. as specified in Notification S.O. 5733(E) dated 14th November, 2018.

However, the operation of both the aforesaid notifications has been stayed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi *vide* order dated 26th November 2018 in the matter of Social Action for Forest and Environment vs. Union of India in W.P.(C) 12570/2018. The notification dated 14th November, 2018 has also been stayed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench *vide* order dated 3rd December, 2018 in the matter of Shashikant Vithal Kamble vs. Union of India and Ors in O.A. No 1017/2018.

NTCA direction to reinforce rules in Tiger buffer zones

1976. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has directed all Chief Wildlife Wardens in tiger-ranging States to reinforce rules in wildlife animals corridor and in Tiger buffer zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Chief Wildlife Wardens in the country have evaluated and assessed various aspects of sustainable ecology before clearing the projects in Tiger buffer zones; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (d) It is a statutory function of the National Tiger Conservation Authority to “ensure that tiger reserves and areas linking one protected area or tiger reserve with another protected area or tiger reserve are not diverted for ecologically unsustainable uses, except in public interest and with the approval of the National Board for Wild Life and on the advice of the Tiger Conservation Authority”, as per Section 38 O (1) (g) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Further, the Tiger Conservation Plan, mandated under Section 38 V of the said Act makes it a statutory responsibility of the State Government as per sub-section (3) clause (b) to ensure that “ecologically compatible land uses in the tiger reserves and areas linking one protected area or tiger reserve with another for addressing the livelihood concerns of local people, so as to provide dispersal habitats and corridor for spill over population of wild animals from the designated core areas of tiger reserves or from tiger breeding habitats within other protected areas”.

Changes in forest cover

1977. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) details of the changes in forest cover and dense forest cover over the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the manner in which Ministry surveys changes in the forest cover;

(c) whether Government categorises forest cover in terms of natural forests, artificial plantation, weeds and longstanding commercial crops;

(d) if so, the category-wise changes over the last three years, State-wise, and if not, reasons therefor; and

(e) whether India is on track to meet Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) under the Paris Agreement regarding forest cover, and if so, the progress of related schemes and method by which carbon sequestration of forests is being measured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, a subordinate organization under the Ministry carries out the assessment of forest cover of the country biennially and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). As per the latest report *i.e.* ISFR- 2017, the total forest and tree cover in the country is 8,02,088 square kilometers (forest cover 708273 square kilometer, tree cover 93815 square kilometer) which is 24.39% of the geographical area of the country. There is an increase of 8021 square kilometer (forest cover 6778 square kilometer, tree cover 1243 square kilometer) of total forest and tree cover compared to that of ISFR-2015. As per ISFR-2017, the total of Very Dense Forest (VDF) and Moderately Dense Forest (MDF) in the country is 4,06,476 square kilometers. There is an increase of 5104 square kilometer of total VDF and MDF compared to that of ISFR-2015. The State/UT-wise details of change in forest cover across the three density classes as per ISFR-2017 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) The forest cover assessment of the country is a wall-to-wall mapping exercise based on interpretation of Remote Sensing data (LISS-III data of 23.5 mtr) resolution using digital image processing techniques supported by intensive ground verification and field data from National forest inventory. The data interpretation is carried out on a scale of 1:50000 wherein minimum patch of forest cover is 1 hectare.

The results of the mapping exercise are compared with previous assessments for computation of changes. A hybrid classification approach for image interpretation is followed in forest cover mapping utilizing the potential of the algorithms to generate cluster of pixels having close association forest cover density class to each cluster. This is further supported by the interpreter's knowledge, information from collateral sources and the observations made during ground truthing at more than 3000 points. Ground truth information is collected during the same season as that

of the satellite data so as to properly relate the ground situation to the reflectance observed on the satellite image. Quality check and computation of error is integral part of the methodology.

(c) and (d) Forest cover is not categorized in terms of natural forests, plantations, weeds and longstanding commercial crop. The “Forest cover” definition used for carrying out biennial forest cover assessment as reported in ISFR is given below:—

“All lands, more than 1 hectare in area, with a tree canopy density of more than 1-per cent irrespective of ownership and legal status. Such lands may not necessarily be a recorded forest area. It also includes orchards, bamboo and palm.”

The forest cover is classified into following three classes:—

Sl.No.	Class	Description
(i)	Very Dense Forest	All lands with tree canopy density of 70 per cent and above.
(ii)	Moderately Dense Forest	All lands with tree canopy density of 40 per cent and more but less than 70 per cent.
(iii)	Open Forest	All lands with tree canopy density of 10 per cent and more but less than 40 per cent.

The State/UTs-wise details of change in category-wise forest cover is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(e) India is on track to meet National Determined Contributions (NDC) targets under Paris Agreement. The Forest Survey of India estimates carbon stock of forest by using National Forest Inventory data collected during forest inventory and forest cover area following the guidelines given by United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The carbon stock for 2017 has been estimated to be 7083 million tonnes. There is an increase of 39 million tonnes of carbon stock as compared to the estimates of previous assessment. The average annual increase of carbon stock is worked out to be around 35 million tonnes. At this rate India would reach to around 1.9 billion tonnes of CO₂ equivalent by 2030.

To further increase the forest cover in the country, afforestation programmes are being taken up under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as National Afforestation Programme (NAP) and Green India Mission (GIM) being implemented by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programmes/funding sources such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) and Compensatory Afforestation Fund.

Statement*Changes in forest cover of States/UTs between 2015 and 2017 assessments*

(area in sq. km.)					
State	Geographical Area as per census	VDF	MDF	OF	Total Forest
1	2	3	4	5	6
2015 Assessment					
Andhra Pradesh	162968	421	14352	11233	26006
Arunachal Pradesh	83743	20806	31181	15167	67154
Assam	78438	1425	11256	14857	27538
Bihar	94163	248	3362	3644	7254
Chhattisgarh	135192	7001	32305	16253	55559
Delhi	1483	6.94	57.15	124.68	188.77
Goa	3702	536	580	1094	2210
Gujarat	196244	378	5198	9134	14710
Haryana	44212	28	444	1108	1580
Himachal Pradesh	55673	3225	6387	5095	14707
Jammu and Kashmir*	222236	4061	8815	10112	22988
Jharkhand	79716	2601	9692	11231	23524
Karnataka	191791	1783	20177	14489	36449
Kerala	38852	1529	9328	8421	19278
Madhya Pradesh	308252	6586	34837	36003	77426
Maharashtra	307713	8685	20792	21222	50699
Manipur	22327	729	5964	10390	17083
Meghalaya	22429	417	9555	7290	17262
Mizoram	21081	135	5800	12782	18717
Nagaland	16579	1284	4690	6965	12939
Odisha	155707	6985	21470	22005	50460
Punjab	50362	0	733	1038	1771
Rajasthan	342239	77	4414	11615	16106
Sikkim	7096	499	2157	697	3353

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tamil Nadu	130060	3005	10472	12731	26208
Telangana	112077	465	11340	8049	19854
Tripura	10486	110	4669	3111	7890
Uttar Pradesh	240928	2171	4043	8187	14401
Uttarakhand	53483	4804	13662	5806	24272
West Bengal	88752	2943	4176	9707	16826
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8249	5686	685	380	6751
Chandigarh	114	1.36	13.92	6.38	21.66
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	491	0	80	126	206
Daman and Diu	111	1.4	5.82	12.39	19.61
Lakshadweep	30	0	17.22	9.84	27.06
Puducherry	490	0	28.78	28.17	56.95
GRAND TOTAL	3287469	88633	312739	300123	701495

2017 Assessment

State	VDF	MDF	OF	Total Forest
Andhra Pradesh	1957	14051	12139	28147
Arunachal Pradesh	20721	30955	15288	66964
Assam	2797	10192	15116	28105
Bihar	332	3260	3707	7299
Chhattisgarh	7064	32215	16268	55547
Delhi	6.72	56.24	129.45	192.41
Goa	538	576	1115	2229
Gujarat	378	5200	9179	14757
Haryana	28	452	1108	1588
Himachal Pradesh	3110	6705	5285	15100
Jammu and Kashmir*	4075	8579	10587	23241
Jharkhand	2598	9686	11269	23553
Karnataka	4502	20444	12604	37550

State	VDF	MDF	OF	Total Forest
Kerala	1663	9407	9251	20321
Madhya Pradesh	6563	34571	36280	77414
Maharashtra	8736	20652	21294	50682
Manipur	908	6510	9928	17346
Meghalaya	453	9386	7307	17146
Mizoram	131	5861	12194	18186
Nagaland	1279	4587	6623	12489
Odisha	6967	21370	23008	51345
Punjab	8	806	1023	1837
Rajasthan	78	4340	12154	16572
Sikkim	1081	1575	688	3344
Tamil Nadu	3672	10979	11630	26281
Telangana	1596	8738	10085	20419
Tripura	656	5246	1824	7726
Uttar Pradesh	2617	4069	7993	14679
Uttarakhand	4969	12884	6442	24295
West Bengal	2994	4147	9706	16847
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5678	684	380	6742
Chandigarh	1.36	13.82	6.38	21.56
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	80	127	207
Daman and Diu	1.4	5.82	13.27	20.49
Lakshadweep	0	17.04	10.06	27.1
Puducherry	0	17.6	36.07	53.67
GRAND TOTAL	98158	308318	301797	708273

Change

Andhra Pradesh	1536	-301	906	2141
Arunachal Pradesh	-85	-226	121	-190
Assam	1372	-1064	259	567
Bihar	84	-102	63	45
Chhattisgarh	63	-90	15	-12

State	VDF	MDF	OF	Total Forest
Delhi	-0.22	-0.91	4.77	3.64
Goa	2	-4	21	19
Gujarat	0	2	45	47
Haryana	0	8	0	8
Himachal Pradesh	-115	318	190	393
Jammu and Kashmir*	14	-236	475	253
Jharkhand	-3	-6	38	29
Karnataka	2719	267	-1885	1101
Kerala	134	79	830	1043
Madhya Pradesh	-23	-266	277	-12
Maharashtra	51	-140	72	-17
Manipur	179	546	-462	263
Meghalaya	36	-169	17	-116
Mizoram	-4	61	-588	-531
Nagaland	-5	-103	-342	-450
Odisha	-18	-100	1003	885
Punjab	8	73	-15	66
Rajasthan	1	-74	539	466
Sikkim	582	-582	-9	-9
Tamil Nadu	667	507	-1101	73
Telangana	1131	-2602	2036	565
Tripura	546	577	-1287	-164
Uttar Pradesh	446	26	-194	278
Uttarakhand	165	-778	636	23
West Bengal	51	-29	-1	21
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-8	-1	0	-9
Chandigarh	0	-0.1	0	-0.1
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	1	1
Daman and Diu	0	0	0.88	0.88

State	VDF	MDF	OF	Total Forest
Lakshadweep	0	-0.18	0.22	0.04
Puducherry	0	-11.18	7.9	-3.28
GRAND TOTAL	9525#	-4421	1674	6778

* Includes Jammu and Kashmir area outside LoC that is under illegal occupation of Pakistan and China.

Difference in the totals is due to rounding off decimals.

III effects of air pollution

†1978. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that air pollution is causing many diseases and untimely deaths;

(b) the names of diseases caused by air pollution;

(c) whether it is also a fact that targeted success is not being achieved to check air pollution as a result air quality is worsening day-by-day; and

(d) total amount spent during the last three years and measures taken to check air pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) There are no conclusive data available in the country to establish direct correlation of death/disease exclusively due to air pollution. Air pollution is one of the triggering factors for respiratory ailments and associated diseases. Health effects of air pollution are synergistic manifestation of factors which include food habits, occupational habits, socioeconomic status, medical history, immunity, heredity, etc., of the individuals.

(c) Ambient air quality is being monitored at 731 locations covering 312 cities/towns in 29 States and 6 Union Territories across the country under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP). The ambient air quality data for million plus cities is given in the Statement-I (*See* below). Analysis of data shows that SO₂ levels were within the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) in all 43

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

cities during 2015-17. With respect to NO_2 , 14 cities showed an increasing trend, 14 cities showed a decreasing concentration, 14 cities showed a fluctuating trend and 1 city revealed steady concentration. With respect to PM_{10} , 14 cities showed an increasing trend, 8 cities showed a decreasing concentration, 21 cities showed a fluctuating trend. With respect to $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, trends are available for 15 cities and out of 15 cities, 05 cities showed an increasing trend, 04 cities showed a decreasing concentration, 06 cities showed a fluctuating trend.

(d) State-wise details of funds released to various monitoring agencies during last three years for ambient air quality monitoring as operational and maintenance cost under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP) is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

The Government has taken several steps to address air pollution, which *inter alia* include notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards; revision of emission standards for industrial sectors from time to time; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; introduction of cleaner/alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending, launching of National Air Quality index; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards; notification of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules; banning of burning of biomass; streamlining the issuance of Pollution Under Control Certificate; issuance of directions under Section 18(1)(b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for controlling air pollution; installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices by major industries; notification of Graded Response Action Plan for Delhi and NCR; comprehensive action plan for air pollution control in Delhi and NCR. The Government has formulated National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a long term time bound pan India strategy to tackle the increasing air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner. Hundred (100) non-attainment cities, including Bengaluru, have been selected for formulation and implementation of city specific action plan under NCAP. In addition, the NCAP has many additional peripheral components such as, Technical Assessment Cell, technology support, sharing of international best practices, awareness and capacity building, source apportionment studies, plantation drive, intensive inspection drive etc. to support the time bound implementation of NCAP.

Statement

*Air quality status of million plus cities for 2015, 2016 and 2017
(Annual average in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)*

Sl.No.	State	Cities	SO ₂	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
2015						
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra	4	22	186	-
2.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	13	21	89	29
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad	4	26	250	-
4.	Punjab	Amritsar	11	30	148	-
5.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad	13	40	83	-
6.	Karnataka	Bengaluru	6	20	119	54
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	3	23	158	105
8.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	13	20	59	22
9.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore	4	25	47	30
10.	Delhi	Delhi	5	65	220	95
11.	Jharkhand	Dhanbad	12	37	168	-
12.	Maharashtra	Dombivli/Amber Nath	20	53	104	-
13.	Haryana	Faridabad	15	74	105	56
14.	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad	23	37	260	-
15.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior	10	14	125	77
16.	West Bengal	Howrah	15	43	123	73
17.	Telangana	Hyderabad	4	23	93	-
18.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore	11	20	97	-
19.	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur	9	28	90	40
20.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	7	36	171	-
21.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	6	24	152	-
22.	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur	6	36	201	-
23.	West Bengal	Kolkata	7	56	105	55
24.	Rajasthan	Kota	6	34	134	-
25.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	8	28	169	-
26.	Punjab	Ludhiana	11	27	139	-

Sl.No.	State	Cities	SO ₂	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
27.	Tamil Nadu	Madurai	13	25	64	32
28.	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut	6	39	144	-
29.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	4	25	106	26
30.	Maharashtra	Nagpur	10	25	90	-
31.	Maharashtra	Nashik	15	23	78	-
32.	Maharashtra	Navi Mumbai	18	42	125	-
33.	Bihar	Patna	4	41	204	-
34.	Maharashtra	Pimpri Chinchwad	23	52	102	-
35.	Maharashtra	Pune	23	62	99	-
36.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	13	36	188	-
37.	Gujarat	Rajkot	13	19	83	30
38.	Jharkhand	Ranchi	19	36	220	-
39.	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar	@	@	@	@
40.	Gujarat	Surat	14	20	89	31
41.	Maharashtra	Thane	28	58	117	-
42.	Gujarat	Vadodara	14	20	87	33
43.	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	19	33	145	-
44.	Maharashtra	Vasai-virar	NA	NA	NA	NA
45.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	6	37	110	-
46.	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam	9	19	61	-
2016						
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra	5	22	198	-
2.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	14	27	108	34
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad	4	37	196	-
4.	Punjab	Amritsar	12	29	194	-
5.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad	14	39	92	-
6.	Karnataka	Bengaluru	3	31	103	51
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	3	15	89	27
8.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	10	18	65	25

Sl.No.	State	Cities	SO ₂	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
9.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore	6	24	59	35
10.	Delhi	Delhi	7	66	278	118
11.	Jharkhand	Dhanbad	15	37	226	-
12.	Maharashtra	Dombivli/Amber Nath	26	76	128	-
13.	Haryana	Faridabad	-	-	-	-
14.	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad	15	28	235	-
15.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior	10	14	96	52
16.	West Bengal	Howrah	10	59	119	67
17.	Telangana	Hyderabad	4	27	100	49
18.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore	11	20	95	54
19.	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur	10	23	71	32
20.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	8	33	199	-
21.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	6	23	168	-
22.	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur	7	39	217	-
23.	West Bengal	Kolkata	4	49	113	70
24.	Rajasthan	Kota	7	30	109	-
25.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	8	27	214	-
26.	Punjab	Ludhiana	11	25	139	-
27.	Tamil Nadu	Madurai	15	24	76	38
28.	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut	7	55	157	-
29.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	6	30	119	20
30.	Maharashtra	Nagpur	16	26	118	-
31.	Maharashtra	Nashik	13	27	85	-
32.	Maharashtra	Navi Mumbai	19	46	118	-
33.	Bihar	Patna	4	32	212	-
34.	Maharashtra	Pimpri Chinchwad	32	71	105	-
35.	Maharashtra	Pune	28	78	107	-
36.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	12	31	148	-
37.	Gujarat	Rajkot	13	21	92	32

Sl.No.	State	Cities	SO ₂	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
38.	Jharkhand	Ranchi	20	37	196	-
39.	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar	@	@	@	@
40.	Gujarat	Surat	13	22	92	31
41.	Maharashtra	Thane	18	60	122	-
42.	Gujarat	Vadodara	14	23	92	30
43.	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	11	32	256	-
44.	Maharashtra	Vasai-virar	NA	NA	NA	NA
45.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	6	44	102	-
46.	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam	8	18	77	-
2017						
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra	4	19	185	124
2.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	14	29	120	38
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad	4	40	140	
4.	Punjab	Amritsar	11	27	168	-
5.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad	10	33	83	-
6.	Karnataka	Bangaluru	2	31	92	46
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	4	15	93	41
8.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	9	17	62	32
9.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore	5	26	49	34
10.	Delhi	Delhi	7	68	241	106
11.	Jharkhand	Dhanbad	15	37	238	-
12.	Maharashtra	Dombivli/ Amber Nath	27	70	176	-
13.	Haryana	Faridabad	-	-	-	-
14.	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad	22	34	280	-
15.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior	10	17	110	47
16.	West Bengal	Howrah	11	63	110	64
17.	Telangana	Hyderabad	6	28	108	54
18.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore	11	21	80	43
19.	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur	10	21	74	23

Sl.No.	State	Cities	SO ₂	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
20.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	8	30	177	-
21.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	6	21	180	-
22.	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur	7	45	224	-
23.	West Bengal	Kolkata	6	41	120	71
24.	Rajasthan	Kota	8	28	130	-
25.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	8	26	246	102
26.	Punjab	Ludhiana	10	28	162	-
27.	Tamil Nadu	Madurai	14	23	67	30
28.	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut	7	52	153	-
29.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	3	18	151	40
30.	Maharashtra	Nagpur	9	27	102	-
31.	Maharashtra	Nashik	12	22	81	-
32.	Maharashtra	Navi Mumbai	22	45	105	-
33.	Bihar	Patna	5	39	156	-
34.	Maharashtra	Pimpri Chinchwad	23	61	82	-
35.	Maharashtra	Pune	21	65	102	-
36.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	10	27	103	-
37.	Gujarat	Rajkot	16	22	106	37
38.	Jharkhand	Ranchi	19	37	142	-
39.	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar	@	@	@	@
40.	Gujarat	Surat	16	26	106	36
41.	Maharashtra	Thane	18	47	125	-
42.	Gujarat	Vadodara	16	23	108	36
43.	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	10	38	244	-
44.	Maharashtra	Vasai-virar	NA	NA	NA	NA
45.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	6	29	99	-
46.	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam	9	17	73	-

NB. NA- no monitoring station in the city, @ -monitoring station sanctioned but not yet operational, ‘-‘ data not received, National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for Residential, Industrial, Rural and others Areas (Annual average) for SO₂ = 50 µg/m³, NO₂ = 40 µg/m³, PM₁₀ = 60 µg/m³ and PM_{2.5} = 40 µg/m³ and SO₂ = 20 µg/m³, NO₂ = 30 µg/m³, PM₁₀ = 60 µg/m³ and PM_{2.5} = 40 µg/m³ for Ecologically sensitive area. The data furnished in the table for year 2017 is as available on date.

Statement-II

*Details of payment released to various monitoring agencies under
National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP)*

Sl.No.	Name of Monitoring Agency	Funds released under NAMP for operation and maintenance in different financial years (Amount in ₹)		
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh SPCB	-	-	27555500
2.	Arunachal Pradesh SPCB	-	-	4109334
3.	Assam SPCB	-	-	35912000
4.	Bihar SPCB	-	-	2216665
5.	Chandigarh PCC	-	4113833	3253333
6.	Chhattisgarh ECB	1526250	-	4465333
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli PCC and Daman and Diu PCC	-	-	3492333
8.	Goa SPCB	7789333	-	24410667
9.	Himachal Pradesh SEP and PCB	10128333	-	29309334
10.	Jammu and Kashmir SPCB	-	-	4528000
11.	Jharkhand SPCB	-	-	14893167
12.	Karnataka SPCB	6749583	-	21134667
13.	Kerala SPCB	-	-	22320000
14.	Madhya Pradesh SPCB	-	7984417	13566666
15.	Maharashtra SPCB	-	16316919	30544001
16.	Meghalaya SPCB	7845833	-	14485333
17.	Mizoram SPCB	5413333	4253333	7346667
18.	Nagaland SPCB	-	3658667	3061333
19.	Odisha SPCB	-	5872500	17080001
20.	Punjab SPCB	-	-	20361083
21.	Puducherry	-	5110333	3432000
22.	Rajasthan SPCB	4218750	-	13434667
23.	Sikkim SPCB	-	-	6149334

1	2	3	4	5
24.	Tamil Nadu SPCB	-	-	16813333
25.	Telangana SPCB	-	-	17985000
26.	Tripura SPCB	-	-	896000
27.	Uttar Pradesh SPCB	7263333	-	31390667
28.	Uttarakhand EP&PCB	4085833	-	14544000
29.	West Bengal SPCB	-	-	19439917
30.	NEERI	13612000	22288000	21600000
31.	IIT Kanpur	-	-	8040177
TOTAL		6,86,32,581	6,95,98,002	45,77,70,512

Note: SPCB: State Pollution Control Board.

SEP&PCB: State Environment Protection and Pollution Control Board.

EP&PCB: Environment Protection and Pollution Control Board.

PCC: Pollution Control Committee.

NEERI is at present monitoring in 6 cities in 5 different States/Union territories namely Delhi, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

Forest fires in the country

1979. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that just 20 districts collectively accounted for over 40 per cent of all forest fires between 2003 and 2016 in India in the North-east;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the top 20 districts mainly in Central India accounted for about 48 per cent of the total fire affected area in the country during the above period;

(c) whether it is also a fact that forest fires occur in around half of the country's total districts and in nearly all States every year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, assisted by World Bank, conducted a study which states that 20 districts mainly located in the North East accounted for about 40.29 per cent of all forest fires detected between 2003 and 2016. The details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, assisted by World Bank,

conducted a study which states that 20 districts, mainly in Central India, accounted for about 48.18 per cent of the total fire affected area in the country between 2003 and 2016. The details are given in the Statement-II (See below).

(c) and (d) No Sir, although forest fires are spread throughout the country, they occur much more frequently and affect forest more in some districts than in others.

Statement

Details of the forest fires detected between 2003 and 2016 in country

Sl. No.	District, State, Region	Fire detections, 2003-2016 (number)	Share of fire detections, 2003-2016 (%)	Share of total forest cover, 2000 (%)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Lunglei, Mizoram, North-East	13,453	3.82	0.87
2.	Karbi Anglong, Assam, North-East	12,238	3.48	1.71
3.	Dima Hasao, Assam, North-East	11,608	3.30	0.91
4.	Churachandpur, Manipur, North-East	11,068	3.15	0.87
5.	Mamit, Mizoram, North-East	9,005	2.56	0.58
6.	Lawngtlai, Mizoram, North-East	8,501	2.42	0.43
7.	Tamenglong, Manipur, North-East	8,163	2.32	0.79
8.	Aizawl, Mizoram, North-East	6,705	1.91	0.61
9.	Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, Central	6,264	1.78	1.56
10.	Dhalai, Tripura, North-East	6,234	1.77	0.40
	Top 10 subtotal	93,239	26.50	8.73
11.	Champhai, Mizoram, North East	5,940	1.69	0.64
12.	W. Khasi Hills, Meghalaya, North-East	5,220	1.48	0.88
13.	Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, Central	5,098	1.45	0.78
14.	Ribhoi, Meghalaya, North-East	4,835	1.37	0.43
15.	Kandhamal, Odisha, Central	4,753	1.35	1.09
16.	E. Garo Hills, Meghalaya, North-East	4,687	1.33	0.50

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Ukhrul, Manipur, North-East	4,645	1.32	0.78
18.	Chandel, Manipur, North-East	4,628	1.32	0.56
19.	Bijapur, Chhattisgarh, Central	4,615	1.31	1.19
20.	North Tripura, Tripura, North-East	4,087	1.16	0.33
Top 20 subtotal		141,747	40.29	15.91

Statement-II*Details of the total fire affected area in the country between 2003 and 2016*

Sl. No.	District, State, Region	Fire detections, 2003-2016 (number)	Share of fire detections, 2003-2016 (%)	Share of total forest cover, 2000 (%)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, Central	4,106	8.24	1.56
2.	Bijapur, Chhattisgarh, Central	2,633	5.29	1.19
3.	Khammam, Telangana, South	1,923	3.86	1.13
4.	Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, Central	1,346	2.70	0.78
5.	Warangal, Telangana, South	1,273	2.56	0.45
6.	Koriya, Chhattisgarh, Central	1,169	2.35	0.42
7.	Adilabad, Telangana, South	995	2.00	0.39
8.	Chandrapur, Maharashtra, Central	970	1.95	0.31
9.	Surguja, Chhattisgarh, Central	948	1.90	0.79
10.	Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, South	895	1.80	0.23
Top 10 subtotal		16,258	32.64	7.24
11.	Amravati, Maharashtra, Central	888	1.78	0.23
12.	Y.S.R., Andhra Pradesh, South	854	1.71	0.32
13.	Prakasam, Andhra Pradesh, South	849	1.70	0.31
14.	Dakshin Bastar Dantewada, Chhattisgarh, Central	803	1.61	0.73
15.	Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, Central	799	1.60	0.36

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Raipur, Chhattisgarh, Central	777	1.56	0.50
17.	Betul, Madhya Pradesh, Central	727	1.46	0.29
18.	Champhai, Mizoram, North-East	707	1.42	0.64
19.	Lawngtlai, Mizoram, North-East	673	1.35	0.43
20.	Dima Hasao, Assam, North-East	665	1.34	0.91
Top 20 subtotal		24,000	48.18	11.97

Illegal construction in lake areas

1980. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that illegal constructions have been made in the State of Rajasthan without having any permission of Municipal Council or the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) action taken by Government against the illegal construction in lake areas of Rajasthan;

(d) whether Government has taken any survey of all lakes in the country, particularly in Rajasthan having illegal construction in lake areas;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) No such information is available. However, water being a State subject, it is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to regulate construction along the river banks/lakes/ponds. Building and construction projects involving built up area equal to or more than 20,000 square meters require prior environmental clearance from the concerned State Level Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) under the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, as amended from time to time.

(c) For more effective conservation and management of wetlands (include lakes) in the country, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) in consultation with the States, Union Territories, Central line Ministries and other

stakeholders, have notified the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 superseding the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010.

(d) to (f) No such survey has been done under the scheme of National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems (NPCA). However, rapid urbanization, developmental activities and anthropogenic pressures do stress water bodies. *Vide* the Wetlands Rules, 2017, the States/Union Territories (UTs) Wetland Authorities have been constituted and powers for notification of wetlands have been delegated to the State Governments and UT Administrations.

Cities selected for air quality management under NCAP

1981. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gaya, Patna, Muzzaffarpur and Srinagar have not been included in the list of non-attainment cities for the Air Quality Management Plan under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) despite being classified in the top fifteen air polluted cities in the world by WHO;

(b) if so, reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government is taking any other special measures to tackle air pollution in these cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) On the basis of analysis of data for five years generated under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP) during 2011-15 and taking into cognizance the WHO database of 1918, 102 cities including Gaya, Patna, Muzzaffarpur and Srinagar have been identified as non-attainment cities under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) for focusing on implementation of mitigation actions.

(c) In order to address air pollution across the country including these cities in a comprehensive manner, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has finalized the National Clean Air Program (NCAP) as a pan India time bound national level strategy. Overall objective of the NCAP is comprehensive mitigation actions for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution besides augmenting the air quality monitoring network across the country. City specific action plans for 102 non-attainment cities identified is covered for implementing mitigation actions under NCAP.

In addition, Government of India has taken many initiatives to curb the air

pollution and improve the air quality across the country including these cities which *inter alia*, include notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; introduction of cleaner/alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending, launching of National Air Quality index; universalization of BS-IV from 2017; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards from 1st April, 2020; notification of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules; banning of burning of biomass; notifications regarding Mandatory Implementation of Dust Mitigation Measures for all Construction and Demolition Activities; promotion of public transport network; streamlining the issuance of Pollution Under Control Certificate; issuance of directions under Section 18(1)(b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, etc.

Illegal trade in wildlife articles

1982. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the illegal trade of wildlife articles has increased over the years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such cases that have come to the notice of Government during the last three-years, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to check the said illegal trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by the State authorities, illegal trade of wildlife and wildlife articles has not increased over the years. Details of the cases of illegal trade received from the State authorities during last three years is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The steps taken by the Government to check the illegal trade of wildlife and wildlife articles includes:—

- (1) Conducting capacity building programme for Forests and Police Officials on investigation of Wildlife cases under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (2) Conducting sensitization programmes for the officials of Border Security Forces, Customs, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Judicial officers and other stakeholders.

- (3) Issuing alerts and advisories on poaching and illegal trade of wildlife to the concerned State and Central agencies for preventive action.
- (4) Organizing Inter-Agency meetings for coordination of inter-agency enforcement efforts in combating illegal wildlife crime.
- (5) Conducting joint operations with State enforcement agencies to apprehend criminals involved in smuggling.
- (6) Providing assistance to State enforcement agencies in investigation and prosecution of wildlife cases.
- (7) The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau coordinate the following species specific enforcement operations with coordination of State Enforcement Agencies throughout the country against poaching and illegal trade of wild animals:—
 - (a) Operation SAVE KURMA (To target turtle/tortoises)
 - (b) Operation THUNDERBIRD: INTERPOL'S Multinational and Multi-species operation
 - (c) Operation WILDNET: (To target Online Wildlife Trade)
 - (d) Operation LESKNOW: (To target lesser known species)
 - (e) Operation BIRBIL (To target Big Cats and Birds)
 - (f) Operation THUNDERSTORM: INTERPOL'S Multinational and Multi-species operation
 - (g) Operation SOFT GOLD: (To target Shahtoosh Shawls smuggling)
- (8) Hunting and commercial exploitation of wild animals included in various schedules of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 is prohibited. Offences committed in respect of these species attract punishment prescribed under the Act.
- (9) The State/Union Territory Government have been requested to strengthen the field formations and intensify patrolling in and around the Protected Areas.

Statement

Wildlife Crime Cases reported by State Authorities

Sl.No.	States	2016	2017	2018
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	NA	2	NA
2.	Andhra Pradesh	39	13	10

Sl.No.	States	2016	2017	2018
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	2	NA
4.	Assam	7	3	28
5.	Bihar	12	NA	NA
6.	Chandigarh	7	4	NA
7.	Chhattisgarh	42	40	27
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NA	NA	NA
9.	Daman and Diu	NA	NA	NA
10.	Delhi	11	1	NA
11.	Goa	11	3	NA
12.	Gujarat	58	44	17
13.	Haryana	1	NA	NA
14.	Himachal Pradesh	19	15	11
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	NA	NA	NA
16.	Jharkhand	1	6	NA
17.	Karnataka	17	28	7
18.	Kerala	26	33	16
19.	Lakshadweep	NA	NA	NA
20.	Madhya Pradesh	21	18	7
21.	Maharashtra	19	10	14
22.	Manipur	11	1	NA
23.	Meghalaya	NA	1	NA
24.	Mizoram	6	4	1
25.	Nagaland	3	NA	1
26.	Odisha	13	8	NA
27.	Puducherry	NA	NA	NA
28.	Punjab	13	12	17
29.	Rajasthan	9	1	1
30.	Sikkim	NA	NA	NA
31.	Tamil Nadu	40	25	1
32.	Telangana	16	6	3

Sl.No.	States	2016	2017	2018
33.	Tripura	1	NA	NA
34.	Uttar Pradesh	100	31	30
35.	Uttarakhand	23	27	16
36.	West Bengal	33	4	NA
TOTAL		565	342	207

Death of animals due to uncovered wells

1983. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) details of the animal deaths in forest and nearby areas due to uncovered well in the different parts of the country during the last three years;

(b) whether any steps are being taken by Government to tackle this problem which endangers the life of wild animals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Management of the wildlife is the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Governments. Details of the animal death in forest and nearby areas due to uncovered well is not collated in the Ministry. However, as per the information provided by the State Government of Gujarat, death of Asiatic lion due to falling in well during last three years is given below:—

Sl.No.	Year	Total no. of death of Asiatic lions
1.	2015-16	5
2.	2016-17	3
3.	2017-18	5

Ministry provides financial assistance to State/UT Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) for protection and conservation of wildlife and their habitats.

(d) Does not arise.

Compliance of environmental standards by industries

†1984. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether environmental standards have been prescribed by the Central Government for industries and whether any regular monitoring is being done to ensure compliance thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any complaints regarding non-compliance of environmental standards by cement factories and the action by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) have issued notifications from time-to-time laying down standards for various sectors of industries under Environmental Protection Act (EPA), 1986. So far MoEF&CC has issued 46 industry specific effluent standards, 63 industry specific emission standards besides 32 general standards for ambient air, noise and water discharge. The compliance of these laid down environmental standards are reviewed from time-to-time and in cases of violation, necessary corrective steps are taken in accordance with the provisions of EPA, 1986 by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and respective State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees.

(c) and (d) As per the information provided by CPCB, 14 cases of alleged non-compliance of environmental standards by cements units were reported during the year 2018. The CPCB along with concerned State Pollution Control Boards has initiated action in accordance with the provisions of the EPA, 1986 in respect of these cases. Further, CPCB as per their regular inspection procedures are carrying out monitoring of 64 cement units in the country since 2016-17. Based on the monitoring results of these 64 Cement units, CPCB has issued necessary directions under the EPA, 1986 to 40 such cement industrial units for non-compliance of the environmental standards.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Conflict between NTCA order and FRA entitlements

1985. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) status of order issued by National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) dated 28th March, 2017, directing authorities to cease recognition of forest rights in tiger reserves;

(b) details where this order has been followed and since when, State-wise;

(c) whether Ministry has undertaken State-wise assessment of Forest Rights Act (FRA) claims affected because of this order, if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) manner in which Ministry will compensate the forest dwellers who will not be able to exercise their entitlements under FRA; and

(e) whether provision for compensation has been made, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) The said order has been superseded in light of direction of the Wildlife Wing of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, communicating guidelines for notification of Critical Wildlife Habitats as per relevant provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

(b) to (e) Questions do not arise.

Protection of ecology of Western Ghats

1986. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has failed to protect the ecology of Western Ghats;

(b) details of changes occurring in ecology in the last three years and the suggestions made by ecology Expert Committee therein; and

(c) proposal of Government to coordinate with the States to save Western Ghats from any further degradation and preserve therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Over the years,

Government has taken several steps to protect the ecology of the Western Ghats, which *inter alia* include establishment of a large number of Protected Areas (PAs). It is evident from the India State of Forest Report, 2017, a key indicator of ecology that the forest and tree cover in the western Ghats have not declined, except for the State of Maharashtra, wherein, minor decrease of 17 Km₂ forest cover has been observed. In order to provide immediate protection to the Western Ghats, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) had also issued Directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 on 13th November, 2013 prohibiting activities that have maximum interventionist and destructive impacts on the natural ecosystems of Western Ghats, namely, (i) Mining, quarrying and sand mining (ii) Thermal Power Plants (iii) Building and construction projects of 20,000 sq. m. area and above (iv) Township and area development projects with an area of 50 ha. and above and/or with built up area of 1,50,000 square meters and above and (v) Red category of industries in the Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA) of the Western Ghats.

(c) In order to follow a coherent and consistent approach in notifying ESA of the Western Ghats, MoEF&CC in the past had several interactions with all the States of the Western Ghats region at different levels on 7th July, 2015; 3rd August, 2015; 15th January, 2016; 9th to 11th February, 2016; 11th August, 2016 and 11th April, 2018. To finalize the ESA of the Western Ghats, Ministry had republished the draft Notification S.O. 5135 (E) on 3rd October, 2018 and invited views/comments of all the States of the Western Ghats region.

Manpower audit of Prasar Bharati

1987. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has started a manpower audit to trim Prasar Bharati;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the comprehensive manpower audit of Doordarshan and All India Radio is being conducted, in-line with the recommendations of an expert Committee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (d) An expert

committee chaired by Dr. Sam Pitroda in its report had recommended to undertake a comprehensive Manpower Audit and HR planning exercise to map workforce requirements for the future in view of the changes in technologies. Accordingly, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) advised Prasar Bharati (PB) to get its Manpower Audit conducted, in pursuance of which PB has awarded the contract for carrying out Manpower Audit of PB to the agency found suitable after following due process.

Installation of transmission towers

1988. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of transmission towers available with the All India Radio (AIR) in the country;

(b) whether these towers are also used/rented out to relay programmes of private radio channels to get additional revenue and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether AIR has received any proposal from the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for using their transmission towers for mobile network;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by AIR thereon; and

(e) the steps taken by Government for the use of some of the transmission towers by both AIR and BSNL so as to reduce the expenditure on installation of these towers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that All India Radio (AIR) has 285 transmission towers across the country.

(b) As on date, AIR towers at 62 stations are shared with Private FM Broadcasters on rental basis.

(c) to (e) The matter of sharing of the transmission towers has been given due consideration by the Ministry and the towers of AIR are used by BSNL, depending on the requirement and feasibility at various locations. AIR Towers at 14 locations are being shared with BSNL/MTNL. 7 fresh proposals from BSNL for sharing of towers have been received by AIR recently.

Expenditure on advertisement

1989. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the expenditure on the advertisements of all schemes launched by Government through all modes of publicity since 2014 till date, mode-wise, year-wise and month-wise;

(b) whether the budgets allocated to various schemes of Government, included the publicity expenditure, if so, budget allocation to each scheme along with expenditure, year-wise;

(c) whether Government has created initial fund for each scheme, if so, scheme-wise details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) total expenditure of Government on publicity since May 26, 2014 till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Government publications through print media

1990. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of publications by Government through print media during the last three years;

(b) the names of the publications and the cost of each of them; and

(c) the total number of advertisements by Government in print media and the total cost incurred during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) and (b) As per the records maintained by the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI), 10 Government publications have been registered by RNI during last three years from 1.4.2015 to 31.03.2018. The detail regarding names of these publications and their respective price is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The number of release orders and cost involved in print media in respect of communication campaigns undertaken by Bureau of Outreach and Communication (BOC) on behalf of various Ministries/Departments during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Number of release orders	Cost involved (₹ in crore)
2015-16	20111	579.88
2016-17	21576	628.04
2017-18	11798	648.90

Statement

Total Number of Government Publications registered by RNI along with price during last three years from 1.4.2015 to 31.3.2018

Sl.No	Title	Periodicity	Owner Name	Price (in ₹)
1.	Chemical Journal of Karimganj College	Annual	Department of Chemistry	300/-
2.	ICADR News and Views	Monthly	The International Centre For Alternative Dispute Resolution	FREE
3.	Mahnama Khawateen Duniya	Monthly	National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language	10/-
4.	The Scribes World	Quarterly	Press Club of India	FREE
5.	The Gujarat Government Gazette	Weekly	Government Press and Stationery	70/-
6.	Vag Vai Brahma	Annual	Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan Deemed University K. J. Somaiya Sanskrit Vidyapeetham	FREE
7.	Rajasthan Lokjanwad	Monthly	Communist Party of India State Committee Rajasthan	5/-
8.	Minkadhir Cheithi	Monthly	Central Organisation of Tamil Nadu Electricity Employees	10/-
9.	Tholai Thodarbu Thozhan	Monthly	BSNL Employees Union	5/-
10.	Telangana	Monthly	Commissioner I&PR Department, Government of Telangana	20/-

News on digital platforms

1991. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is planning to regulate online news on digital platforms and news portals;

(b) whether this will bring more FDI in this sector;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a Committee has been constituted for this purpose;

(d) if so, terms of reference given to the Committee and by when it is likely to submit its report; and

(e) whether the Ministry is trying to bring under its purview Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and Twitter which are presently under domain of the Ministry of Communications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (d) The Ministry of I&B had constituted a Committee on 4th April, 2018 for framing regulations for online media/news portals and online content including digital broadcasting which encompasses entertainment/infotainment and news/media aggregators. However, since Government had constituted an inter-Ministerial Committee on “Investment in Critical National Infrastructure, Digital Broadcasting and related issues” which in its first meeting held on 10th May, 2018 observed that some of the Terms of References (ToRs) and issues of the two Committees are common, a decision was taken to dovetail the ToR of the Committee constituted by this Ministry with that of the Committee on “Investment in Critical National Infrastructure, Digital Broadcasting and related issues”. There is no existing Committee for this purpose in Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

(e) There is no such proposal with the Ministry.

Blue print for Prasar Bharati

1992. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prasar Bharati is focusing on preparation of a blue print for the future in terms of technology, the model of operation as well as a revenue generating business model;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to make Prasar Bharati better equipped to tackle growing competition;

(c) whether the Government proposes a major change and intends to rationalise role of Prasar Bharati; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) Prasar Bharati has intimated that induction of latest State-of-the-art technology for efficient operations and phasing out of obsolete technology is a continuous process. Due to decline of terrestrial TV viewership, Prasar Bharati has initiated the following actions:—

- (i) Phasing out analog terrestrial TV transmitters;
- (ii) Investment in digital platforms;
- (iii) Migration to HD platform;
- (iv) Rationalisation of Medium Wave and Short Wave Radio transmission of AIR;
- (v) Expansion of FM Stations;
- (vi) Investment in digital radio and internet radio capabilities;
- (vii) Greater monetization of digital content and archival content.

(b) to (d) In pursuance of the recommendations given by an expert Committee chaired by Dr. Sam Pitroda in its report, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) advised Prasar Bharati (PB) to get Manpower Audit and HR Planning exercise conducted to map workforce requirements for the future in view of the changes in technologies. Accordingly, PB has awarded the contract for carrying out Manpower Audit of PB in-line with the aforesaid recommendations.

Web news policy

1993. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is working to introduce a legislation to codify web media and news portals;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is going to introduce legislation for mandatory registration of web news portals; and

(d) the stand of Government to regulate the web news media?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (d) There is no such proposal with the Government to introduce a legislation to codify web media and news portals or to introduce legislation for mandatory registration of web

news portals. Law enforcement agencies take action on posting of malicious content on specific case-to-case basis.

Sexual harassment complaint of AIR employees

1994. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has looked into the sexual harassment complaint made by the casual employees of All India Radio;

(b) whether the Ministry submitted its action report to the National Commission for Women within fifteen days from the day of notice as demanded by the Commission;

(c) if so, whether the Ministry will share its report;

(d) details of internal mechanisms the Ministry has adopted or plans to adopt to reduce the instances of sexual harassment; and

(e) steps the Ministry has taken against the alleged sexual predators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) and (b) As per Section 11 of The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990, Prasar Bharati has the disciplinary and supervisory powers and full control on its officers/employees. On receipt of a reference from National Commission for Women dated 15.11.2018 regarding allegations of sexual harassment faced by some casual employees of AIR, the Ministry sought a report from Directorate General: All India Radio (DG:AIR) *vide* letter dated 16.11.2018. On receipt of report and further clarifications from DG:AIR, a status note in the matter was sent to National Commission for Women.

(c) Section 16 of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, states that “Notwithstanding anything contained in the Right to Information Act, 2005 (22 of 2005), the contents of the complaint made under Section 9, the identity and addresses of the aggrieved woman, respondent and witnesses, any information relating to conciliation and inquiry proceedings, recommendations of the Internal Committee or the Local Committee, as the case may be, and the action taken by the employer or the District Officer under the provisions of this Act shall not be published, communicated or made known to the public, press and media in any manner:—

Provided that information may be disseminated regarding the justice secured

to any victim of sexual harassment under this Act without disclosing the name, address, identity or any other particulars calculated to lead to the identification of the aggrieved woman and witnesses”.

(d) and (e) Ministry has ensured that adequate steps are taken by Prasar Bharati for avoiding such incidents and that mechanisms exist for redressal of complaints related to sexual harassment in accordance with the provisions of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

Prasar Bharati has informed that workshops, seminars, Question and Answer sessions, discussions are conducted for creating widespread awareness about the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, amongst staff members. Prasar Bharati has also informed that less odd hours are being assigned to women staff and transport facility is provided to them during odd duty hours. CCTV Cameras have been installed at vantage points in AIR stations. Every station of AIR has, as per relevant law, constituted the Internal Complaints Committee, which investigates the complaints. As per the findings of the Internal Complaints Committee, whenever misconduct of sexual harassment has been established, strict action is taken against the officials in accordance with provisions of CCS (CCA) Rules.

Issuance of notices to companies

1995. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued notices to some companies running TV channels to provide information on their ownership and management control;

(b) if so, the details of the TV channels which have not responded to the notices; and

(c) the corrective measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (c) Policy Guidelines (2011) for Uplinking and Downlinking for TV channels requires owners of such channels to disclose the details of ownership and management while applying for permission, and to inform whenever any change in such ownership or management control occurs, as stipulated in the Guidelines. The Ministry obtains information, as and when required, from the concerned TV channels, and also stipulates deterrent action under the Guidelines for non-conforming companies.

Many commercial programmes shown by channels

†1996. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the channels are showing more commercials than programmes of news and serials;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the consumers pay for the channels to watch news and serials;

(c) if so, whether Government will issue any guidelines to those channels to show commercials as per Government rules; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (d) Advertisements telecast on private satellite TV channels are required to be in conformity with the Advertising Code prescribed under Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the rules framed thereunder. Rule 7(11) thereof provides that “no programme shall carry advertisements exceeding twelve minutes per hour, which may include upto ten minutes per hour of commercial advertisements, and upto two minutes per hour of the channel’s self-promotional programmes”.

Further ‘Standards of Quality of Service (Duration of Advertisements in Television Channels) (Amendment) Regulations 2013’ issued by TRAI *inter alia* provides that “No broadcaster shall, in its broadcast of a programme, carry advertisements exceeding twelve minutes in a clock hour.”

Some broadcasters have approached the Hon’ble High Court, Delhi against the regulations of 2013. The matter is presently *sub-judice*.

Sexual harassment faced by women employees

1997. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that office bearers of Casual Announcers and Composers Union, have submitted a representation, alleging that its members were sexually harassed, while working at different radio stations in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the National Commission for women has also

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

raised the issue of arbitrary removal of women employees who complained about facing sexual harassment; and

(c) if so, the details thereof particularly with reference to the status of inquiry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A complaint was forwarded to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting by National Commission for Women, in which the issue of arbitrary termination of women employees who complained about sexual harassment at AIR Stations was also raised. A report in the matter was called from Directorate General: All India Radio and examined in the Ministry. A detailed status note in the matter has been forwarded to National Commission for Women by the Ministry. Prasar Bharati has also separately submitted their findings to National Commission for Women. All the established procedures are being followed in this regard.

Illegal sand mining

1998. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of widespread illegal activities of sand mining in the country which have led to death of many law enforcement officials and other Government officials;

(b) if so, details of all deaths of law enforcement officials and other Government officials since 2014, year-wise; and

(c) details of measures that Government has taken to deal with the above issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Sand is a minor mineral, as defined under Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act). Section 15 of the MMDR Act provides that State Governments have been empowered for making rules for regulating the grant of quarry leases, mining leases or other mineral concessions in respect of minor minerals and for purposes connected therewith.

Further, as per Section 23C of MMDR Act, 1957 State Governments have complete powers to make rules for prevention of illegal mining and for purposes connected therewith. The administration of sand mining is a subject that is completely within the domain of the respective State Governments. Therefore, no data relating to attack/death of the Government officials/law enforcement official is maintained centrally.

Sanctioning new mines

†1999. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state: the details of number of new mines of iron-ores and other minerals sanctioned for Government and private sectors during last three years, the State-wise and the estimated number of direct and indirect employment likely to be created when these mines get operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): As per the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 and the Rules framed there-under, the State Governments are devolved upon the responsibility to grant mineral concessions for the minerals located within their respective boundaries, in accordance with the prescribed law. This information is not centrally maintained by Ministry of Mines. However, as per the information provided by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), 27 mining leases of iron ore and 132 mining leases of other minerals were sanctioned during the last three years for Government and private sector. As per IBM, it is estimated that 11989 number of direct employment is likely to be created after these mines get operational.

Mining sector in India

2000. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of logistical inefficiencies in transportation of coal from its place of origin to destination;

(b) if so, Government's proposal to check the inefficiencies to prevent loss of valuable natural resources;

(c) whether Government is looking for alternatives of Railways, as it undertakes the majority of transportation activities; and

(d) if not, measures which Government has envisaged to fine-tune the operations of Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) There has been no logistical inefficiencies at Coal India Limited (CIL) regarding transportation of coal to its various consumers.

However, it is stated that the responsibility of arranging transportation from the coal sidings/mine stock to the end use point lies with the consumer.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) In the meeting taken by Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) Power and NRE, Government of India on 25.01.2018, the use of captive mode of transport like Conveyor Belts, Merry Go Round (MGR) for movement of coal was stressed upon and it was decided that the Power Plants situated within 20 kms. from pithead shall construct elevated closed belt conveyors within 2 years. Further it was also decided that Power Plants located within 40 kms. from pithead shall construct MGR within 3 years and Power Plants located within 40 kms. and upto 100 kms. may also consider the option of MGR based on financial viability.

**Monitoring the release and expenditure of
Finance Commission Grants**

2001. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government monitors the release and expenditure of grants of Finance Commission to ensure that there is no delay in their release;

(b) if so, the details of delays, in the State of Tamil Nadu; and

(c) whether Government ensures that grants are utilised in a proper and effective manner, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Finance Commission recommended Grants are released to States including to the State of Tamil Nadu after receiving recommendation from the line Ministries and upon fulfilment of conditions as stipulated in the Grant specific Guidelines. States are eligible to draw the next installment of their entitled share of the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) Grants for Gram Panchayats, on submission of the Utilization Certificates (UC) for previous installment drawn certifying existence of duly constituted Gram Panchayats on the basis of elections and transfer of the grants to the Gram Panchayats within fifteen days of receipt. In case of delay in transfer beyond the stipulated time of fifteen days, the State Government are to transfer the same along with penal interest at Bank Rate of the Reserve Bank of India for the delayed period from its own funds, to the Gram Panchayats and certify the same in the UC.

Status of allocation and release of FFC grants to Tamil Nadu is given in the Statement (*See below*). Recommendations for release of next instalment of grants are *inter alia* subject to constitution of Gram Panchayats in the State on the basis of elections.

(c) Ministry of Finance (MoF) guidelines dated 08.10.2015 provide that Gram

Panchayats are to incur expenditure from the grants only after proper plans are prepared in accordance with relevant rules, procedures, etc. applicable in the State. The expenditures incurred by Gram Panchayats are subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and other prescribed agencies. The MoF Guidelines also enjoin upon States to constitute a High Level Monitoring Committee (HLMC) headed by Chief Secretary for monitoring and concurrent evaluation of local bodies and to ensure that funds are utilised for the purpose recommended by the FFC. Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has constituted a Coordination Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Panchayati Raj to *inter alia* guide and support States and local bodies in the implementation of FFC recommendations, monitor progress of expenditure of grants by local bodies and suggest remedial measures, if needed.

An MIS dashboard (www.ffconline.gov.in) for tracking release and utilization of FFC grants by the Gram Panchayats, wherein the database are populated by the States and the Gram Panchayats has been created by this Ministry. The dashboard also acts as a single window providing FFC centric information including sector-wise expenditures incurred by the Gram Panchayats. The details of the assets created from the FFC Grants are also geotagged and uploaded in the mActionSoft platform.

MoPR also commissioned a Common Review Mission (CRM) exercise during 2017-18 in eight States (Assam, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Telangana) to study the effectiveness of utilisation of FFC Grant.

Statement

*Status of allocation and release of FFC grants to
Tamil Nadu (as on 27.12.2018)*

(₹ in crore)							
2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
947.65	947.65	1484.31	1484.31	1710.90	1516.12	1975.07	-

Sustainable development goals for States

2002. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) has got a good response from the States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether States and UTs have prepared their Annual Plans including sustainable development goals for their States/UTs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with details of States which are effectively implementing the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) The Government on 21.04.2018 approved the restructured Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) w.e.f. the financial year 2018-19 with the primary aim of strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The scheme provides for financial support to States/UTs towards different activities including capacity building and training as included in the Annual Action Plan (AAP) of respective States/UTs, for developing governance capabilities of Panchayats for delivering on SDGs. States/UTs have been advised to integrate the training on priority areas of SDGs to be undertaken by Panchayats in the AAP for financial support under the scheme, including key local developmental challenges faced in the areas of poverty alleviation, public health, nutrition, education, gender, sanitation, drinking water, livelihood creation etc.

During the current financial year, Annual Action Plans of 32 States/UTs have been approved. Also, States/UTs have been requested to ensure timely utilisation of the released/available funds under various components of the Scheme including Capacity Building and Training. Details of funds Approved/Released/Available to States/UTs under the scheme are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of funds Approved/Released/Available to States/UTs under RGSA

		(₹ in crore)
Sl.No.	Name of the States/UTs	Funds Approved/Released/ Available with States
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	41.48
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14.86
3.	Assam	29.2
4.	Bihar	4.25
5.	Chhattisgarh	7.24

1	2	3
6.	Gujarat	33.38
7.	Haryana	6.99
8.	Himachal Pradesh	8.63
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2.79
10.	Jharkhand	4.19
11.	Karnataka	26.66
12.	Kerala	3.18
13.	Madhya Pradesh	62.79
14.	Maharashtra	11.54
15.	Manipur	9.25
16.	Mizoram	4.95
17.	Odisha	22.49
18.	Punjab	10.55
19.	Rajasthan	8.31
20.	Sikkim	5.08
21.	Tamil Nadu	30.3
22.	Tripura	2.77
23.	Telangana	45.63
24.	Uttarakhand	16.24
25.	Uttar Pradesh	57.15
26.	West Bengal	27.47
27.	Goa	1.27
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.31
29.	Daman and Diu	1.38
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3.28
31.	Meghalaya	4.44
32.	Nagaland	3.94

Manpower in Panchayats

2003. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that manpower is unavailable in Gram Panchayats in the country, especially in Punjab;

(b) whether willingness to make the Gram Panchayat, a real governance body, is missing at the highest levels; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) 'Panchayats' being in the realm of 'Local Government' is a State subject mandated at Part IX and List II (State List) of Seventh Schedule (Article 246) of the Constitution of India. Providing manpower to Panchayats is the primary responsibility of the respective State/Union Territory (UT) Government. The extent of manpower availability accordingly varies across the States. In the recently launched Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has integrated the component of technical support to Panchayats to fill the crucial gap in availability of human resources for technical support at the cutting edge level of Panchayats. Further, under the guidelines for utilization of Fourteenth Finance Commission, upto 10% of allocation of the Gram Panchayat is allowed for administrative costs, which also include cost of hiring of services of professionals such as accountant-cum data entry operators, engineers etc on contract basis. As far as the state of Punjab is concerned, as per information provided by the State Government, there is sufficient manpower in Gram Panchayats. The manpower includes Panchayat Secretary, Gram Rozgar Sahayak, Village Development Officer and the officials of line departments etc.

(b) and (c) Panchayats are the institutions of rural local self-governance. Gram Panchayats being the lowest level of the three tier Panchayati Raj system in the country, are actively involved in implementation of various Central and State schemes/programmes. Further, under the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC), ₹ 2,00,292.20 Crore have been allocated directly to the Gram Panchayats constituted under Part IX of the Constitution in 26 States for the award period 2015-20, for delivering basic services within the functions assigned to them under relevant legislations.

Gram Panchayats have been mandated for the preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs) for economic development and social justice. MoPR took the initiative of preparing model guidelines for GDPD and supported States in

developing their State specific guidelines. Based upon these State specific guidelines, the Gram Panchayats have been formulating their GPDP. Based on interactive discussions with different stakeholders the model guidelines have further been revised to make GPDP planning comprehensive and holistic.

Government directives to Gram Panchayats

†2004. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of PANCHAYAT RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 6400 Gram Panchayats in the State of Chhattisgarh have not been computerised, so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any directions have been issued by the Government to the State Government for computerisation of these Gram Panchayats at the earliest, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any time-limit has been fixed for computerisation of these Panchayat, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (d) As informed by the State Government of Chhattisgarh on 27th December, 2018, out of 10978 Gram Panchayats (GPs), 5492 GPs do not have computers. The district-wise details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

Panchayat being a State subject, computerisation of the GPs is primarily the responsibility of the State Government and it is an ongoing activity. However, Government of India has taken initiatives for computerisation of the Panchayats in the country including Chhattisgarh.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) launched the restructured Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA), which aims at strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) by way of capacity building of the PRIs and its functionaries. The scheme provides financial support to States towards different activities *e.g.* capacity building and training, training infrastructure, human resource for training, e-enablement, Information Education and Communication and Project Management Unit etc. relating to strengthening of panchayats as included in their respective Annual Action Plan. Hundred (100) computers have been sanctioned to Chhattisgarh in Annual Action Plan for the year 2018-19.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Upto 10% of the Grants under Fourteenth Finance Commission can be used by Gram. Panchayats (GPs) as technical and administrative support towards Operation and Maintenance and Capital expenditure. Among other activities, expenditure towards (i) purchase of computer and accessories as well as cost of Annual Maintenance in GPs, which do not have any computer at present and (ii) one-time cost for providing internet connectivity and recurring charges can also be incurred from the 10 % Operation and Maintenance expenditure.

MoPR has been implementing e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) that seeks to transform the functioning of all the Panchayats, making them more transparent, accountable and effective as organs of decentralized self-governing institutions. Under e-Panchayat, a suite of core software applications has been developed to address various aspects of Panchayats' functioning including planning, budgeting, implementation, accounting, monitoring, social audit and delivery of citizen services like issue of certificates, licenses, tax collection etc.

For attaining the vision of Digital India, the Department of Telecommunications is implementing the BharatNet project in a phased manner to create network to connect all the GPs in the country by broadband. As part of the BharatNet project, last mile connectivity is sought to be provided through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology to all the GPs in the country. As informed by Department of Telecommunications under BharatNet project as on 24th December, 2018, total 4052 GPs of the Chhattisgarh State have been made Service Ready.

Statement

District-wise list of GPs without computers and internet connectivity

Sl.No	District Name	Total no of GPs	GPs do not have a computer
1.	Raipur	408	85
2.	Balodabazar-Bhatapara	611	338
3.	Gariyaband	332	177
4.	Mahasamund	545	275
5.	Dhamtari	355	17
6.	Kabeerdham	461	241
7.	Rajnandgaon	800	155
8.	Durg	297	50
9.	Bemetara	387	359

Sl.No	District Name	Total no of GPs	GPs do not have a computer
10.	Balod	421	95
11.	Baster	358	76
12.	Kondagaon	311	59
13.	Naryanpur	98	90
14.	Dantewada	124	60
15.	Sukma	146	142
16.	Bijapur	169	155
17.	Kanker	427	86
18.	Bilaspur	645	535
19.	Mungeli	350	295
20.	Korba	390	331
21.	Janjgir-Champa	631	358
22.	Raigarh	761	546
23.	Surguja	399	127
24.	Surajpur	424	241
25.	Balrampur	415	76
26.	Jashpur	427	378
27.	Korea	286	145
TOTAL		10978	5492

Source: Panchayati and Rural Development Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.

Target of 300 NHs

2005. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed a target of constructing 300 National Highways across the country by 2019;

(b) if so, details of National Highways, State-wise;

(c) whether any delay has been reported in completing these projects across the country, including the State of Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, details of the projects which are held up/delayed and reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government has held any discussion with various agencies including contractors of the projects to complete the delayed projects without any further delay to avoid cost escalation; and

(f) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (f) The State-wise details of major projects which are about to get completed unhindered by the end of March 2019 across the country including Tamil Nadu is given in the Statement (*See below*). National Highway projects are delayed mainly due to land acquisition, utility shifting, non-availability of soil/aggregate, poor performance of contractors, environment/forest/wildlife clearances, ROB and RUB issues with Railways, public agitation for additional facilities, arbitration/contractual disputes with contractors etc. In order to ensure timely completion of the projects and avoid cost escalation, regular meetings are held with project developers, State Governments and contractors. To expedite completion of these projects various steps are also taken which include streamlining of land acquisition and environment clearances, premium re-scheduling, close coordination with other Ministries, revamping of dispute resolution mechanism, frequent reviews at various levels etc.

Statement

State-wise details of the major projects which are about to get completed by March, 2019 including projects in Tamil Nadu

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Numbers of Projects
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9
3.	Assam	18
4.	Bihar	16
5.	Chhattisgarh	15
6.	Goa	2
7.	Gujarat	7
8.	Gujarat/Maharashtra	1

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Numbers of Projects
9.	Haryana	9
10.	Haryana/UP	3
11.	Haryana/Rajasthan	1
12.	Himachal Pradesh	4
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	2
14.	Jharkhand	2
15.	Karnataka	18
16.	Kerala	3
17.	Madhya Pradesh	17
18.	Madhya Pradesh/Maharashtra	1
19.	Maharashtra	31
20.	Meghalaya	2
21.	Mizoram	3
22.	Odisha	21
23.	Punjab	8
24.	Rajasthan	18
25.	Sikkim	2
26.	Tamil Nadu	6
27.	Telangana	7
28.	Tripura	2
29.	Uttar Pradesh	34
30.	Uttarakhand	3
31.	Uttarakhand/UP	1
32.	West Bengal	12
TOTAL		295

Scrapping of old vehicles

2006. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether orders for deregistration of ten years old diesel and fifteen years old petrol vehicles in the Delhi NCR have been carried out, for causing air pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has finalized the policy and action for dealing with scrapping of old vehicles which are deregistered;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, by when the plan for scrapping banned vehicles will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (b) In compliance of the directions of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the Government of NCT of Delhi have already deregistered 2,25,983 Diesel vehicles which are more than 15 years old. Further, in compliance of order dated 29.10.2018 passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition(s) (C) No.13029/1985 in the case titled MC Mehta Vs UOI and Ors, the complete list of such petrol vehicles which are more than 15 years old and Diesel vehicles which are more than 10 years old have been made available on the website of the Government of NCT of Delhi at www.transport.delhigovt.nic.in and on the website of CPCB at www.cpcb.nic.in.

(c) to (e) The Government of NCT of Delhi has formulated 'Guidelines for Scrapping of vehicles in Delhi, 2018' on 24.08.2018, wherein details of eligibility conditions to grant authorization of scrapping, licensing procedure, validity and renewal of license, scrapping procedure, detail of scrapping yard, scrapping procedure for impounded and abandoned (junk) vehicles are mentioned.

Noise free road transport

2007. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes noise free road transport in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the passenger buses/vehicles and commercial carriers are not maintaining the norms of horn sound levels as per central motor vehicle rules;

(c) whether Government has received any report on rising cases of hearing loss and damage to eardrums due to loud horn; and

(d) if so, the details of proposal by Government to control multitone loud and pressure horns for comfort of commuters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Ministry has issued G.S.R. 953(E) dated 05.10.2016 *vide* which amendment has been made in Form 22 of the Central Motor vehicle Rules, 1989 to add the noise levels of the vehicles.

(b) to (d) As per rule 119 of Central Motor vehicle Rules, 1989, no motor vehicle, including agricultural tractor and combine harvester, shall be fitted with any multi-toned horn giving a succession of different notes or with any other sound producing device giving an unduly harsh, shrill, loud or alarming noise. This Ministry has not received any report on rising cases of hearing loss and damage to eardrums due to loud horn. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, *vide* letter dated 12th June, 2017 and 11th August, 2017 has issued an advisory to all the State Governments and Union Territories to strictly follow the provisions of Rule 119 of Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 regarding multi toned horns. Implementation of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 and Central Motor vehicle Regulation, 1989 rests with the concerned States/Union Territories.

Construction of overbridges in Gujarat

†2008. SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA J.: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) names of the overbridges pending for approval of Central Government for construction of National Highways in Gujarat at present;

(b) names of the places for which approval is pending along with the cause of pendency;

(c) the efforts made by Government for speedy disposal of the pending cases;

(d) place-wise details of the under construction overbridges in Gujarat; and

(e) by when the construction of under construction bridges would be completed and details thereof, place-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (e) Construction of overbridges

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

at 6 locations has been identified. State Government is to finalise Detailed Project Report (DPR), make assessment of land acquisition, utility shifting and get the GAD approved by Railway for construction of ROBs. One ROB has been sanctioned for construction. State PWD has been requested to expedite action for Land Acquisition (LA), etc. Details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

Statement

Details of construction of overbridges in Gujarat

Sl. No.	Location NH No.	Chainage	Reasons for pendency	Scheduled date of completion
1.	168-A	39/885	Sanctioned. LA is to be done.	March, 2020
2.	64	88/565	LA and Utility Shifting is to be done.	Cannot be decided.
3.	64	107/500	LA and Utility Shifting is to be done.	
4.	64	113/200	LA and Utility Shifting is to be done.	
5.	848-B	00/000	NOC required from NHAI, LC closure certificate is to be submitted. LA and Utility Shifting is to be done.	
6.	848-B	24/200	Detailed Project Report is under preparation for construction of ROB/RUB/FOB.	

Pending Highway Projects

2009. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highway projects currently underway which are delayed beyond the initially projected completion date;

(b) the details of such delayed projects, with new estimated completion dates; and

(c) the details of actual cost as against the projected cost of highway construction projects that were completed in the past three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (b) 435 numbers of infrastructure and road projects are delayed mainly for want of land acquisition, utility shifting, non-availability of soil/aggregate, poor performance of contractors,

environment/forest/wildlife clearances, ROB&RUB issues with Railways, public agitation for additional facilities, arbitration/contractual disputes with contractors etc. These projects are likely to be completed by Oct., 2020.

(c) The details of actual cost of highway construction projects that were completed in the past three years in terms of Expenditure is given in the Statement.

Statement

The State/UT-wise details of funds utilized for development of NHs during each of the last three years

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/UTs/Schemes/Agency (Sl. 1 to 33 contains allocation under NH(O), NHDP-IV through State PWD, EAP, PBFF)	2015-16. Expd	2016-17 Expd.	2017-18 Expd.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,000.43	2,014.50	1,780.70
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.83	90.66	62.05
3.	Assam	78.09	137.80	307.75
4.	Bihar	707.86	1,331.61	1,523.88
5.	Chhattisgarh	339.80	1,495.68	1,071.58
6.	Goa	119.98	434.51	527.48
7.	Gujarat	225.77	213.41	163.29
8.	Haryana	89.85	161.27	105.17
9.	Himachal Pradesh	139.96	182.14	305.69
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	22.86	23.16	35.44
11.	Jharkhand	38.08	212.50	260.88
12.	Karnataka	639.55	871.96	1,202.70
13.	Kerala	137.65	237.80	171.74
14.	Madhya Pradesh	928.29	1,558.90	854.79
15.	Maharashtra	423.28	1,154.00	2,964.15
16.	Manipur	40.00	18.65	75.47
17.	Meghalaya	15.00	28.44	28.28
18.	Mizoram	28.50	46.13	41.00

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Nagaland	46.27	38.84	38.27
20.	Odisha	592.24	951.35	717.08
21.	Punjab	1,855.24	2,702.48	745.80
22.	Rajasthan	849.56	1,012.99	886.08
23.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	5.09
24.	Tamil Nadu	336.47	640.11	664.48
25.	Telangana	657.10	358.43	409.93
26.	Tripura	0.00	2.38	61.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1,527.74	1,820.85	1,106.96
28.	Uttarakhand	245.69	314.48	980.14
29.	West Bengal	811.98	1,223.19	1,184.69
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.53	0.13	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.69	5.30
32.	Delhi	0.00	0.62	23.01
33.	Puducherry	18.10	14.28	13.63
34.	Other projects under NH(O)*	443.44	787.79	210.00
35.	National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)-Cess*	15,420.00	2,326.50	12,429.45
36.	NHAI-Toll *	6,500.00	7,500.00	8,462.14
37.	NHAI-NH(O) *	370.27	5,389.02	3,900.00
38.	National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (NHIDCL) under NH(O)*	1.15	72.20	296.00
39.	Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North-East Region (SARDP-NE) including Arunachal Package*	4,803.07	4,464.71	4,837.77
40.	Special Programme for development of Roads In Left Wing Extremism affected Area (LWE) including Development of Vijayawada-Ranchi Road	996.11	739.27	901.86

1	2	3	4	5
41.	Externally Aided Projects-Head Quarters#	9.25	56.72	283.41
	SUB-TOTAL	40,461.99	40,630.15	49,644.13
42.	IEBR/Borrowings by NHAI	23,281.00	33,118.00	50,533.00
	GRAND TOTAL	63,742.99	73,748.15	1,00,177.13

* State/UT-wise Expenditure are not made.

Four laning of NH-66

2010. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps being taken to start the construction work of four laning of National Highway-66 from Kasargod to Thiruvananthapuram; and

(b) the reasons for delay in starting construction of the said National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDVIYA): (a) The stretch of NH-66, from Karnataka/Kerala Border at Thalapady in Kasargod District to Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala, is a part of Mumbai-Kanyakumari Economic Corridor of Bharatmala Pariyojana which is to be developed as a 4-lane facility. For this purpose, preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) and simultaneous process of land acquisition are underway. In this stretch three works of construction of 4-lane Kozhikode, Thalassery-Mahe bypasses (covering 47 Km) and 4-lane Neeleshwaram ROB have been awarded for execution.

(b) Delay in starting construction work in remaining stretches of NH-66 is mainly attributed to land acquisition.

Maduravoyal-Port Elevated Expressway

2011. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any report from NHAI on the Maduravoyal-Port Elevated Expressway in Chennai; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government to revive the project and the timeline for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) The feasibility study/

detailed project report for Maduravoyal-Port Elevated Expressway in Chennai along with land acquisition/transfer of land from other agencies and obtaining of requisite clearances has been initiated. As such, decision of the Government in this regard and timeline for completion cannot be indicated at this stage.

Inadequate infrastructure for new High Security Registration plates

2012. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is inadequate infrastructure for installation of new High Security Registration Plates for motor vehicles in the NCT of Delhi resulting in delay, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) details of steps taken by Government to revamp the infrastructure so that vehicle owners irrespective of date of registration of vehicle get some relief from mental agony?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) No Sir.

(b) The Ministry has notified G.S.R 1162 (E) dated 04.12.2018 and S.O. 6052 (E) dated 06.12.2018 mandating that the High Security Registration Plate including the third registration mark, wherever required, shall be supplied by the vehicle manufacturers along with the vehicle manufactured on or after 1st day of April, 2019 to their dealers and dealers shall place a mark of registration on such plates and affix them on the vehicle. For the affixation of High Security Registration Plate on existing vehicles, the High Security Registration Plate including the third registration mark may be supplied and affixed by the dealers of the vehicle manufactured after placing the mark of registration thereon. The manufacturers or suppliers of High Security Registration Plates, if so authorised by the state concerned, may also supply the High Security Registration Plate including the third registration mark on old vehicles after placing the registration mark.

Implementation of the Good Samaritan Law

2013. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any nodal officer has been designated to receive complaints in case the Good Samaritan Law guidelines are not followed;

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

(c) the mechanism followed by Ministry to monitor the compliance of Good Samaritan guidelines;

(d) whether Ministry has put in place a grievance redressal mechanism for violation of Good Samaritan guidelines, if so, details thereof; and

(e) details of all such cases where action has been initiated for violation of Good Samaritan guidelines, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (e) No Sir, No such information is available in the Ministry as Law and Order is a State Subject.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India *vide* its order dated 30th March 2016 have approved both the guidelines dated 12.05.2015 and 21.01.2016 with slight modification and directed that these guidelines, as modified, be complied with by the Union Territories and all the functionaries of the State Governments as law laid down by the Court under Article 32 read with Article 142 of the Constitution of India and the same be treated as binding as per the mandate of Article 141.

Ministry has issued guidelines in pursuance of order dated 29.10.2014 in W.P. No. 235 of 2012 of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to protect the Good Samaritans

As par Para 1 (7) and (8) of the guidelines dated 12th May, 2015, Standard Operating Procedures for the examination of Good Samaritans by the Police or during trial has been issued by the Ministry on 21st January, 2016 envisaging the procedures to be followed for the examination of an eyewitness to a road accident, so that the witness does not get harassed.

Conversion of State Roads into NH

2014. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has constituted a Committee of Secretaries to identify roads to be designated as National Highway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the administrative approval for designating any State road into National Highway would be based on the recommendations of the said Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) Inter Ministerial

consultations are in progress for formulation of parameters/criteria for notifying State Roads as new National Highways (NHs).

Blind spots on NH

2015. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many blind spots and accident prone dark spots are being identified along the National Highways in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the NHAI to rectify them;

(c) whether the NHAI and other central agencies have taken any steps to make the National Highways safe and accident-free;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the funds spent during the last three years in this regard;

(e) whether Government is providing fund to State Government or any NGO in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (f) One hundred two Accident Black Spots have been identified in the State of Tamil Nadu, out of which 96 are on National Highways (NHs). Immediate temporary measures such as erection of cautionary sign boards, provision of rumble strips etc. have already been taken on all black spots on NHs. Permanent remedial measures have also been taken on 24 Accident Black Spots and work on 52 numbers of black spots is in the execution/bidding stage. To address road safety concerns, Ministry has issued Guidelines to carry out Road safety Audit for all the new road projects having length of 5 km or more at the stage of Detailed Project Report (DPR)/Engineering Design. Adequate mitigation measures including construction of Foot Over Bridges (FOBs), underpasses /overpasses /cattle underpasses, Road signage, Road Marking, delineators, crash barrier etc. are made as an integral part of the highways development projects depending upon the site requirement, land availability etc. The rectification of the accident black spots are carried out as a separate or as a part of corridor development project for which expenditure is incurred from the overall allocation of funds under the development of National Highways. Ministry has not allocated funds to the NGOs for rectification of Accident Black Spots.

Norms for getting the National Highway tag

2016. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the norms for any road to get the National Highway tag includes flow of at least 5,000 vehicles daily and its direct connectivity to an existing National Highway;

(b) whether it is also a fact that multiple rounds of inter-Ministerial consultations have been held since September, 2018 to finalise the new norms for assigning National Highway tag; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) Inter Ministerial consultations are in progress since September, 2018 for formulation of parameters/criteria for notifying State Roads as new National Highways (NHs).

Grants for construction of roads in Maharashtra

2017. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide special grants to State of Maharashtra for construction of cemented roads in Mumbai and other cities of the State in order to improve the roads; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to provide special grant for construction of cemented roads in Mumbai and other cities in Maharashtra by the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

Ring road in Aurangabad

2018. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide ring roads in major cities of Maharashtra, particularly in Aurangabad; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) The ring roads at Pune, Solapur and Nagpur city in Maharashtra has been included under Bharatmala Scheme. However, no ring road is proposed for Aurangabad city in the State of Maharashtra. The construction of a bypass for Aurangabad city has already been taken up by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and work has been awarded.

Accidents on Yamuna Expressway

†2019. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents that take place on Delhi-Agra Yamuna Expressway in the last three years; and

(b) the number of persons injured and killed in these road accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (b) Ministry collects/compiles information on road accidents in a consolidated form for all roads and not for a particular stretch of roads or Highways. Delhi-Agra Yamuna Expressway is not a National Highways. Therefore, no specific information is available on Delhi-Agra Yamuna Expressway. However, total number of road accidents and total number of persons killed and injured on National Highways in respect of State of Uttar Pradesh (UP) for the last three calendar years *i.e.* 2015 to 2017 is given in the table below:—

Years	Total Number of road accidents on National Highways of Uttar Pradesh	Total Number of persons killed on National Highways of Uttar Pradesh	Total Number of persons Injured on National Highways of Uttar Pradesh.
2015	13802	7773	9618
2016	13078	7469	9197
2017	14333	7946	10232

Construction of highways in Odisha

2020. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed by Government for constructing highways per day during this financial year;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) whether it is a fact that Government is likely to miss the said targets;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the total length of highways targeted and constructed in the State of Odisha during the above period; and
- (e) the measures taken by Government to achieve the targets during the remaining period of the year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Ministry has set the target of 10000 km *i.e.* 27.40 km per day for the financial year 2018-19 and 5759 km with a rate of 24 km per day has been achieved as on 30th Nov. in 2018-19.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Do not arise.

(d) to (e) Ministry has set the target of 709 km. for the year 2018-19 and constructed 205 km as on 30th Nov., in 2018-19 in the state of Odisha. The target are set on yearly basis and to ensure achievement of the targets, regular meetings are held with project developers, State Governments and contractors and various steps are taken to expedite construction which include streamlining of land acquisition process and environment clearances, close coordination with other Ministries, revamping of dispute resolution mechanism, frequent reviews at various levels etc.

Improvement in road connectivity

†2021. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has asked State Governments for improving road connectivity to ensure industrial development;
- (b) if so, the reactions of State Governments thereon, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has extended financial assistance to Uttar Pradesh towards improvement in road connectivity, during last three years and current year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs).

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Ministry had taken up detailed review of NHs network with a view to develop the road connectivity to Border areas, development of Coastal roads including road connectivity for Non-Major ports, improvement in the efficiency of National Corridors, development of Economic Corridors, along with integration with Sagarmala, etc., under Bharatmala Pariyojana in consultation with State Governments, concerned Ministries/Departments of Central Government including Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP). Development of important Industrial Corridors is also a part of this initiative. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the investment proposal for Phase-I of “Bharatmala Pariyojana” during its meeting held on 24.10.2017.

(c) and (d) Year-wise allocations of funds for development and maintenance of NHs during last three years and current year for the State of Uttar Pradesh and expenditure incurred are as follows:—

(₹ in crore)

Year	Development		Maintenance and Repair	
	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure
2015-16	1530.34	1527.74	229.85	229.21
2016-17	1849.02	1820.85	140.27	119.81
2017-18	1110.79	1106.96	88.53	56.51
2018-19 (So far)	1763.46	1536.62	70.59	32.37

Apart from this, the Ministry also allocates funds for development of State Roads (non-Rural) under the Central Road Fund (CRF) Scheme and Economic Importance and Inter State Connectivity (EI&ISC) as per provisions of the CRF Act, 2000 amended by the Finance Act from time to time. Year-wise accrual/allocation of funds under CRF, EI&ISC schemes during last three years and current year for the State of Uttar Pradesh and release/expenditure are as follows:—

(₹ in crore)

Year	CRF		EI&ISC	
	Accrual/Allocation	Release ^s	Allocation	Expenditure
2015-16	227.69	227.69	*	68.77
2016-17	569.23	219.71	5.00	1.04
2017-18	587.07	890.24	115.00	103.29
2018-19 (So far)	655.91	655.91	95	67.47

* State-wise allocation not made.

^s Release may be more than Accrual for the year due release of unspent balance of previous years. However, none of the above schemes are Central Assistance Schemes.

Sale of quadricycles

2022. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has approved the sale of quadricycles for personal use;
- (b) whether such quadricycles will be allowed for transporting cargo or luggage;
- (c) whether quadricycles have to meet the basic safety norms; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Ministry has notified S.O. 5800 (E) dated 20.11.2018 whereby the quadricycle has also been included under the category of non-transport vehicles for personal use.

(b) The quadricycle had been included in the category of a 'transport' vehicle wherein it can be used as a public service vehicle, a goods carriage.

(c) and (d) The safety standards for quadricycle have been mandated *vide* S.O. 2211 (E) dated 01.06.2018.

Road accidents in Kerala

2023. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons killed in the State of Kerala on National Highways passing through the State, during each of the last three years; and
- (b) the steps taken to check road accidents on National Highways in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) As per data received from police department of Kerala State total number of persons killed in the State of Kerala on National Highways during the last three calendar years *i.e.* 2015 to 2017 is given in the table below:—

Years	Total number of persons killed in the State of Kerala on National Highways
2015	1368
2016	1263
2017	1309

(b) The following steps have been taken to check road accidents on National Highways (NHs) in the State Road safety:—

Audits are being conducted by exclusive Road Safety consultant/Project Director (PD) or any other officer deputed by PD. Many suggestions of the said audit are being implemented at site to remedy the site deficiency. The accident data are being collected month-wise to study the issues. Based on the requirement at site FoB/VUP/Road Signs/Road Marking are being executed to reduce the accident. Further for real time monitoring, patrol vehicles are playing on the National Highways Authority of India stretches to know the condition of roads and institute rectification measures on priority. The State Police department is checking the accidents on NH through Interceptor, Cameras fixed on sides of NH.

Deaths due to potholes

2024. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deaths in road accidents due to potholes in the country in the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of level of maintenance of roads in the country;

(c) whether compensation was paid to the nearest kith of the victims, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any monitoring Committee was formed to keep a vigil and to take maintenance work for filling the potholes;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) As per information received from police department of all States/UTs, the total number of persons killed in road accidents during the last three calendar years *i.e.* 2015 to 2017 are given below:—

Years	Total Persons Killed in road accidents on road stretches with potholes
2015	3,416
2016	2324
2017	3597

(b) As per Indian Road Congress (IRC-82-2015): Code of Practice for maintenance of Bituminous Surface of Roads, potholes may be classified as small, medium and large. Small potholes are those having size as 25 mm depth and 200 mm width, medium potholes are those having size as 25 mm to 50 mm depth and 500 mm width and large potholes are those having depth greater than 50 mm and width greater than 500 mm. National Highway projects are executed under various modes of implementation. As per the EPC/BOT/HAM contracts, the time-limit has been prescribed for rectification of various types of defects including potholes occurring on highways. In case of potholes the time-limit for rectification is 24-48 hours.

(c) Chapter X and XI of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 deal with third-party insurance and payment of compensation in case of injury or death. The provisions provided in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 relating to compensation for the road accident victims are uniform across the country. The Ministry has reviewed the compensation amount and substituted Schedule-II of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 relating to compensation amount under Section 163A vide notification S.O. No.2022(E) dated 22nd May, 2018. As per the revised Schedule-II, compensation for:—

(i) Fatal Accidents:—

Compensation payable in case of death shall be five lakh rupees.

(ii) Accidents resulting in permanent disability:—

Compensation payable shall be = [₹ 5,00,000/- X per centage disability as per Schedule-I of the Employee's Compensation Act, 1923 (8 of 1923)].

Provided that the minimum compensation in case of permanent disability of any kind shall not be less than fifty thousand rupees.

(c) Accidents resulting in minor injury:—

A fixed compensation of twenty five thousand rupees shall be payable.

Further, as per Section 165(1) of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, a State Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, constitute one or more Motor Accidents Claims Tribunals for such area as may be specified in the notification for the purpose of adjudicating upon claims for compensation in respect of accidents involving the death of, or bodily injury to, persons arising out of the use of motor vehicles, or damages to any property of the third party so arising, or both. Sub-section (2) of Section 165 empowers the State Government to appoint such number of members as the State Government may think fit to appoint. Sub-section (3) of Section 165 empowers State Government to regulate distribution of business if there are two or more Claims Tribunals for an area. Thus, the matter regarding disposal of cases by Motor Accident Claims Tribunals comes under the jurisdiction of State Governments.

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has inserted a provision in Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill, 2017 which *inter alia* envisages the creation of a Motor Vehicle Accident Fund.

(d) to (f) The Government has launched a mobile app for highway users *i.e.* “Sukhad Yatra 1033” which enables highways users to report potholes and other safety hazards on National Highways including accidents.

Concessionaires/contractors and Project Directors of highway projects under National Highways Authority of India are responsible for maintaining the roads and monitoring road accidents on National Highways as part of the contract agreements.

An Independent Engineer/Authority Engineer appointed by NHAI and the concerned Project Directors of NHAI inspect the project highways under their respective jurisdictions and take suitable short term and long term measures through the Concessionaires/contractors/O&M agencies to ensure that the roads are pothole free. In order to make the National Highway stretches pothole free, routine maintenance activities are carried out through the Concessionaires/contractors/O&M agencies.

Disposal of old vehicles

†2025. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGH WAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of the Ministry regarding disposal of old vehicles and the step taken so far to dispose of the vehicles older than ten and fifteen years;

(b) whether the vehicle owners are being provided certificates, after acquiring their vehicles for disposal of vehicles older than ten and fifteen years; and

(c) if so, the rate at which two-wheelers and other vehicles are being withdrawn and the manner in which such vehicles are being taken off the roads whose registrations have been cancelled or are being cancelled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) Ministry is in the process of preparing a Cabinet note on creation of an eco-system for regulatory scrapping of commercial vehicles for transition from older polluting vehicles to environment friendly vehicles. The States are being consulted for their suggestions.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Urban Extension Road-II project in Delhi

†2026. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DDA has awarded the construction work of Urban Extension Road-II (UER-II), project to National Highway Authority of India;

(b) if so, the reasons for non-completion of construction work of UER-II, Delhi so far; and

(c) whether Government is considering to complete the construction work of this highway at an early date, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) Delhi Development Authority (DDA) had requested Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (M/o RT&H) to assign work for development of Urban Extension Road-II (UER-II) to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), which was agreed in-principle subject to the condition that DDA/Government of Delhi handover the encumbrance free land (already acquired by DDA) required for the project to NHAI. It was also decided to share the cost for additional land required on 50%:50% basis between NHAI and DDA/Government of Delhi. Till now, DDA/Government of Delhi has not handed over the entire encumbrance free land required for the project to NHAI which is pre-requisite to take up the construction work.

Agricultural land acquired for making roads and highways

2027. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of agricultural land acquired in the country for making roads and highways since 2014;

(b) name of State in which maximum area of agricultural land was acquired;

(c) the number of families displaced from their homes in name of development of roads and highways in this period;

(d) the total amount spent for land acquisition for agricultural land since 2014; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) steps taken by Government to avoid the acquisition of agricultural land for development activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (e) Land for National Highway projects is acquired on the basis of approved road alignment under the provisions of Section 3 of the NHs Act, 1956. As such, no separate data of land category *viz.* agriculture or non-agriculture, Government or private etc are maintained.

The amount of compensation is determined in accordance with the First Schedule, rehabilitation and resettlement in accordance with the Second Schedule and infrastructure amenities in accordance with the Third Schedule to the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013. The details of total land acquired and total compensation paid by the NHAI in the country since year 2014 is as follows:—

Sl.No.	Year	Area Acquired (ha)	Expenditure (₹ in crore)
1.	2014-15	6733	9,097
2.	2015-16	9287	21,000
3.	2016-17	7491	19,700
4.	2017-18	9494	29,281
5.	2018-19 (upto Oct.,)	6435	17,893

Acquisition of land for National Highway (NH) projects are linear in nature and in case of linear acquisition of land, number of displaced families in a particular village/town are negligible or nil.

Data on construction of highways

2028. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the data for last 365 days on construction of highways along with per day coverage of new highway being constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): Ministry has constructed 10,640 km. with a pace of construction of 29.15 km. per day during the last 365 days *i.e.* from December, 2017 to November, 2018.

Expansion of NH network

2029. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last four and a half years, Government has added 38,000 km. to the National Highway network to expand the total length to 1.29 lakh km.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that another 54,000 km. of highways have got in-principle approval; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (d) The total length of National Highways (NHs) has been enhanced from about 91,287 km. as on 31.03.2014 to about 1,31,326 km. at present in view of declaration of about 39,040 km. length of State roads as new NHs besides modification in existing NH length on account of realignments, construction of by-passes etc.

Year-wise details of State roads notified as New NHs since 2014-15 are as follows:—

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Total
Length (km.)	5,662	3,180	13,148	12,399	4,651	39,040

Further, the Ministry has approved in-Principle declaration of about 53,031 km length of State roads as new NHs subject to outcome of their Detailed Project Reports (DPRs); initiatives have also been taken up for preparation of the DPRs.

Long delays at toll booths in Andhra Pradesh

2030. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NHA has three toll collection points on highways between Visakhapatnam and Rajahmundry in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the amount of toll collected at these three booths respectively upto December, 2018, toll-plaza-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are long delays at each of these booths, creating hardships for the people;

(d) the reasons for poor supervision of delays by NHAI and the extremely high tolls being charged in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) details of steps proposed to reduce tolls and delays at all booths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (b) Yes, Sir. There are three toll plazas in between Visakhapatnam and Rajahmundry namely Aganampudi, Vempadu and Krishnavaram. Their user's fee collected is as under:—

Aganampudi – ₹ 286.25 crores (from July, 1998 to 25th December, 2018)

Vempadu – ₹ 844.99 crores. (from May, 2005 to 25th December, 2018)

Krishnavaram – ₹ 644.23 crores. (from May, 2005 to 25th December, 2018)

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, in the event of increase in traffic on special occasions or whenever the situation warrants the toll agency is contractually liable to make the toll plaza operation smooth by making extra efforts including mobilization of additional manpower.

In ToT agreement, there is a provision for upgradation of toll plazas near Vempadu and Krishnavaram with increased number of lanes (total 14 toll lanes including 2 extra wide lines, one lane on each side). User fee is being collected in accordance with User Fee Rules as applicable.

(e) Further, Government has envisaged Hybrid Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) which will ease out traffic movement at toll plazas.

Monitoring and mentoring on SAGY

2031. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a frequent monitoring mechanism to check and ensure the proper development of Adarsh Grams under the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) scheme, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government has any mechanism to make the Members of Parliament aware about the 233 Government schemes that could be used to develop villages, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has taken steps to ensure large participation of the corporate and voluntary organisations to ensure larger Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds for Adarsh Grams?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) The Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) is reviewed periodically by the Ministry of Rural Development. The Ministry has evolved a comprehensive multi-level and multi-tool system of monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of its programmes which include review by the Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development, Performance Review Committee, National Level Monitors, Concurrent Monitoring and Impact Assessment studies. Concurrent monitoring mechanisms include the progress updated by States/Districts through SAGY website regarding the identification of the Gram Panchayats, progress tracking of Village Development Plans (VDPs), the progress reported for Panchayat Darpan indicators and the field visits by MoRD officials.

(b) The Ministry of Rural Development has brought out 'SAMANVAY'- compilation of 223 Central and 1806 State schemes for convergence under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) to help Members of Parliament in utilising relevant schemes in SAGY planning and implementation, and to dovetail resources from the basket of existing Government schemes and programmes available for development interventions. The Ministry has undertaken a detailed mapping exercise on the Central Sector, Centrally Sponsored and State schemes in this compilation.

(c) As per the Clause 14 of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana Guidelines, each Gram Panchayat should proactively tap the resources and the strengths of the Private, Voluntary and Cooperative Sectors (PVC Sectors) which could help in making available relevant technologies for local adoptions and making investments/providing services for local economic development, either independently or to supplement Government efforts.

The Schedule VII under Section 135 of Companies Act (2013) suggests that the companies in their Corporate Social Responsibility Policies may include the activities related to the below listed areas:-

- Eradicating hunger, poverty and malnutrition, promoting preventive health care and sanitation and making available safe drinking water.
- Promoting education, including special education and employment enhancing vocational skills especially among children, women, elderly, and the differently abled and livelihood enhancement projects.

- Promoting gender equality, empowering women, setting up homes and hostels for women and orphans, setting up old age homes, day care centres and such other facilities for senior citizens and measures for reducing inequalities faced by socially and economically backward groups.
- Ensuring environmental sustainability, ecological balance, protection of flora and fauna, animal welfare, agroforestry, conservation of natural resources and maintaining quality of soil, air and water.
- Protection of national heritage, art and culture including restoration of buildings and sites of historical importance and works of art; setting up public libraries; promotion and development of traditional arts and handicrafts.
- Measures for the benefit of armed forces veterans, war widows and their dependents.
- Training to promote rural sports, nationally recognised sports, Paralympic sports and Olympic sports.
- Contribution to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund or any other fund set up by the Central Government for socio-economic development and relief and welfare of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, minorities and women.
- Contributions or funds provided to technology incubators located within academic institutions which are approved by the Central Government.
- Rural development projects.

The above suggested activities are aligned with the activities of the Department of Rural Development. Recognising the same, the Ministry has met with the representatives of Industry and Professional Associations linked with Ministry of Corporate Affairs and oriented them on the opportunities available in the rural development programmes, especially Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) for converging private/corporate investments with the Government initiatives for the development of villages.

Release of funds for MGNREGA

†2032. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) certain States have not been released funds in time causing hurdles to pay wages to labours on time;

(b) names of States to which release of funds have been delayed under the scheme;

(c) whether due to allocation of less budget under MGNREGA additional amount has to be demanded causing hurdles timely payments to labourers; and

(d) the year-wise details of additional amount under MGNREGA during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) to (d) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA) is a demand driven wage employment programme. Fund release to States/UTs is a continuous process and Central Government is committed in making funds available keeping in view the demand for work. Budget allocation under MGNREGA in FY 2017-18 was ₹ 55,167.06 crore which was highest since inception. The Ministry seeks additional fund as and when required for meeting the demand for work on the ground. The details of Budget Estimate and Revised Estimate under MGNREGA during the last five years are given below:—

(₹ in crore)

Financial Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate
2013-14	33,000.00	33,000.00
2014-15	34,000.00	33,000.00
2015-16	34,699.00	37,345.95
2016-17	38,500.00	48,220.26
2017-18	48,000.00	55,167.06

Status of SAGY in Jharkhand

2033. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of development of the villages adopted by Members of Parliament of Jharkhand under the scheme, Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY);

(b) whether difficulties are being faced in implementation of the scheme and if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to address those difficulties; and

(c) the effective steps being taken by Government to complete the pending projects under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Members of Parliament from Jharkhand have identified 50 Gram Panchayats under SAGY. The Gram Panchayats adopted under the Yojana, through a participatory process, under the guidance of Hon'ble Members of Parliament prepare Village Development Plans (VDP) containing prioritised time-bound activities to achieve holistic progress of the villages. So far 41 SAGY Gram Panchayats of Jharkhand have uploaded their VDPs, containing 3,944 projects as per the data available on the SAGY website (saanjhi.gov.in). Out of these, implementation of 1,554 (39%) have been completed as on 26 December, 2018. The following initiatives have been taken, *inter alia*, for the effective implementation of the scheme:—

- 26 schemes have been amended by various Ministries/Departments of Government of India to give priority to SAGY Gram Panchayat projects.
- The Ministry of Rural Development has brought out 'SAMANVAY'-Compilation of 223 Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored and 1806 State schemes for convergence under SAGY for the benefit of Members of Parliament, district and village level officials about the different schemes for multitude of purposes at the GP level.
- The Ministry has developed 35 point indicator to gauge the impact of SAGY in the GPs. Progress is measured through outcome indicators broadly covering basic amenities, education, health, sanitation, livelihood, women empowerment, financial inclusion, food security, social security and e-governance. The impact is measured on quarterly (22 indicators), half yearly (7 indicators) and yearly basis (6 indicators).
- The Ministry prepared and circulated a document named 'SAHYOG', an indicative guide containing essential information on the social security schemes for enriching the knowledge of villagers and village level functionaries to achieve 100% enrollment into the social/financial security schemes in SAGY GPs.
- The Ministry of Rural Development is coordinating with other Central Ministries/Departments to ensure provision of four key basic services viz. power, drinking water, roads and education in all SAGY GPs.

- State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) was constituted in Jharkhand with Chief Secretary as the Chairperson. The committee has met five times and gave directions to the concerned line departments with regard to SAGY GPs.
- Reviews on progress in SAGY GPs were conducted by Principal Secretary, RD with the Deputy Development Commissioners and State Level Nodal Officers nominated by line departments.
- The Government of Jharkhand constituted dedicated Project Management Units for SAGY in the concerned districts with 38 professionals.

Release of funds under PMAY(G) to the State of Telangana

2034. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has released the funds under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin) to the State of Telangana for current financial year 2018-19;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the quantum of funds released so far;
- (d) the balance of funds to be released; and
- (e) the present status of the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) to (e) Against the national target of construction of 1.0 crore PMAY-G houses in the first phase, *i.e.* in three years (2016-17 to 2018-19), the State of Telangana had been allocated 50,959 houses and 19,715 houses for the years 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively and the Central share of ₹ 19078.865 lakh for the year 2016-17 was released to the State of Telangana.

As per para 9.1.1 of Framework for Implementation (FFI) of PMAY-G, the Ministry accepts the progress of PMAY-G as uploaded only on the AwaasSoft portal. The State of Telangana did not populate data on AwaasSoft and hence no progress under PMAY-G is seen on AwaasSoft portal against the State.

The issue of non-implementation of PMAY-G in the State of Telangana was considered by the Empowered Committee (EC) of PMAY-G in the Ministry. Considering no progress was shown by the State under PMAY-G, the EC decided that the State of Telangana will have to return the PMAY-G funds released to MoRD and the targets allocated to the State of Telangana would be allocated to other well performing States/UTs.

It was also decided by the EC that once the Gram Sabha resolution process for finalization of Permanent Wait List (PWL), as envisaged in the Framework for Implementation of PMAY-G, is completed by the State and their names uploaded on AwaasSoft, allocation of the targets to the State of Telangana under PMAY-G will be considered in the next phase of the scheme which starts in the next Financial Year.

Status of MGNREGA in Maharashtra

2035. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated by Government under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) to Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) the amount of beneficiaries under MGNREGA in the State, district-wise; and

(c) the funds likely to be advanced to the State Government under MGNREGA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA) is a demand driven programme hence no State/UT-wise allocation of fund is made. Details of Central fund released to Maharashtra under the MGNREGA during the last three year are as under:—

(₹ in crore)	
Financial Year	Central fund released
2015-16	1238.35
2016-17	1657.09
2017-18	1863.50

(b) District-wise details of households provided employment under MGNREGA during the last three years are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The release of funds is a continuous process. The Ministry releases funds to the States periodically in two tranches with each tranche consisting of one or more installments based on agreed to Labour Budget (LB), opening balance, pending liabilities of the previous year, if any, pace of utilization of funds and overall performance.

Statement

District-wise details of households provided employment in Maharashtra under MGNREGA during the last three years

Sl.No.	Districts	Households provided employment (in Nos.)		
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ahmednagar	28813	46993	50121
2.	Akola	28871	24410	34605
3.	Amravati	63940	74766	92085
4.	Aurangabad	21788	27322	36063
5.	Beed	56097	58025	54953
6.	Bhandara	106426	110407	112669
7.	Buldhana	31255	41334	60412
8.	Chandrapur	92086	90182	96251
9.	Dhule	28998	38981	62282
10.	Gadchiroli	95434	89364	87034
11.	Gondia	107533	120490	163614
12.	Hingoli	17697	18973	23018
13.	Jalgaon	37201	56998	66883
14.	Jalna	36657	37279	41861
15.	Kolhapur	2025	5960	19166
16.	Latur	37887	42105	44664
17.	Nagpur	33858	41799	41359
18.	Nanded	39179	37959	57624
19.	Nandurbar	47823	55087	62618
20.	Nashik	18725	48199	80288
21.	Osmanabad	36855	28683	28791
22.	Palghar	41908	50679	49134
23.	Parbhani	52434	38144	24657
24.	Pune	6530	11994	18447

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Raigad	2482	4984	7414
26.	Ratnagiri	6831	10972	21701
27.	Sangli	23987	26822	20234
28.	Satara	13671	23896	33974
29.	Sindhudurg	11742	14089	18452
30.	Solapur	10061	7137	16589
31.	Thane	7421	16920	15856
32.	Wardha	24224	19921	24427
33.	Washim	39562	34386	43703
34.	Yavatmal	64951	78044	86659
TOTAL		1274952	1433304	1697608

Source: www.nrega.nic.in.

Delay in payment of MGNREGA wages

2036. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether payment of MGNREGA wages have been delayed in eight States since October, if so, the details and reasons therefor;

(b) whether compensation have been provided in each case of delay, if so, State-wise details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) reasons for illegal pegging of MGNREGA wages in 18 States, at less than the minimum wages; and

(d) whether Ministry will take steps to revise the wages upwards, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) and (b) The Ministry has been making all efforts to pay wages in time. States/UTs have been advised to generate pay orders in time. This has resulted in considerable improvement in the status of timely generation of pay order and leading to improvement in actual time taken to credit wages in the workers account. During the current financial Year 2018-19 (as on 28.12.2018), 91.73% pay orders have been generated within 15 days. The delay in payment of

wages are due to implementation issues in the States which include inadequate staffing, non-timely recording and reporting of attendance, measurement, data entry, generation of wage list, Fund Transfer Order (FTO), etc.

As per the provisions under Para 29 of Schedule-II of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, 2005 the compensation for delay in payment of wages is paid to the workers. As per the Management Information System (MIS), State/UT-wise details of delayed compensation paid by State Governments during the current financial year 2018-19 (as on 28.12.2018) is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Wage rates for workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005 are notified and revised annually based on Consumer Price Index-Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL) by the Central Government in accordance with the provisions of Section 6(1) of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA. The revised wage rates are made applicable from 1st April of the year. The CPI-(AL) is published by Labour Bureau, Shimla. For the FY 2018-19, the wage rate has been revised w.e.f. 01.04.2018 based on CPI-(AL).

Statement

State/UT-wise details of delayed compensations paid by State Governments during the current financial year

Sl.No.	States	Delayed compensation paid [in ₹]*
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2047
3.	Assam	168029
4.	Bihar	135315
5.	Chhattisgarh	0
6.	Goa	0
7.	Gujarat	273178
8.	Haryana	45782
9.	Himachal Pradesh	195390
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0
11.	Jharkhand	43951
12.	Karnataka	37903
13.	Kerala	410598

Sl.No.	States	Delayed compensation paid [in ₹]*
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2772124
15.	Maharashtra	1418436
16.	Manipur	0
17.	Meghalaya	135
18.	Mizoram	0
19.	Nagaland	0
20.	Odisha	131
21.	Punjab	82017
22.	Rajasthan	1601791
23.	Sikkim	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	16
25.	Telangana	0
26.	Tripura	2823
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0
28.	Uttarakhand	5021
29.	West Bengal	5468240
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0
31.	Lakshadweep	0
32.	Puducherry	0
TOTAL		12662927

* Figures are reported by State Governments in MIS (as on 28.12.2018).

Upgradation of roads

2037. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is undertaking to upgrade the existing roads in those districts where all the eligible habitations of the designated population size have been provided with all weather road connectivity under PMGSY;

(b) if so, reasons therefor; and

(c) details of the roads in which upgradation work has been undertaken across the country and the amount spent for this during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) and (b) The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) permits the upgradation (to prescribed standards) of the existing roads in those districts where all the eligible habitations of the designated population size have been provided all-weather road connectivity. In respect of districts where no New Connectivity (NC) is required to be done a Comprehensive Upgradation Priority List (CUPL) is prepared on the Pavement Condition Index of the rural through routes of the core network. The CUPL shall be the basis of all upgradation proposals in the districts where no new connectivity remains to be done.

Against the target of upgradation of 2,24,906 km. rural roads covering all States under PMGSY-I, 2,04,905 km. road length have been sanctioned and 1,83,388 km. completed upto November, 2018.

Further, the Government launched a new intervention in the scheme namely PMGSY-II in the year 2013-14 for consolidation of total 50,000 km. existing Rural Road Network to improve its overall efficiency as a provider of transportation services for people, goods and services. 14 States (Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh) have so far transited to PMGSY-II. Till November, 2018, 32,680 km. road length has been cleared and 23,133 km. road length has already constructed by these States.

(c) Details of works completed and amount spent across the country under PMGSY during the last three years are as under:-

Year(s)	Road Works completed (Nos.) i/c Bridges (NC+Upgradation)	Expenditure (₹ in crore)
2015-16	9825	16542.90
2016-17	8528	16093.05
2017-18	9718	17255.45

Status of PMGSY

2038. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had resolved to connect every village under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of roads which are under construction in Jharkhand and Gujarat for the last three years but their construction is yet to be completed; and

(d) whether any time limit has been fixed under PMGSY for construction of all such roads and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) and (b) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a one-time special intervention of the Union Government to provide rural connectivity, by way of single all-weather road, to the eligible unconnected habitations in the core network. Under PMGSY, all eligible unconnected habitations with more than 500 population in plain areas, 250+ population in Special Category States (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand), the Desert Areas (as identified in the District Development Programme), the Tribal (Schedule V) areas and selected Tribal and Backward districts as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs/NITI Aayog as per 2001 Census are to be connected by all-weather road. For critical Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected blocks in nine States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal (as identified by MHA), additional relaxation has been given to connect habitations with population of 100 persons and above.

As reported by the State Government, out of 1,78,184 eligible unconnected habitations in 250+ and 500+ population categories, 1,58,208 habitations have been sanctioned by the Ministry and 1,44,667 habitations have already been provided connectivity till December 27, 2018. Further, States have provided connectivity to 16,310 habitations under their own schemes.

Under 100+ habitation categories, 6,436 habitations have been sanctioned road connectivity and 2,281 habitations have been provided connectivity till December 27, 2018.

(c) and (d) The State Government of Jharkhand has intimated that 1430 road works in the State are pending for more than 3 years. In Gujarat 04 roads are pending for more than 3 years because of the issue of land acquisition.

The target for completion of PMGSY-I aimed at providing all weather connectivity to eligible unconnected habitations in 250+ habitation categories has been advanced to March, 2019. The work for providing connectivity to eligible habitations in 100+

category in LWE blocks is targeted for completion in March, 2020. The progress of implementation of PMGSY is regularly reviewed by way of Regional Review Meetings (RRMs), Performance Review Committee (PRC) Meetings and Pre-Empowered/Empowered Committee Meetings with the States. In addition to this, special review meetings are also held by Secretary/Joint Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development with Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries of the States. The State Governments are regularly advised to convene meetings with the concerned authorities to expedite the matters relating to land issues, forest clearances, etc. so that works can be completed without delay.

Restoration of water bodies

2039. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the vanishing water bodies in rural areas of the country specially in Maharashtra;

(b) whether Government, in consultation with State Governments, has taken steps to restore water bodies in rural areas; and

(c) if so, the details of steps taken and number of water bodies restored, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) The information on vanishing of water bodies is not maintained in the Government for the present. However, Government in Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD&GR) conducts Census of Minor Irrigation Structures in villages. As per the information collected in the 5th Minor Irrigation Census (reference year 2013-14) and 4th Minor Irrigation Census (reference year 2006-07), the total number of water bodies for Minor Irrigation in the country and Maharashtra are as below:—

Minor Irrigation Census (MIC)	Total number of water bodies for Minor Irrigation	
	In the Country	In Maharashtra
4th MIC	5,23,816	88,731
5th MIC	5,16,303	1,14,988

(b) and (c) Works related to water resources development and management are mainly planned, funded, executed and maintained by the State Governments as per their own resources and priorities. However, the efforts of the State Governments are supplemented by Government of India through technical and financial assistance

to State Governments for efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes.

MoWR, RD&GR is implementing the Scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). Under this scheme, works on 1964 water bodies are ongoing (from the beginning of XII plan and taken up thereafter) with estimated cost of ₹ 1697.63 crore. As reported by the States, 664 water bodies have been completed under the programme upto March, 2018. The Central Assistance of ₹ 366.41 crore has been released so far on these structures.

Under PMKSY - Per Drop More Crop Scheme, funds of ₹ 8,447.81 crore have been released to States during 2015-16 to 2018-19 (till 21.12.2018) for enhancing Micro Irrigation coverage and creation of micro water harvesting/storage structures etc. Under this scheme, 1,22,751 water harvesting structures have been created till 21.12.2018.

Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Watershed Development Component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY), which is principally for development of rainfed portions of net cultivated area and culturable wastelands. Under WDC-PMKSY 8214 watershed development projects covering an area of about 39.07 million hectare have been sanctioned in 28 States (except Goa) during the period 2009-10 to 2014-15. The activities undertaken under watershed projects *inter alia* include water harvesting. An amount of ₹ 16,686.36 crore has been released upto 30.11.2018 to States as Central Share for implementation of Watershed Development Projects. As per the information received from the States, 4,49,853 water harvesting structures have been created/rejuvenated under WDC-PMKSY since 2015-16 (upto 30.06.2018).

Under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development, renovation of traditional water bodies is permissible. As per the information received, 82,712 numbers of traditional water bodies have been renovated during 2018-19 (till date) and work is ongoing in 1,50,346 numbers of water bodies in the country. Out of which in Maharashtra, 1,868 numbers of traditional water bodies have been renovated and work is ongoing in 3,121 numbers of water bodies in the current year.

Conversion of village roads into RCC roads

†2040. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any provision to convert chuckroad, linked with roads in villages into RCC roads;

(b) if so, the number of villages located in Azamgarh district linked with such roads are to be converted into RCC roads;

(c) the number of locations at which the roads connected with village Kulesh located in Azamgarh district has been converted into RCC roads; and

(d) if not, by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) to (d) As per para 4(1) IV Category D (ii) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 the following works relating to rural connectivity are permitted "Providing all weather rural road connectivity to unconnected villages and to connect identified rural production centre to the existing pucca road network; and construction of pucca internal roads or streets including side drains and culverts within a village." Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a demand driven Scheme having bottom up approach. Planning and priority are set at the Gram Sabha level. The construction of Cement Concrete (CC) roads, interlocking block roads, kharanja, culverts and grey water/storm drain along these internal village roads can be taken as per demand in the villages/GPs after following Mahatma Gandhi NREGS processes. As per Management Information System (MIS), out of 1871 Gram Panchayats (GPs) in Azamgarh district, since inception 121 works have been completed related to CC Roads under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in 111 GPs.

Lower pension in NSAP

2041. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of eligible persons for pensions in National Social Assistance Programme and the scheme's current outreach, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has recognised the low remuneration rates in National Pensions, which have been only ₹ 200 for ten years now and if so, are there any plans to increase the pensions, if not, the reasons therefor;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether the process of Aadhaar seeding in NSAP has excluded many eligible households, as found in many researches and news articles;

(d) if so, the plan of Government to get them re-included into the list of eligible beneficiaries; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) State/UT-wise details of number of beneficiaries under the pension schemes of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) For taking informed decision for revamping the NSAP scheme by way of changes in admissible rates and the eligibility criteria, Ministry of Rural Development has initiated steps for comprehensive third party evaluation of the scheme and further steps for revamping of the scheme are contingent upon availability of recommendations and decisions taken thereon in consultation with the States/UTs.

(c) to (e) No instructions have been issued by Ministry of Rural Development for discontinuation of pension entitlements under the NSAP in want of Aadhaar seeding of the Bank accounts.

Further, no grievances complaining the discontinuation of pension in want of Aadhaar seeding have been received in Ministry of Rural Development. However, in implementation of directions of the Apex Court, recently States have been requested to expedite the Aadhaar based validation of the beneficiaries after obtaining the due consent.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of beneficiaries under pension schemes of NSAP

Sl.No	Name of State/UT	Number of NSAP beneficiaries
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	620
2.	Andhra Pradesh	932661
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5839
4.	Assam	864275
5.	Bihar	3757276
6.	Chandigarh	4950
7.	Chhattisgarh	837692
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9700

Sl.No	Name of State/UT	Number of NSAP beneficiaries
9.	Daman and Diu	1376
10.	Delhi	142724
11.	Goa	2061
12.	Gujarat	745896
13.	Haryana	327269
14.	Himachal Pradesh	115821
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	143220
16.	Jharkhand	1295933
17.	Karnataka	1399063
18.	Kerala	688329
19.	Lakshadweep	344
20.	Madhya Pradesh	2205963
21.	Maharashtra	1163161
22.	Manipur	61306
23.	Meghalaya	54074
24.	Mizoram	27569
25.	Nagaland	49208
26.	Odisha	2036781
27.	Puducherry	28757
28.	Punjab	139642
29.	Rajasthan	1134860
30.	Sikkim	18849
31.	Tamil Nadu	1840588
32.	Telangana	666553
33.	Tripura	156248
34.	Uttarakhand	191597
35.	Uttar Pradesh	5279086
36.	West Bengal	2154499
	TOTAL	28483790

Payment of wages in MGNREGS

2042. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the prevailing system of payment of wages under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);

(b) whether wages are paid at a uniform rate in all the States; and

(c) if not, the details of the prevailing wage rate under MGNREGS, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) The Government has started National Electronic Fund Management System (NeFMS) in 24 States and 1 UT for direct payment of wages into workers account. In remaining States, the payments are made based on electronic Fund Management System (eFMS).

(b) and (c) Wage rates for workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005 are notified and revised annually based on Consumer Price Index-Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL) by the Central Government in accordance with the provisions of Section 6(1) of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA. The revised wage rates are made applicable from 1st April of the year. The CPI (AL) is published by Labour Bureau, Shimla. State/UT-wise notified wage rates under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA during the current FY 2018-19 are given in the Statement.

Statement***State/UT-wise wage rate under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA***

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Wage rate in ₹ per day <i>w.e.f.</i> 1st April, 2018
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	₹205.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	₹177.00
3.	Assam	₹189.00
4.	Bihar	₹168.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	₹174.00
6.	Gujarat	₹194.00
7.	Goa	₹254.00

1	2	3
8.	Haryana	281.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Non-scheduled Areas-₹184.00 Scheduled Areas-₹230.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	₹186.00
11.	Jharkhand	₹168.00
12.	Karnataka	₹249.00
13.	Kerala	₹271.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	₹174.00
15.	Maharashtra	₹203.00
16.	Manipur	₹209.00
17.	Meghalaya	₹181.00
18.	Mizoram	₹194.00
19.	Nagaland	₹177.00
20.	Odisha	₹182.00
21.	Punjab	₹240.00
22.	Rajasthan	₹192.00
23.	Sikkim	₹177.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	₹224.00
25.	Telangana	₹205.00
26.	Tripura	₹177.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	₹175.00
28.	Uttarakhand	₹175.00
29.	West Bengal	₹191.00
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Andaman District ₹250.00 Nicobar District ₹264.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	₹220.00
32.	Daman and Diu	₹197.00
33.	Lakshadweep	₹248.00
34.	Puducherry	₹224.00
35.	Chandigarh	₹273.00

Funds for MGNREGA

2043. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of MGNREGA funds sanctioned/released to the State Governments during the last three years, State/year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that inadequate funds were released by the Union Government to the State Government in these years;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the funds pending to be released to the State Governments, State/year-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to clear all the dues to the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) State/UT-wise details of Central fund released during the last three years under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA) is a demand driven wage employment programme. The Ministry releases funds to the States based on the basis of the agreed to Labour Budget, opening balance, pending liabilities of the previous year for the financial year, if any, and overall performance. Fund release to States/UTs is a continuous process and Central Government is committed in making funds available keeping in view the demand for work. During the current F.Y. 2018-19 (as on 26.12.2018), an amount of ₹ 52,48,242.52 lakh has been released to States/UTs for liquidating the pending liability of wage component and for running the programme during F.Y. 2018-19.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of Central fund released during MGNREGS

(₹ in lakh)

Sl.No.	States	2015-16	2016-17*	2017-18**
1.	Andhra Pradesh	307380.33	394021.19	513947.92
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4395.10	15675.99	20717.18
3.	Assam	87830.06	125459.79	112734.56
4.	Bihar	102412.26	166740.56	247432.12

Sl.No.	States	2015-16	2016-17*	2017-18**
5.	Chhattisgarh	106341.30	223193.55	291154.33
6.	Gujarat	30598.72	64323.81	82688.22
7.	Haryana	12470.72	28771.33	30140.64
8.	Himachal Pradesh	39610.32	38860.83	58824.48
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	55801.83	80408.52	125417.69
10.	Jharkhand	97879.90	167914.17	136076.31
11.	Karnataka	99155.27	225864.88	296448.54
12.	Kerala	152633.88	158248.96	185824.77
13.	Madhya Pradesh	236732.20	344891.62	377770.49
14.	Maharashtra	123834.73	165708.93	186350.34
15.	Manipur	25532.29	34370.41	15853.20
16.	Meghalaya	22182.56	86069.23	87424.89
17.	Mizoram	28517.36	14451.26	20155.36
18.	Nagaland	26665.95	50152.80	110738.62
19.	Odisha	147941.05	189526.84	220366.86
20.	Punjab	24533.37	49073.46	62141.23
21.	Rajasthan	269583.23	481816.86	472828.41
22.	Sikkim	8623.44	13262.56	10636.13
23.	Tamil Nadu	547037.47	455277.91	585644.33
24.	Telangana	182484.92	180684.74	254806.87
25.	Tripura	135894.19	101629.14	40740.93
26.	Uttar Pradesh	269569.44	391584.94	370223.71
27.	Uttarakhand	45076.65	51435.08	71865.11
28.	West Bengal	471174.20	537722.79	596035.58
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1035.72	801.40	966.07
30.	Lakshadweep	11.85	0.00	26.71
31.	Puducherry	1292.57	346.92	1569.03
32.	Goa	246.82	425.85	56.05
TOTAL		3664479.70	4838716.30	5587606.67

* After excluding the amount of failed FTOs, the final total amount released is ₹ 47,82,448.31 lakh.

** After excluding the amount of failed FTOs, the final total amount released is ₹ 54,50,716.17 lakh.

Status of PMAY

†2044. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families which benefited under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana till 2018;

(b) the policy of Government to provide benefits under the scheme to those poor families whose names were left out in the list of socio-economic survey of year 2011 for certain reasons;

(c) whether a re-survey would be conducted and those families would be given benefits under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana; and

(d) by when the families living in kutchha houses would be provided pucca houses in rural areas under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) to (d) Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) came into effect from 01.04.2016 to fulfil the Government's vision of "Housing for All by 2022". Under PMAY-G, against the target of construction of 1.0 crore houses in the first phase (2016-17 to 2018-19), 94,45,886 houses have been sanctioned to the beneficiaries as on 27.12.2018.

As per Framework for Implementation of PMAY-G, for the inclusion of the beneficiaries not covered under SECC, 2011, the Gram Sabha/Village Sabha or the lowest unit of local self Government, as recognized by the respective State/UT Panchayat Act, may record a separate list in the Gram Sabha resolution with reasons about households not included in the priority list, but otherwise found eligible during the proceedings of the Gram Sabha. Claimants other than those endorsed in the Gram Sabha resolution for inclusion in the list, may submit their claims to the Competent Authority within a period of six months from the day of the passing of resolution by the Gram Sabha/Village Sabha or the lowest unit of local self Government as recognized by the respective State/UT Panchayat Act. The Competent Authority shall enquire into the list, as endorsed by the Gram Sabha/Village Sabha or the lowest unit of local self Government as recognized by the respective State/UT Panchayat Act, as well as the representations received directly and submit report to the Appellate Committee. Based on the merit of the claim, the Appellate Committee may recommend including these households in the universe of beneficiaries of PMAY-G. The detailed

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

procedure for submission of reports by Competent Authority and disposal of cases by the Appellate Committee, including timely disposal, is decided by the respective State/UT.

The list of households proposed to be included in the universe, as recommended by the Appellate Committee, will be prepared Gram Panchayat and community-wise. The decision on inclusion of these households into the Permanent Wait List shall be made after obtaining the approval of Competent Authority in the Central Government on recommendation of the State Governments.

The Ministry of Rural Development has developed a separate mobile application (Awaas+) and module in AwaasSoft wherein, geo-tagged photographs of existing land/dwellings and other details of households could be captured and stored Gram-Panchayat-wise. All States/UTs were requested to identify additional eligible households and upload their details on Awaassoft using 'Awaas+' by 30th November, 2018.

Status of MGNREGA

2045. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India has given strong emphasis on implementation of MGNREGA in the different States, if so, the number of mandays created during last three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the amount of money spent during last three years, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA) provides at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The Government is actively engaged with the State Governments in establishing systems that ensure provision of work as per demand. The details of persondays generated during the last three years are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) State/UT-wise details of expenditure reported by States in Management Information System (MIS) under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the last three years are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I*Details of persondays generated during the last three years*

Sl.No.	States	Persondays generated (in lakh)		
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1992.10	2058.78	2120.28
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	50.45	85.35	42.80
3.	Assam	486.33	466.09	481.13
4.	Bihar	670.92	858.36	817.65
5.	Chhattisgarh	1013.97	885.94	1199.29
6.	Goa	1.07	1.26	0.99
7.	Gujarat	225.41	271.06	353.09
8.	Haryana	48.48	84.92	90.37
9.	Himachal Pradesh	177.71	236.61	220.06
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	316.32	315.59	374.87
11.	Jharkhand	585.61	707.44	592.75
12.	Karnataka	598.38	914.06	857.57
13.	Kerala	741.74	684.62	619.59
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1237.42	1130.39	1622.64
15.	Maharashtra	763.37	708.98	825.32
16.	Manipur	75.33	119.03	61.25
17.	Meghalaya	199.71	282.55	291.88
18.	Mizoram	131.26	168.23	144.38
19.	Nagaland	212.07	290.71	235.64
20.	Odisha	894.46	774.48	922.12
21.	Punjab	144.34	157.73	223.14
22.	Rajasthan	2341.25	2596.74	2397.74
23.	Sikkim	43.84	46.12	34.61
24.	Tamil Nadu	3686.75	3999.42	2388.81
25.	Telangana	1417.76	1082.19	1147.53
26.	Tripura	538.76	460.67	176.04

1	2	3	4	5
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1822.22	1575.02	1816.37
28.	Uttarakhand	223.87	236.71	223.04
29.	West Bengal	2864.97	2355.51	3125.57
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2.68	4.12	1.90
31.	Lakshadweep	0.03	0.00	0.06
32.	Puducherry	5.62	5.37	7.26
TOTAL		23514.19	23564.07	23415.74

Source: www.nrega.nic.in.

Statement-II

State/UT-wise details of expenditure in MIS under MGNREGS during last three years

Sl. No.	States	Expenditure reported by States in MIS (in lakh)		
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	470649.26	456873.10	607822.72
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6623.65	15626.21	22587.63
3.	Assam	62049.13	150108.30	153074.48
4.	Bihar	162574.63	219263.39	293106.87
5.	Chhattisgarh	128295.83	275261.70	331079.25
6.	Goa	300.59	400.32	286.66
7.	Gujarat	42860.59	74207.31	89321.70
8.	Haryana	14235.52	32462.70	31906.39
9.	Himachal Pradesh	39198.89	56296.89	56792.59
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	76687.98	83444.73	116762.19
11.	Jharkhand	133136.84	184078.31	152925.00
12.	Karnataka	182193.88	330842.85	300038.76
13.	Kerala	148339.97	242289.58	190193.15
14.	Madhya Pradesh	250099.15	364780.24	425328.37
15.	Maharashtra	185737.46	209431.20	230813.26
16.	Manipur	23122.01	36979.64	19506.97

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Meghalaya	27230.73	79436.86	113471.02
18.	Mizoram	29859.36	14983.11	21227.98
19.	Nagaland	19485.31	61872.72	96835.36
20.	Odisha	205152.05	213587.79	250529.78
21.	Punjab	30026.61	53359.18	63817.95
22.	Rajasthan	326732.31	515414.69	513815.21
23.	Sikkim	9522.47	13747.93	12483.82
24.	Tamil Nadu	602754.29	567784.81	635445.85
25.	Telangana	240732.19	210571.90	278411.62
26.	Tripura	137129.93	120027.52	46645.35
27.	Uttar Pradesh	297615.99	425467.10	450295.68
28.	Uttarakhand	49255.36	72024.25	69245.03
29.	West Bengal	484590.19	724605.31	791464.17
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	398.69	267.60	417.31
31.	Lakshadweep	29.83	20.37	21.22
32.	Puducherry	917.82	1100.51	1450.35
TOTAL		4387538.51	5806618.12	6367123.69

Source: www.nrega.nic.in.

Technology Enabling Centre in Tezpur University

2046. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had chosen Tezpur University of Assam as one of the model centres in the North Eastern Region for establishing Technology Enabling Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with infrastructural and financial support; and

(c) the details of funding of TEC which will benefit the North Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. HARSH VARDHAN):

(a) The Government has chosen Tezpur University of Assam as one of the centres in the North Eastern Region for establishing Technology Enabling Centre (TEC).

(b) and (c) The scheme envisages supporting the TEC for manpower, travel, contingency, consumables, one time capital grant for setting up the office and activities like technology awareness workshops, technology related training programmes, interactive meets with industry etc.

Dual time zone in the country

2047. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan of considering dual time zone in the country, in view of time gap between Eastern and Western States of India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. HARSH VARDHAN):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The matter regarding dual time zone in the country, in view of time gap between Eastern and Western States of India was examined by a High Level Committee (HLC) comprising Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Director, CSIR-NPL and Chief Secretary, Government of Tripura. The HLC after considering the issue recommended, not to have dual time zones for the country due to strategic reasons.

Utility of research institutions for rural areas

†2048. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the research and development institutions and the scientific community funded by Government are capable to meet the requirements of rural regions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the utility of research and development institutions and the scientific community for welfare of rural regions in the country?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. HARSH VARDHAN):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Ministry of Science and Technology has taken various steps to improve the utility of research and development institutions and the scientific community for welfare

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of rural regions in the country. The projects supported in the rural areas are being continuously monitored to improve the utility of research for welfare of rural regions in the country. Necessary initiatives are being taken by building human capacities and skills through local institutional arrangements. The Science and Technology Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO)'s have strong linkages with nearby research and development/science and technology institutions to identify technology gaps and address location specific challenges in rural regions through appropriate science and technology inputs. Department of Science and Technology had initiated Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Vigyan Gram Sankul Pariyojana in four clusters covering 60 villages in Uttarakhand. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and its 38 constituent laboratories spread across the country have been playing important role in providing the necessary S&T knowledge base needed for the social and economic development for the rural regions of the country. CSIR operated project activities under 'CSIR-800' programme aim at bringing in desired Science and Technology interventions for improving quality of life of rural people at base of the economic pyramid. The Geophysical studies carried out by Indian Institute of Geomagnetism (IIG) are of considerable significance in terms of societal issues like groundwater exploration and protection from pollution, in parched State of Maharashtra, which have a direct societal impact. Indian National Science Academy (INSA) launched a programme under which lecture-cum-interaction meetings were organized by the INSA Fellows/Young scientist awardees/Teacher awardees at schools/colleges in areas which were away from the urban areas to develop scientific temperament among the young students of rural/remote areas. In a similar manner, several institutions of Ministry of Science and Technology are making efforts to improve the quality of life in the rural regions of the country.

DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill, 2018

2049. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether consultations were carried out during drafting of DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill, 2018, if so, details of stakeholders consulted and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) reasons for introducing the Bill at this time when India is yet to enact a personal data protection legislation and how would differences be reconciled;

(c) reasons for ignoring the concerns made by AP Shah Committee on the issue of breach of privacy by DNA profiling; and

(d) reasons for not having any legal requirement under Bill for data breaches of the proposed DNA banks to be disclosed either to Government or to the data subjects?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. HARSH VARDHAN):

(a) Yes Sir, draft Bill was placed for the public comments and also sent for consultations with Ministries/Departments concerned *i.e.* Ministry of Home Affairs; Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance; Bureau of Police Research and Development; National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories; Council of Scientific and Industrial Research; National Crime Record Bureau; NITI Aayog (formerly Planning Commission); Department of Science and Technology and Legislative Department, Department of Legal Affairs, M/o Law and Justice. The draft Bill was also discussed by an Expert Committee on privacy related issues. The comments received from the public and Ministries/Departments concerned were incorporated appropriately in the draft Bill.

(b) and (c) The Bill has provisions to ensure privacy protection including the accuracy, security and confidentiality of DNA information. Under Chapter VI '*Protection of Information*', there are provisions to ensure that the information relating to DNA profiles, DNA samples and any records thereof forwarded to, or in custody of the National DNA Data Bank or the Regional DNA Data Bank or a DNA laboratory or any other person or authority, are secured and kept confidential and shall be used only for the purposes of facilitating identification of the person and not for any other purpose. The data maintained in the DNA Data Bank shall be made available only for the purposes as specified in the Bill.

(d) The Bill under Chapter VII '*Offences and Penalties*', has provisions for penalty with imprisonment for unlawful access to information in DNA Data Bank and obtaining information, using DNA sample or result without authorization and for destruction, alterations, contamination or tampering with biological evidence.

Vigyan Jyoti Programme

2050. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) details of the Vigyan Jyoti Programme launched by the Ministry to inculcate scientific temperament among school girls;

(b) whether the Ministry has monitored in a structured way, the impact of this programme since its inception; and

(c) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. HARSH VARDHAN):

(a) Vigyan Jyoti Programme has been launched in pilot mode during the year 2017-18 to enhance participation of girls in higher education and careers in Science and Engineering. In March 2018, Fifteen (15) pilot projects were sanctioned to premier educational institutions in different parts of the country. Under these projects, three weeks' residential programme was conducted for meritorious girls studying in Class IX and XI wherein around 450 students were mentored to pursue higher studies and careers in Science and Engineering through subject specific modules including hands-on experimentation, laboratory visits, career counseling, parents' counseling and expert lectures, etc. In order to inculcate scientific temperament at early stage, one pilot project was also conducted for students (both girls and boys) of Class VI to VIII at Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar with focus on learning of scientific principles through live models. Sixty (60) students were benefitted by this project.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Department of Science and Technology (DST) conducted review meeting on 27 July, 2018 to monitor the impact of Vigyan Jyoti Pilot Programme. Participating students attended Vigyan Jyoti Programme in all the institutions unanimously appreciated this programme as they got exposure of premier academic institutions including visit to laboratories and interaction with subject experts. Furthermore, this pilot project has also given direction for their career path in Science and Technology (S&T) domain.

GST exemption for Vallapadam Container Terminal

2051. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the memorandum from the Kerala Government to exempt the Vallapadam Container Terminal from GST is under consideration;

(b) whether any concrete decisions were taken in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal from the Kerala Government to exempt the Vallapadam Container Terminal from GST has been received and is under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Shareholder participation of IWAI in Kerala Waterways

2052. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new stretches added to the National Waterways in Kerala and the status of its development including the detailed project report and estimated time of completion;

(b) whether Government has agreed to participate as a shareholder through Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) in Kerala Waterways and Infrastructure Ltd. (KWIL);

(c) if so, the details thereof, including the per centage of shareholding by the IWAI;

(d) whether Kerala Government had written a letter to the Central Government regarding share of participation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) National Waterway (NW-3) in Kerala from Kollam to Kottapuram of West Coast Canal and Champakara and Udyogamandal Canals (205 km.) originally declared in 1993 is fully operational with 24 hours navigational facilities and eight permanent intermodal terminals with storage facilities and mechanized equipment for loading/unloading of cargo. NW-3 was further extended by 165 km in the north up to Kozhikode from Kottapuram along with the following three new NWs connected to NW-3 in Kerala through National Waterways Act, 2016:—

(i) NW-8 : Alapuzha-Changanassery Canal (29 km.)

(ii) NW-9 : Alapuzha-Kottayam – Athirampuzha Canal (40 km.)

(iii) NW-59: Kottayam-Vaikom Canal (19 km.)

The status of development of new NWs of Kerala is given in the Statement (See below).

(b) to (e) The Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal for further expansion of NW-3, from Kollam to Kovalam 78 km. in the south, and from Kozhikode to Bekal 205 km. in the north. Further, for facilitating development of inland waterways in Kerala, the Government of Kerala *vide* its order dated 18.8.2018 has suggested formation of a new Public Limited Company, Kerala Waterways and

Infrastructures Limited (KWIL) with Government of India/Inland Waterways Authority of India share of equity not exceeding 49% and the remaining equity to be held by Government of Kerala (26%) and Cochin International Airport Limited (25%). It has been decided to first undertake development in the existing stretch of NW-3 and not to extend it further.

Statement

Status of development of new National Waterways in Kerala

Sl.No.	New NWs	Status of Development
1.	Extension of NW-3 (Kottapuram-Kozhikode on West Coast canal-165 km.)	Detailed Project Report (DPR) being finalized by IWAI.
2.	NW-8: Alapuzha-Changanassery Canal (29 km.)	DPR received*. Development proposed in 2019-20.
3.	NW-9: Alapuzha-Kottayam-Athirampuzha Canal (40 km.)	DPR received. Development initiated in 2017-18. Night navigation facilities have been procured and installed. Dredging is proposed Departmentally.
4.	NW-59: Kottayam-Vaikom Canal (19 km)	DPR received.*

* Based on the findings of DPR, contours of development are to be drawn up.

Implementation of NMDP for medium ports

2053. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) being implemented by Government for expansion/development/modernisation of medium ports;

(b) the details of such projects implemented or proposed to be implemented under public private partnership mode;

(c) the funds allocated and released for the purchase, during each of the last three years and the current year along with the requirement of funds for implementation of these projects, port-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by Government to expedite the work of these projects and the progress made so far in this regard and implementation of the remaining projects, port-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Under the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP),

276 projects were identified for implementation over the period from 01.04.2005 to 31.03.2012. These projects include construction/upgradation of berths, deepening of channels, rail/road connectivity projects, equipment upgradation/modernisation for creation of backup facilities. Total investment involved under the Programme was ₹ 1,00,339 crores, out of which, ₹ 55,804 crores was for the Port Sector and the balance was for the Shipping and Inland Water Transport Sectors.

(b) and (c) The port-wise position of projects implemented and projects under implementation under Public Private Partnership mode is given in the Statement-I (See below). Expansion, modernization and upgradation of Major Ports in the country is an ongoing process to keep the ports abreast with new technologies and also to promote trade and cargo. The process *inter alia* involves construction of new berths and terminals, mechanization of existing berth and terminals, capital dredging for deepening of drafts for attracting large vessels in port channels, road and rail connectivity etc. Port projects are generally implemented from either Port fund or through raising debt and also under PPP mode. The GBS released to various Major Ports during 2018-19 and the preceding three years is given in the Statement-II (See below).

(d) Government of India has taken many steps to expedite the early completion of projects such as enhanced delegation of financial power to Major Ports, revised security clearance guidelines issued for bidders in respect of PPP and dredging projects, revising guidelines issued by Tariff Authority for Major Ports (TAMP) to fix market determined rate etc. The Model Concession Agreement (MCA) for PPP projects in port sector has also been revised.

Statement-I

*Port-wise position of projects implemented and under implementation under
Public Private Partnership mode*

Sl.No.	Name of the Port	PPP Projects implemented	PPP Projects under implementation
1	2	3	4
1.	Kolkata	2	1
2.	Paradip	8	3
3.	Vishakhapatnam	8	2
4.	Kamarajar (Ennore)	4	3
5.	Chennai	3	-

1	2	3	4
6.	V.O Chidambarnar (Tuticorin)	4	1
7.	Cochin	4	
8.	New Mangalore	2	1
9.	Mormugao	2	1
10.	Mumbai	1	-
11.	Jawaharlal Nehru	4	1
12.	Deendayal (Kandla)	9	2
TOTAL		51	15

Statement-II*GBS granted to Major Ports*

Sl.No.	Year	Fund Released (₹ in crores)
1.	2015-16	204.99
2.	2016-17	254.62
3.	2017-18	291.68
4.	2018-19	379.21

(As on 30.11.2018)

RoRo services between Dhubri and Hatsingmari

2054. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of status of National Waterway-4;

(b) by when fairway development and floating terminals at Muktiyala and Vijayawada are going to be established;

(c) whether RoRo services on the lines, started between Dhubri and Hatsingmari are going to be introduced in NW-4; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) The Kakinada-Puducherry stretch of canals and the Kaluvelly tank, Bhadrachalam-Rajahmundry stretch of river Godavari and Wazirabad-

Vijayawada stretch of river Krishna with a total length of 1,078 kms. was declared as National Waterway-4 (NW-4) in 2008. The stretch was further extended upto Nashik in Godavari and upto Galagali in river Krishna in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry under the National Waterways Act, 2016. The length of NW-4 is 2890 kms. and it is planned to be developed in three phases:—

- (i) Phase-I: Vijayawada to Muktyala stretch of Krishna River.
- (ii) Phase-II: Kakinada to Vijayawada and Rajahmundry to Polavaram after completion of Phase-I.
- (iii) Phase-III: Remaining stretches of NW-4 after completion of Phase-I and Phase-II

Development work of Phase-I of NW-4 at a cost of ₹ 96 crore has already commenced. The Status of work for development of fairway and terminals is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Ro-Ro Services between Ibrahimpatnam and Lingayapalam, for transportation of construction materials on NW-4 (river Krishna) is already under operation, which is on similar lines to that of Dhubri and Hatsingimari.

- (d) Do not arise.

Statement

Status of Fairway Development and Terminals in Phase-I, Vijayawada to Muktyala stretch of river Krishna, (NW-4)

Sl.No.	Work	Status
1.	Dredging from Vijayawada to Muktyala.	In progress with scheduled completion by June, 2019
2.	Four Floating Terminals at:— (a) Durga Ghat (b) Bhavani Island (c) Amravati (d) Vedadri	Establishment of floating terminals to be completed by March, 2019.
3.	Three Fixed Terminals at:— (a) Ibrahimpatnam (b) Harischandrapuram (c) Muktyala	Land acquisition for the construction of terminals is in progress in consultation with the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Establishment of Dugarajapatnam Port

2055. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any progress in the establishment of Dugarajapatnam Port in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the work could not commence, though A.P. Reorganisation Act, mandates that the first phase of the Port shall be completed by 2018; and

(c) whether State has brought any alternative proposals before Government instead of construction of Dugarajapatnam Port and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) The development of a new Major Port at Duggirajapatnam Port in Andhra Pradesh is included in Schedule XIII of the AP Reorganisation Act, 2014. The development of new Major Port at Duggirajapatnam was examined by NITI Aayog in consultation with Ministry of Shipping, Ministry of Finance and Government of Andhra Pradesh and it has been concluded that the project will not be viable due to strong competition from nearby Ports of Krishnapatnam, Ennore and Chennai which are 40, 80 and 80 kms. away respectively from the proposed Port. Ministry of Shipping has requested Government of Andhra Pradesh to furnish comments on the recommendations of NITI Aayog along with suggestions for alternate site (s) for development of a Major Port. However, State Government of Andhra Pradesh has not brought any alternate proposal before Government.

Development of new major port at Dugarajapatnam

2056. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:

SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the provision of AP Reorganisation Act, 2014, Government is going to develop a new major port at Dugarajapatnam with a target to complete phase I by end of 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry is considering or has taken a final decision to fulfil the mandatory assurance given in the act for the said port;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (e) The development of a new Major Port at Duggirajupatnam Port in Andhra Pradesh is included in Schedule XIII of the AP Reorganisation Act, 2014. The development of new Major Port at Duggirajupatnam was examined by NITI Aayog in consultation with Ministry of Shipping, Ministry of Finance and Government of Andhra Pradesh and it has been concluded that the project will not be viable due to strong competition from nearby Ports of Krishnapatnam, Ennore and Chennai which are 40, 80 and 80 kilometres away, respectively, from the proposed Port. Ministry of Shipping has requested Government of Andhra Pradesh to furnish comments on the recommendations of NITI Aayog along with suggestions for alternate site (s) for development of a Major Port. The response from Government of Andhra Pradesh is still awaited. Ministry of Shipping, in the meanwhile, has constituted an Expert Committee to examine the issue and recommend further course of action.

Cleaning of Ganga river by NGRBA

2057. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of break-up of total expenditure by National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA), from 2014-2018;

(b) the projects sanctioned under 'Namami Gange Programme', number of projects which have been completed and are operational;

(c) the tangible improvements, if any, due to the efforts made and the details thereof;

(d) whether amount of Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand in the Ganga river, changed over the time from 2014-18;

(e) whether the amount of Dissolved Oxygen has also changed;

(f) whether Government has completed its long-term action plan to clean and maintain the Ganga river; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) The details of breakup of the total expenditure by National Ganga River Basin Authority for period 2014-15 to 7.10.2016 and National Mission for Clean Ganga

for period 7.10.2016 to 2017-18 are given below:—

State/UT/Agencies	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19* (Upto 30th Nov., 2018)
Expenditure	170.99	602.60	1,062.81	1,625.11	1,532.59

(b) Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in addressing the challenges of pollution of river Ganga (including its tributaries) by providing financial and technical assistance. Under Namami Gange Programme, variety of coordinated activities meant for cleaning of river Ganga have been taken up. So far, a total of 254 projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of ₹ 24,672 crore, out of which 75 projects have been completed and made operational.

(c) Out of 75 completed projects, 31 sewerage infrastructure projects have been completed which have created/rehabilitated 560.19 Million Liters Per Day (MLD) of Sewage Treatment capacity resulting in reducing the discharge of untreated sewage to river Ganga and its tributaries.

(d) and (e) Under the Namami Gange programme, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is carrying out the water quality monitoring of river Ganga. The observed water quality of last 4 years of river Ganga indicates that Dissolved Oxygen which is an indicator of river health has been found to be within acceptable limits of notified primary bathing water quality criteria and satisfactory to support the ecosystem of river across all seasons and also for almost entire stretch of river Ganga.

Due to various pollution abatement initiatives taken by the Government under the Namami Gange programme, the river water quality assessment has shown improvement in consecutive years. The water quality assessment in 2018 has shown improved water quality trend as compared to 2017. The Dissolved Oxygen levels have improved at 39 locations, Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels and Faecal coliforms have decreased at 42 and 47 locations, respectively.

Similarly, the river water quality assessment carried out in 2017 indicates improvement in water quality trends as compared to 2016. The Dissolved Oxygen levels have improved at 33 locations and is above the primary bathing water quality requirements of 5 mg/l, Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels and Faecal coliforms have decreased at 26 locations and at 30 locations, respectively.

River Cleaning is a continuous process and under the Namami Gange programme, several initiatives have been taken by Government of India which includes abatement and control of pollution at the source of pollution generation by adopting activities

such as establishment/upgradation of Sewage Treatment Plants for the towns located on Ganga main stem and its tributaries, surface cleaning activities and solid waste management. The outputs of these projects have started yielding results and the water quality will further improve once all the projects are operationalized.

(f) and (g) The Government of India has launched Namami Gange Programme covering short term, medium term and long term activities. Under Short term activities certain entry level activities which cover development of ghats and crematoria and river surface cleaning activities etc. have been taken up. Under medium term activities, existing sewage treatment plant (STP) and effluent treatment plan (ETP) are being upgraded and new STP and ETPs are being established. Besides, rural sanitation has been taken up in the villages on the banks of river Ganga. Efforts are being made to complete short term and medium term activities by 2020. The long term action plan involves restoration of wholesomeness of river Ganga and maintaining its ecological and geological identity of river.

Towards the long term planning Central Government have issued notification on minimum environmental flow on river Ganga to be maintained at various locations on the river.

The Ganga River Basin Management Plan (GRBMP) has been prepared by a consortium of seven IITs for identifying thrust areas and action points for Namami Gange Programme.

An Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been entered into with IIT, Kanpur for setting up of Centre for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies (C-Ganga) for continual scientific support to NMCG for a period of ten years.

Fluoride contamination in the country

†2058. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) number of blocks having fluoride contamination in water in the country, State-wise details thereof;

(b) action plans being run by Central Government to solve the problem of fluoride contamination in water; and

(c) efforts made by Central Government in these blocks to maintain the quality of water?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) to (c) As intimated by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MoDWS), State-wise number of fluoride affected habitations as reported by the States in their Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) as on 26.12.2018 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Water being a State subject, initiatives for water management including its improvement in quality is primarily States' responsibility. For improving the coverage of safe drinking water to rural population, MoDWS supplements the efforts of the States by providing them with technical and financial assistance through the centrally sponsored scheme National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). However, it is the State Governments who plan, design, approve, execute, operate and maintain the infrastructure created under the schemes for providing safe drinking water. The funds provided to the States under NRDWP can be utilized for taking up schemes in water quality affected areas on priority including fluoride affected areas.

MoDWS has further intimated that to deal with fluoride contamination, Government of India had released ₹ 1,000 crore in March, 2016 for commissioning of Community Water Purification Plants (CWPPs) and last mile connectivity of piped water supply schemes.

In addition, the MoDWS had launched National Water Quality Sub-Mission (NWQSM) on 22.03.17 to provide safe drinking water to 27,544 arsenic/fluoride affected rural habitations in a span of 4 years, subject to availability of funds.

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) generally carries out exploratory drilling to delineate contamination free aquifer zones and the data/information so generated, is shared with States/Union Territories. The data/information may be used by States/Union Territories for constructing contamination free wells.

As informed by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), following steps have been taken to prevent/control water pollution:—

- (i) Regulation of industrial pollution has been implemented through various provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 by issuing 'consent to establish' and 'consent to operate' by the respective State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) and Pollution Control Committee (PCC).
- (ii) CPCB has stipulated general discharge standards and industry specific effluent discharge standards under Environment (Protection) Rules 1986 so as to prevent pollution of water bodies.

- (iii) CPCB has issued directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to SPCBs/PCCs on 21.4.2015 for treatment and utilization of sewage.
- (iv) CPCB has issued directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for 'Treatment and Utilization of Sewage for Restoration of Water Quality of River' to Municipal Commissioners of 46 metropolitan cities and 20 State capitals on 9th October, 2015.
- (v) Directions were issued under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to seven Ganga River Basin SPCBs (Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal SPCBs) to ensure implementation of 'Zero Liquid Discharge' in molasses based distilleries during the year 2016 for protection of the water quality of rivers and streams in Ganga River Basin.
- (vi) With respect to industrial effluents, consent management for compliance of standards is being enforced by SPCBs/PCCs to improve the water quality of the rivers.
- (vii) The continuous water quality monitoring systems are being established on industrial units in the country through the directives issued by CPCB for getting real time information on the effluent quality and non-complying units had been identified and appropriate actions taken.

Statement

State-wise number of fluoride affected habitations as reported by the States in Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry as on 26.12.2018

Sl.No.	State	Number of Fluoride affected habitations as on 26.12.2018
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	319
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4.	Assam	262
5.	Bihar	781
6.	Chhattisgarh	282

1	2	3
7.	Goa	0
8.	Gujarat	0
9.	Haryana	103
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	4
12.	Jharkhand	198
13.	Karnataka	458
14.	Kerala	32
15.	Madhya Pradesh	140
16.	Maharashtra	63
17.	Manipur	0
18.	Meghalaya	0
19.	Mizoram	0
20.	Nagaland	0
21.	Odisha	98
22.	Puducherry	0
23.	Punjab	299
24.	Rajasthan	5176
25.	Sikkim	0
26.	Tamil Nadu	0
27.	Telangana	0
28.	Tripura	0
29.	Uttar Pradesh	178
30.	Uttarakhand	0
31.	West Bengal	1263
TOTAL		9656

Kanhar Barrage scheme on Son river

†2059. SHRI GOPAL NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kanhar Barrage scheme was constructed on the Son river which flows along the borders of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the present position of the scheme; and

(c) whether Government has any action plan to take major steps towards a permanent solution in this direction, if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) to (c) Kanhar Barrage scheme envisages a 224 m long Barrage across river Kanhar (tributary of Son river) near Khuri village of Garhwa District to provide 53283 ha. Kharif irrigation in the districts of Garhwa and Palamu of Jharkhand State.

The Kanhar Barrage Project was accepted by Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation in its 135th meeting held on 12.03.2018 at an estimated cost of ₹ 1908.84 crore at 2016-17 price level. Further, investment clearance proposal of the project was submitted by Government of Jharkhand *vide* letter dated 31.10.2018. However, they have not submitted the Environmental and Forest Clearance of the project, which is a pre-requisite for the investment clearance. The Government of Jharkhand has informed that works have not been started.

Allocation of fund to Polavaram project

2060. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that Polavaram project is running behind schedule, due to non-release of funds by Government in a time-bound manner;

(b) if so, the details of the amount released so far by Government against the demand of Andhra Pradesh Government;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government will come forward to make a one time hefty allocation of fund to Polavaram project, so that cost escalation of the project can be avoided;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) to (e) As intimated by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the State is providing required funds for the Polavaram Irrigation Project on top priority and is committed to complete the Polavaram project by December, 2019. Presently, 62.86% of works have been completed.

The Government of India is reimbursing the expenditure incurred by the Government of Andhra Pradesh on the Polavaram Irrigation Project after declaration of this project as National Project on 01.04.2014. The balance cost of irrigation component of the project was ₹ 7158.53 crore as on 1.4.2014 as per the presently approved cost of the project. Thereafter, Central Assistance (CA) of ₹ 6764.16 crore has been released from time to time as per eligible proposals recommended by Polavaram Project Authority (PPA) and Central Water Commission (CWC). Prior to 01.04.2014, CA of ₹ 562.47 crore was provided to the project under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP).

Further, a proposal for release of ₹ 393.51 crore was forwarded by PPA/CWC for reimbursement which was referred to Ministry of Finance. Ministry of Finance *vide* its letter dated 26th July, 2018 has sought certain clarifications primarily on two major issues – (i) Audited Statement of Expenditure incurred by the State on the project till 31.03.2014, and (ii) Status of Revised Cost Estimates (RCE) of the project at 2013-14 Price Level. The State Government has not submitted the Audited Statement in this regard. Further, release of funds is dependent upon compliance by the State Government on the observations of Ministry of Finance, compliances on RCE, necessary approvals, availability of funds etc.

Rejuvenation of Yamuna river

2061. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that river Yamuna was the city's life line and an important transport channel through North India, but is now missing from Delhi's life and mind due to population;

(b) if so, amount spent for rejuvenation of river Yamuna;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government will seek the help of team of architects of the University of Virginia School of Architecture for its rejuvenation;

(d) if so, cost involved therein, despite spending hundreds of crores for rejuvenation so far in existing schemes; and

(e) if so, will it be a time-bound process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir. Rivers including Yamuna are life line of city and has been used as transport channel in the past. However, river Yamuna during lean season carries very less flow in its stretch from Hathinikund to Okhla barrage owing to larger demand, which adversely affects both the quality and quantity of river Yamuna.

(b) Cleaning of Yamuna is also part of the Namami Gange Mission and Government of India has been supplementing the efforts of the States for checking the rising level of pollution of river Yamuna, a tributary of river Ganga, by providing financial assistance to States of Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh in phased manner since 1993 under the Yamuna Action Plan (YAP). The total expenditure incurred on conservation of river Yamuna under the YAP Phase-I and II is ₹ 1514.70 crore. Further an amount of ₹ 427.66 crore have been released for projects under Namami Gange.

17 projects have been taken up under Namami Gange programme in the States of Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh at an estimated cost of ₹ 3941.73 crore to create/rehabilitate sewage treatment capacity of 1774 MLD as per the following details:—

Sl. No.	State	No. of Projects	Sanctioned Cost (₹ in crore)	Creation/Rehabilitation of STP Capacity (MLD)
1.	Delhi	11	2361.08	1384.50
2.	Haryana	2	217.87	145.00
3.	Uttar Pradesh	3	1347.71	242.88
4.	Himachal Pradesh	1	15.07	1.72
TOTAL		17	3941.73	1774.10

(c) to (e) As informed by the concerned Agencies, there is no such proposal to seek the help of team of Architects of the University of Virginia School of Architecture for its rejuvenation.

Inclusion of water in concurrent list

†2062. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated a plan for commencing a drive to include the subject of water in the concurrent list of Constitution of India;

(b) whether the need to include the subject of water in the concurrent list has been felt due to the fact that the power to make law on this subject has been given to Centre *vide* 56th list of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) to (c) The issue of including water in the concurrent list has been under discussion at various fora. The proposal to bring water in the Union/ Concurrent list has earlier been examined by the two Commissions on Centre State Relations chaired by Justice R.S. Sarkaria and Justice M.M. Punchhi respectively. The said proposal did not find favour with either of the two Commissions.

Transfer of water from Himalayan rivers to Mahanadi river

2063. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal of interlinking of Himalayan rivers Development Component under National Prospective Plan with the Peninsular River Development Component;

(b) whether Government has so far, shared any Feasibility Report of interlinking project to transfer water from Himalayan rivers to Mahanadi river; and

(c) quantity of water Government has planned to transfer from Himalayan rivers to Mahanadi river?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) The National Perspective Plan (NPP) was prepared by the then Ministry of Irrigation, now Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD&GR) in August 1980 for water resources

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

development through inter basin transfer of water, for transferring water from water surplus basins to water-deficit basins. Under the NPP, the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component and 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs). The Pre-Feasibility Report (PFR) of the all 30 links have been prepared and circulated to the concerned State Governments by the NWDA. Out of the 14 link projects identified under the Himalayan rivers Development Component, the following three link projects in series have been proposed to divert the waters of Himalayan rivers to Mahanadi and further south:—

- (i) Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganga (MSTG) link project.
- (ii) Ganga (Farakka)-Damodar-Subernarekha (GDS) link project
- (iii) Subernarekha-Mahanadi (SM) link project

MSTG link project envisages diversion of the surplus waters of Manas and Sankosh rivers with supplementation from the intermediate major streams for the benefit of augmenting the flows of Ganga at Farakka and further transfer through Ganga (Farakka)-Damodar-Subernarekha and Subernarekha-Mahanadi link projects (both links are wholly dependent on water transfer through MSTG link at Farakka and can be considered as continuity of MSTG link project) for the utilisation in the water short areas of Krishna, Pennar and Cauvery basins and providing irrigation facilities to the enroute command areas.

(b) and (c) The PFR,s of the above three link projects have already been prepared and circulated to concerned State Governments. Draft FRs of GDS and SM link projects have also been prepared. As per PFR of MSTG link, it is proposed to divert a quantum of 43,208 Mcum (including the contribution of enroute major streams between Manas and Teesta) through the link canal. After meeting the enroute requirements for irrigation, domestic and industrial needs of this link project as well as that of GDS and SM link projects, a quantum of 13,965 MCM of water will be brought to Mahanadi basin for further diversion to south through the nine link system proposed under Peninsular component of NPP.

Procedures for clearance of inter-State river projects by TAC

2064. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Ministry has cleared the Polavaram Multipurpose Project;

(b) whether the co-basin State Odisha has been consulted during this clearance process or not; and

(c) the details of extant standard procedures for clearance of inter-State projects by TAC of the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) and (b) The Detailed Project Report of Polavaram Irrigation Project was received during September, 2005. Thereafter, Central Water Commission (CWC) held interstate meetings on 28.09.2006 and 29.10.2007, wherein representatives of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Chhattisgarh participated.

The project proposal amounting to ₹ 10151.04 crore at Price Level 2005-06 was accepted by Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (erstwhile MoWR) in its 95th meeting held on 20.01.2009.

The first Revised Cost Estimate of Polavaram Irrigation Project amounting to ₹ 16010.45 crore at Price Level 2010-11 was accepted by Advisory Committee of MoWR in its 108th meeting held on 04.01.2011.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted the second Revised Cost Estimate of Polavaram Irrigation Project amounting to ₹ 57941 crore at 2013-14 Price Level to Central Water Commission (CWC) during January, 2018. The same was examined, and subsequently set of observations were communicated from time to time. The approval of Revised Estimates is dependent upon satisfactory compliances by the State Government on these observations.

(c) The procedure for appraisal of Irrigation, Flood Control and Multi-purpose projects, both major and medium projects having inter-state ramifications is given as under:—

- The concerned State Government in the initial stage submits Preliminary Report covering surveys and investigations, international/inter-state aspects, hydrology, irrigation planning, brief environmental aspects, intended benefits etc which are required to establish soundness of the project proposal.
- The Preliminary Report is examined and if found acceptable, CWC conveys “in-Principle” consent to State Govt for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR).
- Thereafter, DPR is prepared by the Project Authorities. Project Authorities simultaneously initiates the process for obtaining necessary statutory

clearances from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in respect of Environment Impact Assessment and Forest area being diverted.

- If Scheduled Tribe population is diverted, the clearance of R&R Plans is obtained from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs by the Project Authorities.
- The DPR thus prepared is examined in CWC.
- In States, where Central Design and Planning Organization do not exist, CWC checks designs also.
- CWC finalizes the cost, BC Ratio, etc and the State Govt obtains concurrence of the State Finance Department for the finalized cost.
- The project proposal, thereafter, is put up to the Advisory Committee of MoWR, RD&GR on Irrigation, Flood Control and Multipurpose Projects for Clearance.

Adequate quantity of water to farmers

†2065. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any special action plan for proper utilisation of the water available in the country and to make adequate quantity of water available to farmers for their crops; and

(b) if so, financial allotment made under the head during the last three years and the area for which the water is being available through canals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) Water Resources Projects are planned, funded, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priority. In order to supplement their efforts, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various centrally funded programmes. With an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on- farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices etc., the Union Government has started the umbrella scheme of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). The scheme includes key programmes such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), Command

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Area Development and Water Management (CADWM), Surface-Minor Irrigation (SMI), Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies, Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) and Watershed Development. During July, 2016, Government has also launched the scheme of 99 prioritized AIBP projects for their mission mode completion by December, 2019 along with their Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) works.

(b) The Central Assistance released during the last three years for Irrigation Sector under different programmes of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and the area benefited in terms of creation of irrigation potential are as under.

Sl. No.	Item	Funds Released (₹ in crore)			Area Benefited (till March, 2018) in lakh ha.
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (till date)	
1	AIBP	3308	3593.601	1390.26	17.39
2	CADWM	853.89	933.13	119.74	15.09*
3	SMI and RRR	148.01	745.00	550.00	3.24
4	Polavaram Project	2514	2000	1400	—

* in terms of Culturable Command Area (CCA).

Development of ground water

†2066. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether various international institutions including World Bank and the 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission have expressed their concerns regarding sustainable development of ground water and have given suggestions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) and (b) Various international institutions including World Bank and the 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission have expressed their concerns regarding sustainable development of ground water. Suggestions given in their reports include increase in practices of water conservation measures such as use of Sprinkler and drip

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

irrigation, alternate crop planning, catchment area treatment, ground water recharge and watershed development etc., provision of water harvesting in urban planning, community-based ground water management, separate agriculture electricity feeders, conjunctive use management, regulation in most critical ground water blocks etc.

(c) Steps taken by the Central Government for conservation of ground water in the country are available at the following URL:

http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/MeasuresForGW-Depletion_2.pdf

Sharing of Krishna river water between A.P. and Telangana

2067. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telangana Government has sent any proposal for revising the guidelines for sharing of Krishna river water between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has studied the proposal; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to resolve the issues highlighted on sharing of Krishna river water between the States of A.P. and Telangana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) to (c) As per Terms of Reference (ToR) specified in Section 89 of Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Act, 2014, the sharing of Krishna River Water among the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh has been referred to Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-II (KWDT-II) by the Central Government. In the mean-time, Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) is issuing water release orders from time to time based on arrangement as agreed mutually by Telangana State and Andhra Pradesh for sharing Krishna water till the final allocation is made by the KWDT-II. Further, Government of Telangana *vide* letter dated 14.7.2014 sent a complaint to the Ministry referring dispute on the use, distribution or control of Krishna River Water, under Section 3 of the Inter-State River Water Dispute (ISRWD) Act, 1956. In response the Ministry advised the Government of Telangana to appear and present their case before the KWDT-II in view of the reference already made by the Central Government to the KWDT-II. Again, Government of Telangana *vide* letter dated. 6.7.2018 requested this Ministry to refer the water dispute complaint raised by them in July, 2014 in terms of Section 5 (1) ISRWD Act, 1956 to the existing KWDT-II by confining the scope of reference between the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh only. The issue is under consideration from technical and legal angle.

Polavaram Irrigation Project

2068. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has declared Polavaram Irrigation Project as a National Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received the revised DPR of the project and is also considering to reimburse the expenditure incurred forthwith to the Andhra Pradesh Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) and (b) Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP) has been declared as National Project under Section 90 of Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Act, 2014.

(c) to (e) The Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted the updated second Revised Cost Estimates of Polavaram Irrigation Project amounting to ₹ 57941 crore at 2013-14 Price Level to Central Water Commission (CWC) during January, 2018. The same was examined, and subsequently set of observations primarily related to variation in cost of Land acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement; change in design parameters of Left and right main canal; and increase in quantities pertaining to Head-works were communicated to the project authorities at different points of time. Latest comments of Central Electricity Authority (CEA)/CWC have been communicated to the Project Authority *vide* letters dated 17.12.2018/19.12.2018. The approval of revised estimates is dependent upon satisfactory compliances by the State Government on the observations of CWC/CEA.

The Government of India is reimbursing the expenditure incurred by the Government of Andhra Pradesh on the Polavaram Irrigation Project after declaration of this project as National Project on 01.04.2014. The balance cost of irrigation component of the project was ₹ 7158.53 crore as on 1.4.2014 as per the presently approved cost of the project. Thereafter, Central Assistance (CA) of ₹ 6764.16 crore has been released from time to time as per eligible proposals recommended by Polavaram Project Authority (PPA) and Central Water Commission (CWC). Prior to 01.04.2014, CA of ₹ 562.47 crore was provided to the project under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP).

Further, a proposal for release of ₹ 393.51 crore was forwarded by PPA/CWC for reimbursement which was referred to Ministry of Finance. Ministry of Finance *vide* its letter dated 26th July, 2018 has sought certain clarifications primarily on two major issues:— (i) Audited Statement of Expenditure incurred by the State on the project till 31.03.2014, and (ii) Status of Revised Cost Estimates (RCE) of the project at 2013-14 Price Level. The State Government has not submitted the Audited Statement in this regard.

Further, release of funds is dependent upon compliance by the State Government on the observations of Ministry of Finance.

Problem of water scarcity in country

2069. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Composite Water Management Index (CWMI) by the NITI Aayog has indicated that nearly 600 million people face high to extreme water stress in the country and also predicted that a persistent water crisis will lead to an eventual six per cent loss in the country's Gross Domestic Product by 2030;

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

(c) whether Government is considering to mandate all power producers to report its water consumption on a daily-basis, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) details of steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to tackle water crisis in the country on a priority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) and (b) The report titled "Composite Water Management Index", published by NITI Aayog in June, 2018, mentions that nearly 600 million people face high to extreme water stress in the country and also predicted that a persistent water crisis will lead to an eventual six per cent loss in the country's Gross Domestic Product by 2030. In this regard, NITI Aayog has referred to the reports by World Resource Institute and Mckinsey Institute.

The average annual water potential in the country has been assessed as 1869 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM). Due to topographical and other factors, the utilizable water availability is limited to 1137 BCM per annum, comprising of 690 BCM of surface water and 447 BCM of replenishable ground water. Further, National

Commission on Integrated Water Resources Development (NCIWRD) have mentioned in their report that taking into account the water availability and the requirements in India, which has been assessed as 843 BCM in the year 2025 and 1180 BCM in 2050, there is no need to take an alarmist view.

However, water availability per person is dependent on population of the country and for India, per capita water availability in the country is reducing progressively due to increase in population. The average annual per capita water availability in the years 2001 and 2011 was assessed as 1816 cubic meters and 1545 cubic meters respectively which may reduce further to 1340 and 1140 in the years 2025 and 2050 respectively. Annual per-capita water availability of less than 1700 cubic meters is considered as water stressed condition, whereas annual per-capita water availability below 1000 cubic meters is considered as a water scarcity condition. Due to high temporal and spatial variation of precipitation, the water availability of many regions of the country is much below the national average and can be considered as water stressed/water scarce.

(c) Ministry of Power has informed that no such decision has been taken in this regard so far.

(d) Water being a State subject, steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources including tackling of water crisis are primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to them through various schemes and programmes. Central Government has taken various steps to tackle water crisis in the country.

Central Government has formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development which envisages transfer of water from water surplus basins to water deficit basins to improve availability of water.

Central Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) in 2015-16 which aims to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices, etc. During 2016-17, 99 on-going Major/Medium irrigation projects under PMKSY-Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) having ultimate irrigation potential of 76.03 lakh hectares have been prioritized in consultation with States, for completion in phases up to December, 2019.

Some initiatives/measures taken by the Central Government for conservation and improvement of availability of ground water are available at the *url: http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/MeasuresForGW-Depletion_1.pdf*

**Adoption of the Model Flood Plain Zoning Act,
1975 by States**

2070. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any other States have adopted the Flood Plain Zoning Act in the wake of the Kerala Floods;

(b) the names of all the States that have adopted the Model Flood Plain Zoning Act, proposed in the year 1975;

(c) whether the State Governments have expressed any apprehensions over adopting the Act, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures that have been taken by Government to persuade the State Governments to adopt the Flood Plain Zoning Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) and (b) The concept of flood plain zoning recognizes the basic fact that the flood plain of a river is essentially its domain and any intrusion into it or developmental activity therein must recognize the river's 'right of way'. A model draft bill for flood plain zoning legislation was circulated by the Union Government in 1975 to all the States/Union Territories. The States of Manipur, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand have enacted legislations. This bill envisages zoning of flood plain of a river according to flood frequencies and defines the type of use of flood plain. The bill aims at no hindrance to natural flow of river and mitigation of likely damage by floods.

(c) and (d) The response from the State Governments towards enactment of flood plain zoning legislation has not been encouraging. The State Government of Bihar has conveyed that flood plain zoning bill is neither practicable nor implementable in the State of Bihar. Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has repeatedly impressed upon the State/UT Governments in this regard. In February 2017, Hon'ble Minister (MOWR, RD&GR) had again impressed upon the Chief Ministers of States/UT Governments for enactment of a suitable legislation on the lines of model bill.

Threat due to national river linking projects

2071. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the impact of national river linking projects the inflow of North Eastern rivers will reduce, which will reduce sediments deposited and also reduce the fertile delta and will thereby threaten land and livelihoods of local economies that support 160 million people;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has plan to control such problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) and (b) Under the Himalayan Component of National Perspective Plan (NPP) for water resources development, one link *viz.*, Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganga (MSTG) link has been proposed. This link canal project envisages diversion of the surplus waters of Manas and Sankosh rivers, tributaries of Brahmaputra with supplementation from the intermediate major streams for the benefit of augmenting the flows of Ganga at Farakka and further transfer to water short areas of Krishna, Pennar and Cauvery basins and providing irrigation facilities to the enroute command areas. The Pre-Feasibility Report of the link has been prepared. Since surplus water is proposed to be transferred during monsoon, the flows in the rivers will not be affected.

(c) At the time of preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the individual river link projects, detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies as per Terms of Reference approved by Environmental Appraisal Committee (EAC) of Ministry of Environment and Forests and Climate Change are carried out. EIA study include impacts on land environment, water resources and its quality, terrestrial ecology (flora, fauna, vegetation cover, wildlife), impact due to command area development, impacts on local services (like water supply, education, health care, community forests, business opportunities) etc. The environmental impacts and issues arising out of the EIA studies are addressed in Environmental Management Plan which forms a part of DPR.

Amount spent for cleaning of river Ganga

†2072. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) amount spent by Government from April, 2014 till 31st March, 2018 under Clean Ganga Mission; and

(b) per centage of Ganga cleaned by utilisation of the said amount during the said period along with the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) An amount of ₹ 3,461.51 crore has been spent under Namami Gange Programme during the financial years 2014-15 to 2017-18. During year 2018-19 an amount of ₹ 1725.86 crore has been spent till 26.12.2018, taking the cumulative expenditure to ₹ 5187.37 crore.

(b) Government of India has launched Namami Gange Programme covering short term, medium term and long term activities. Under short term activities, certain entry level activities which cover development of ghats and crematoria and river surface cleaning activities etc. have been taken up. Under medium term activities, existing Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) and Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) are being upgraded and new STP and ETPs are being established. Besides, rural sanitation has been taken up in the villages on the banks of river Ganga. The long term action plan involves restoration of wholesomeness of river Ganga and maintaining the ecological and geological identity of the river. The Central Government launched the "Namami Gange Programme" on 13th May, 2015 with an outlay of ₹ 20,000 crore as a five year programme till 2020. However, efforts are being made to achieve substantial progress much before the target date.

Between April, 2014 till March, 2018, a total of 145 projects were sanctioned at an estimated cost of ₹ 15074.76 crore. Against estimated sewage generation of 2953 Million Liters Per Day (MLD) from the towns along main stem of river Ganga, the sewage treatment capacity in the towns along Ganga has increased from 1305 (2014) to 1694 MLD capacity.

During this period STPs were made functional with a total STP capacity of 297.19 MLD (New) and 92 MLD (through rehabilitation).

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Under the Namami Gange Programme, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is carrying out the water quality monitoring of river Ganga. Comparison of observed water quality of last four years indicates that Dissolved Oxygen which is an indicator of river health has been found to be within acceptable limits of notified primary bathing water quality criteria and satisfactory to support the ecosystem of river across all seasons and also for almost entire stretch of river Ganga.

Due to various pollution abatement initiatives taken by the Government under the Namami Gange Programme, the river water quality assessment in 2018 has shown improved water quality trend as compared to 2017. The Dissolved Oxygen levels have improved at 39 locations, Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels and Faecal coliforms have decreased at 42 and 47 locations, respectively.

Some stretches, where the improvement has been observed are:—

- (i) D/S Rishikesh
- (ii) Har-Ki-Pauri Ghat
- (iii) Kanpur U/S (Ranighat)
- (iv) Tarighat (Ghazipur)
- (v) Narora (Bulandsahr)
- (vi) Kachhla Ghat, Aligarh
- (vii) Buxar
- (viii) Mokama (D/S)
- (ix) U/S Munger
- (x) Uluberia
- (xi) Dakshineshwar
- (xii) Diamond Harbour

River Cleaning is a continuous process and under the Namami Gange Programme, several initiatives have been taken by Government of India which includes abatement and control of pollution at the source of pollution generation by adopting activities such as establishment/upgradation of Sewage Treatment Plants for the towns located on Ganga main stem and its tributaries, surface cleaning activities and solid waste management. The outputs of these projects have started yielding results and the water quality will further improve once all the projects are operationalized.

Sports proposals from Government of Andhra Pradesh

2073. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Andhra Pradesh has sent eighteen sports proposals to the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals and when the proposals were sent and their financial implications, etc.; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry has approved only four proposals so far, if so, the status of other fourteen proposals, proposal-wise and by when they are going to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (c) 18 proposals for grant of financial assistance for creation/upgradation of sports infrastructure have been received since 2016-17 through the State Government of Andhra Pradesh under Khelo India Scheme. Details of the proposals along with the status are given in the Statement (*See below*). The Ministry has approved 4 proposals so far and 3 proposals have been recommended in principle. 1 proposal has been received on 14.11.2018 which is under examination and remaining 10 proposals have not been agreed to. Approval of the financial assistance for projects recommended in principle is subject to settlement of pending Utilisation Certificate (UC) against Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh who is the grantee for these proposals.

Statement

Details of complete proposals as per the Khelo India Scheme norms implemented by this Ministry received through the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for creation of sports infrastructure

(₹ in crore)				
Sl. No.	Projects	Status	Estimate received	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Construction of Multipurpose Indoor Hall at Vizzy Stadium, Vizianagram	Approved	7.50	6.00
2.	Construction of Indoor Stadium/ Multipurpose Indoor Hall at Nellore	Approved	8.00	8.00

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Laying of Synthetic Athletic Track at Kommadi Mini Sports Complex, Visakhapatnam	Approved	8.50	7.00
4.	Laying of Astro Turf Hockey Field at District Sports Authority Ground, Kakinada East Godavari District	Approved	5.50	5.50
5.	Proposal for Multipurpose Indoor Hall at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (Women's University), Tirupati, Chittoor District	Recommended in principle	10.53	-
6.	Proposal for Laying of Astro Turf Hockey Field at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (Women's University), Tirupati, Chittoor District	Recommended in principle	6.00	-
7.	Proposal for Swimming Pool at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (Women's University), Tirupati, Chittoor District	Recommended in principle	8.15	-
8.	Proposal for construction of 400 mts. Synthetic Running Track and ground leveling at Adikavi Nannaya University Rajamahendravaram, East Godavari District	Considered and not agreed to	7.00	Does not arise
9.	Proposal for construction of Multi-purpose Indoor Stadium (60*40) at Adikavi Nannaya University Rajamahendravaram, East Godavari District	Considered and not agreed to	10.00	Does not arise
10.	Proposal for construction of 50 mts. standard Swimming Pool (50*21) with water purifier at Adikavi Nannaya University Rajamahendravaram, East Godavari District	Considered and not agreed to	3.80	Does not arise
11.	Proposal for Center of Excellence at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (Women's University), Tirupati, Chittoor District	Considered and not agreed to	2.10	Does not arise

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Proposal for Sports Hostel at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (Women's University), Tirupati, Chittoor District	Considered and not agreed to	5.50	Does not arise
13.	Proposal for Human Performance and Recovery Science Lab at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (Women's University), Tirupati, Chittoor District	Considered and not agreed to	7.72	Does not arise
14.	Proposal for Outdoor Video walls at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (Women's University)	Considered and not agreed to	0.24	Does not arise
15.	Proposal for Providing Lighting at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (Women's University)	Considered and not agreed to	0.375	Does not arise
16.	Construction of Multi-Purpose Indoor Hall at Stadia Complex, Machilipatnam, Krishna District	Considered and not agreed to	8.00	Does not arise
17.	Construction of Swimming Pool at Stadia Complex, Machilipatnam, Krishna District	Considered and not agreed to	5.00	Does not arise
18.	Proposal for Construction of Multi-Purpose Hall and 200 m Athletic Track at ZP High School, Addada, Pamarru Mandal, Krishna District.	Under process	8.00	Does not arise

Constitution of Sports Scientists Community

2074. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted any committee(s) consisting of Sports Scientists to recommend steps to be taken regarding sports infrastructure and players in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee constituted by Government has submitted any report with specific reference to Tokyo Olympics;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) and (b) Expert guidance to scale up the performance of elite players at Olympics has been taken from time to time. In the recent past, three different expert committees namely, Expert Committee on Sports Sciences (2011), Olympic Task Force (2017) and Core Committee on Sports Sciences (2016), having sports scientists as members, have deliberated on various aspects of sports science services and delivery to elite athletes including preparation for Olympic 2020, 2024 and 2028.

Mandate of Expert Committee on Sports Sciences, 2011 was to do gap analysis of the existing sports science set-up at Sports Authority of India (SAI) as well as the requirements in the sports sector as a whole to enhance performance of our sportspersons and support excellence in sports.

This Committee also deliberated on the issues of Sports Nutrition as a special requirement for athletes to improve performance and aid recovery and rehabilitation from injuries.

Olympic Task Force was mandated, *inter alia*, to prepare a Comprehensive Action Plan, including short-term, medium-term and long-term measures for effective participation of Indian sportspersons in the Olympics to be held in 2020, 2024 and 2028.

Core Committee on Sports Sciences deliberated on the requirements of sports science infrastructure, latest technology and equipments and specialized manpower to be posted for providing sports science cover to athletes across various levels of participation. This Committee also prepared a template of sports science set up right from district to State and regional level.

(c) to (e) The Olympic Task Force, constituted with specific mandate of preparing a Comprehensive Action Plan, including short-term, medium-term and long-term measures for effective participation of Indian sportsperson in the Olympics to be held in 2020, 2024 and 2028, has submitted its final report and provided strategic steps to win more medals in Olympics.

The Committee has recommended to adopt a threefold strategy that is Athlete Centric, Coach-led and System Driven approach for podium finish.

Target Olympic Podium Scheme

2075. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds at disposal with the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF);

(b) the details of funds released by the NSDF for the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) till date, sport-wise;

(c) the details of the athletes currently under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme, sport-wise;

(d) the criteria for choosing and dropping the athletes from the scheme; and

(e) whether Government has collaborated with private entities for this scheme, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) The details of funds contributed to the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) from its inception to till date is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The details of funds released by the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) for the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) till date, sport-wise is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) The details of the athletes currently under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme, sport-wise is given in the Statement-III (*See* below).

(d) For selection of athletes for Target Olympic Podium (TOP) Scheme, detailed analysis is being undertaken of probable sportspersons identified for Tokyo 2020 Olympics, based on factors like athlete achievements, performance trend, progression, high performance age and comparative analysis with other players/potential international competitions. In addition, targets and intermediate milestones are fixed for the individuals for their continuation under the scheme. Sportspersons who fail to achieve the targets despite providing additional support and adequate time are dropped from the scheme.

(e) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is regularly interacting with the Corporates and Public Sectors requesting them to contribute to the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) and become active partners for promotion of sports and games in the country.

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has, *inter alia*, written to various Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and Public Sector Banks (PSBs) requesting them to contribute to NSDF.

Statement-I

*Contributions to National Sports Development Fund from various sources
and Government of India matching contribution*

Year	Name of the source through which the funds have been raised (Name of Donor)	Amount donated (in ₹)	Matching contribution of Government of India (in ₹)
1	2	3	4
1998-99	—		20,000,000.00 (seed money)
1999-00	Rural Electrification Power Corporation Ltd.	500,000.00	
	Oriental Bank of Commerce	500,000.00	
	M/S Balmer Lawrie and Co Ltd.	100,000.00	
	Punjab National Bank	50,000.00	
	National Mineral Development Corporation	10,000.00	
	TOTAL (1999-00)	1,160,000.00	1,160,000.00
2000-01	Naptha Jhakri Power Corporation Ltd.	200,000.00	
	Power Finance Corporation	200,000.00	
	Contribution by Shri Kapil Dev few years ago but lying unutilized in the National Welfare Fund for sportspersons with interest transferred to NSDF with the consent of Shri Kapil Dev.	12,100,000.00	
	TOTAL (2000-01)	12,500,000.00	12,500,000.00
2001-02	Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO)	2,500,000.00	
	TOTAL (2001-02)	2,500,000.00	2,500,000.00
2002-03	—		
	TOTAL (2002-03)	—	—
2003-04	Punjab National Bank	500,000.00	
	Export Import Bank of India	500,000.00	

1	2	3	4
	Bank of India	50,000.00	
	Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd..	100,000.00	
	North Eastern Electric Power Corporation of India	20,000.00	
	State Bank of Mysore	25,000.00	
	National Mineral Development Corporation	25,000.00	
	Union Bank of India	100,000.00	
	State Bank of India	500,000.00	
	Central Bank of India	125,000.00	
	Shri K. S. Rana	300.00	
	Shri K. P. Kanhaiya	250.00	
	Shri S. K. Gupta	500.00	
	TOTAL (2003-04)	1,946,050.00	1,946,050.00
2004-05	Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.	500,000.00	
	Videocon International Ltd.	120,000.00	
	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	20,000.00	
	Oriental Bank of Commerce	300,000.00	
	Puzzolan Machinery Fabricators	400,000.00	
	Funds collected through Flag Distribution on National Sports Day	643,649.00	
	TOTAL (2004-05)	1,983,649.00	1,983,599.00
2005-06	Jindal Steel and Power Ltd.	2,500,000.00	
	Funds collected through flag distribution on National Sports Day	378,352.00	
	TOTAL (2005-06)	2,878,352.00	2,879,027.00
2006-07	Funds collected through flag distribution on National Sports Day	84,219.00	
	TOTAL (2006-07)	84,219.00	
2007-08	Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)	10,000,000.00	
	Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)	150,000,000.00	
	TOTAL (2007-08)	160,000,000.00	50,000,000.00

1	2	3	4
2008-09	Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)	350,000,000.00	
	TOTAL (2008-09)	350,000,000.00	102,500,000.00
2009-10	RAI Foundation	1,000,000.00	
	State Government of Madhya Pradesh	10,000,000.00	
	State Government of Haryana	10,000,000.00	
	TOTAL (2009-10)	21,000,000.00	81,200,000.00
2010-11		–	
	TOTAL (2010-11)	–	200,000,000.00
2011-12	State Government of Maharashtra	10,000,000.00	
	Jaypee Sports International Limited	100,000,000.00	
	TOTAL (2011-12)	110,000,000.00	
2012-13	Jaypee Sports International Limited	100,000,000.00	
	TOTAL (2012-13)	100,000,000.00	50,000,000.00
2013-14	Jaypee Sports International Limited	100,000,000.00	
	Other Source	20.00	
	TOTAL (2013-14)	100,000,020.00	50,000,000.00
2014-15	India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL)	100,000,000.00	
	TOTAL (2014-15)	100,000,000.00	37,500,000.00
2015-16	The Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd.	582,654.00	
	Bank of Baroda	10,000,000.00	
	Bank of Maharashtra	1,000,000.00	
	Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC)	1,500,000.00	
	TOTAL (2015-16)	13,082,654.00	50,000,000.00
2016-17	National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC)	1,000,000.00	
	Syndicate Bank	100,000.00	
	Power Grid Corporation of India Limited	5,000,000.00	
	Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation of India Limited (MMTC)	1,000,001.00	
	Antrix Corporation Limited	500,000.00	
	Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited	500,000.00	

1	2	3	4
	Container Corporation of India Limited	1,000,000.00	
	Power Finance Corporation Limited	1,000,000.00	
	Allahabad Bank	200,000.00	
	India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL)	100,000,000.00	
	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	2,500,000.00	
	Electronics Corporation of India Ltd.	1,000,000.00	
	National Seeds Corporation Limited	772,015.50	
	IDBI Bank Ltd.	5,000,000.00	
	Northern Coalfields Limited	1,000,000.00	
	The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd.	2,100,000.00	
	Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd.	1,000,000.00	
	State Bank of India	10,000,000.00	
	FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Ltd.	500,000.00	
	Coal India Ltd.	250,000,000.00	
	Bharat Dynamics Ltd.	22,500,000.00	
	The New India Assurance Co. Ltd.	10,000,000.00	
	Mazagon Dock Shipbuilder Ltd.	5,000,000.00	
	Shri Mohit Malik	150,000.00	
	Andhra Bank	1,000,000.00	
	TOTAL (2016-17)	422,822,016.50	142,000,000.00
2017-18	Shri Jitendra Kumar Lohar	5,001.00	
	UCO Bank	1,000,000.00	
	M/S Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	1,000,000.00	
	Seva THDC (NGO under THDC India Ltd.) Rishikesh	1,500,000.00	
	Allahabad Bank	500,000.00	
	SJVN Limited	1,000,000.00	
	Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited	1,000,000.00	
	National Seeds Corporation Limited	500,000.00	
	India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL)	100,000,000.00	

1	2	3	4
	Antrix Corporation Limited	500,000.00	
	Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.	20,000,000.00	
	FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Ltd.	200,000.00	
	HDFC Bank Limited	2,000,000.00	
	TOTAL (2017-18)	129,205,001.00	20,000,000.00
2018-19	Andhra Bank	1,000,000.00	
	Power Finance Corporation Limited	20,000,000.00	
	Bharat Electronics Limited	5,000,000.00	
	Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited	500,000.00	
	TOTAL (2018-19)	26,500,000.00	20,000,000.00
	GRAND TOTAL	1,555,661,961.50	846,168,676.00

Statement-II

Details of funds released by the NSDF for the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) till date, sports-wise

(Amount in ₹)

Sl.No	Sports Discipline	Expenditure
2016-17		
1.	Archery	1,00,01,143.00
2.	Athletics	2,65,29,755.00
3.	Badminton	85,65,382.00
4.	Boxing	1,22,76,164.00
5.	Golf	7,48,266.00
6.	Hockey	1,16,25,594.00
7.	Gymnastics	12,98,932.00
8.	Judo	11,83,446.00
9.	Para Sports	2,41,95,927.00
10.	Rowing	30,65,556.00
11.	Shooting	4,08,73,059.00
12.	Swimming	14,13,266.00
13.	Table Tennis	1,12,39,060.00

Sl.No	Sports Discipline	Expenditure
14.	Tennis	1,59,53,662.00
15.	Weightlifting	59,85,057.00
16.	Wrestling	1,98,22,612.00
17.	Wushu	48,37,083.00
TOTAL		19,96,13,964.00

2017- till date (26th Dec., 2018)

1.	Archery	2,30,52,863.15
2.	Athletics	2,34,80,606.00
3.	Badminton	81,30,000.00
4.	Boxing	1,71,71,880.00
5.	Cycling	71,18,602.00
6.	Fencing	19,62,208.00
7.	Gymnastics	1,10,70,144.00
8.	Judo	59,26,602.00
9.	Para Sports	4,37,24,681.00
10.	Hockey	18,00,000.00
11.	Shooting	6,14,92,950.00
12.	Squash	73,87,099.40
13.	Swimming	34,16,168.00
14.	Table Tennis	97,25,490.00
15.	Tennis	1,57,79,770.50
16.	Weightlifting	1,42,05,489.00
17.	Winter Games	26,00,000.00
18.	Wrestling	1,37,85,002.00
19.	Wushu	99,37,083.00
TOTAL		28,17,66,638.05

Statement-III

Details of the Athletes currently under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), sports-wise

Sl.No.	Name of the Athlete	Sports Discipline	Selection
1.	Sandeep Tomar	Wrestling	Olympics Games 2020
2.	Utkarsh Kale	Wrestling	Olympics Games 2020
3.	Bajrang Punia	Wrestling	Olympics Games 2020
4.	Deepak Punia	Wrestling	Olympics Games 2020
5.	Vinesh Phogat	Wrestling	Olympics Games 2020
6.	Ritu Phogat	Wrestling	Olympics Games 2020
7.	Pooja Dhanda	Wrestling	Olympics Games 2020
8.	Sakshi Malik	Wrestling	Asian Championship 2019
9.	Divya Kakran	Wrestling	Olympics Games 2020
10.	Sajan	Wrestling	Olympics Games 2020
11.	Naveen	Wrestling	Olympics Games 2024
12.	Vijay	Wrestling	Olympics Games 2024
13.	Ragala Venkat Rahul	Weightlifting	Olympics Games 2020
14.	Mirabai Chanu	Weightlifting	Olympics Games 2020
15.	Jeremy Lalrinnunga	Weightlifting	Olympics Games 2020-24
16.	Neeraj Chopra	Athletics	Olympics Games 2020-24
17.	Tejinder Toor	Athletics	Olympics Games 2020
18.	Seema Punia	Athletics	Olympics Games 2020
19.	Arpinder Singh	Athletics	Olympics Games 2020
20.	Md. Anas	Athletics	Olympics Games 2020
21.	Hima Das	Athletics	Olympics Games 2020-24
22.	Ayyaswamy Dharun	Athletics	Olympics Games 2020-24
23.	Jinson Johnson	Athletics	Olympics Games 2020
24.	Sreeshankar Murali	Athletics	Olympics Games 2020-24
25.	Avinash Sable	Athletics	World Championships 2019
26.	Men 4x400m Relay Team (6 Members-Name yet to be finalized)	Athletics	Olympics Games 2020

Sl.No.	Name of the Athlete	Sports Discipline	Selection
27.	Women 4x400m Relay Team (6 Members-Name yet to be finalized)	Athletics	Olympics Games 2020
28.	Ravi Kumar	Shooting	Core Group
29.	Deepak Kumar	Shooting	Core Group
30.	Apurvi Chandela	Shooting	Core Group
31.	Elavenil Valarivan	Shooting	Core Group
32.	Mehuli Ghosh	Shooting	Core Group
33.	Sanjeev Rajput	Shooting	Core Group
34.	Anjum Moudgil	Shooting	Core Group
35.	Saurabh Chaudhary	Shooting	Core Group
36.	Om Prakash Mitharwal	Shooting	Core Group
37.	Abhishek Verma	Shooting	Core Group
38.	Manu Bhaker	Shooting	Core Group
39.	Anish Bhanwala	Shooting	Core Group
40.	Rahi Sarnobat	Shooting	Core Group
41.	Lakshay Sheoran	Shooting	Core Group
42.	Kynan Chenai	Shooting	Core Group
43.	Angad Veer Singh Bajwa	Shooting	Core Group
44.	Manika Batra	Table Tennis	Core Group
45.	Achanta Sharath Kamal	Table Tennis	Core Group
46.	G. Sathiyam	Table Tennis	Core Group
47.	Rohan Bopanna	Tennis	Core Group
48.	Dhivij Sharan	Tennis	Core Group

Promotion of sports among rural youth

2076. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any policy or started any programme for promotion of sports among rural youth in the country;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof and achievements made in this regard; and

(c) details of action or proposal to start any such programme to increase participation of the rural youth in sports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (c) 'Sports' is a State subject and promotion of sports in the country, including promotion of Sports among rural youth is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments and the National Sports Federations (NSFs) concerned. The Central Government complements/supplements the efforts of the State Governments and the NSFs. Government is already running several schemes to increase participation of the rural youth in sports.

The Khelo India Scheme implemented by this Ministry provides for promotion of sports among entire population including rural youth. Also, the scheme has a dedicated vertical, *viz.*, Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games which provides for financial assistance to NSFs/Non Government Organizations (NGOs) etc. for promotion of sports in the country including rural areas. Under this vertical various NSFs have been provided financial assistance to hold competitions in various parts of the country including those in rural areas. During the period from January to October, 2018, a total number of 36 such competitions/exhibition events had been held.

Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous organization under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, is implementing following sports promotional schemes across the country to identify talented sports persons in the age group of 8-25 years and nurture them to excel at national and international competitions:—

- National Sports Talent Contest Scheme (NSTC)
- Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)
- SAI Training Centre (STC)
- Special Area Games (SAG)
- Extension Centre of STC/SAG
- Centre of Excellence (COE)
- National Sports Academies (NSA)

Many of the sports persons identified under SAI Sports Promotional Schemes belong to the rural, tribal, backward, coastal and inaccessible hilly areas of the country and are provided with training facilities in the form of expert sports coaches, requisite playing facilities, boarding and lodging, sports kit, competition exposure, educational expenses, medical/insurance and stipend as per the approved norms.

In addition, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), an autonomous organization

under aegis of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, undertakes programmes such as Block and District level Sports Meets, providing sports material to Youth Clubs etc., for popularizing and encouraging sports and develop competitive spirit among youth including rural youth. During 2017-18, a total 2965 Block level sports meets and 556 District level sports meets were conducted by NYKS.

The Government does not have any proposal for starting programme in addition to already existing programmes to increase participation of the rural youth in sports.

Sports infrastructure in the country

2077. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken efforts to provide sports infrastructure with latest state-of-the-art technologies to develop quality sportspersons at par with international quality;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's opinion thereon;

(c) whether Government has provided financial support and infrastructure facilities through Ministry and the Sports Authority of India (SAI); and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) and (b) 'Sports' is a State subject and promotion and development of sports in the States is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The Central Government complements/supplements the efforts of the State Governments.

The sports infrastructure with latest state-of-the-art facilities established by the Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) are of high standards. The sports infrastructure facilities and equipment are constantly being upgraded to international standards as per requirement. The Sports Authority of India has 11 Regional Centres, 10 World Class National Sports Academies, 05 Regional Sports Academies and 02 Academic Institutes where sports infrastructure of international standards is available to trainees.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Details of financial support from the Ministry are given below:—

(₹ in crore)

Schemes	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Sports Authority of India	345.78	367.20	495.73
Assistance to National Sports Federations	350.00	359.42	239.80

Status of National Sports University

2078. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of recruitment of Vice-Chancellor and Registrar of National Sports University and by when they would join;

(b) the details of present faculties, officers and staff of the University; and

(c) the details of courses in operation in this academic year and the courses to be added from the next academic year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) Process for appointment of First Vice Chancellor and First Registrar in terms of the provisions of the National Sports University Act, 2018 has been initiated and applications have been invited. They will join after the selection process is completed. Presently, Secretary, Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has been appointed as Interim Vice Chancellor, National Sports University (NSU), Imphal (Manipur).

(b) At present, there are 11 teaching staff (1 Professor, 1 Associate Professor and 9 Assistant Professors) engaged on loan and contract basis in NSU, Imphal. On the non-teaching side, 26 persons for office work, security and housekeeping have been engaged through outsourcing agency in NSU, Imphal.

(c) In the current Academic year 2018-19, two Under Graduate courses *viz.*, Bachelor of Physical Education and Sports and B.Sc. (Sports Coaching) and one post graduate course *viz.*, MA (Sports Psychology) are in operation. In the next academic year, one post graduate course *viz.*, M.Sc. (Sports Coaching), which was introduced in current academic year 2018-19 but could not be made operational for want of eligible and willing applicants, will be again introduced.

Proposals from Karnataka Government

2079. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) details of proposals received from the Karnataka Government in the Ministry

during the last three years and in the current year relating to sports infrastructure, stadia, etc.;

(b) steps taken by Ministry on each of the above proposals, proposal-wise; and

(c) reasons for pendency of the proposals, proposal-wise and by when the Ministry will clear the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (c) 'Sports' is a State subject promotion and development of sports in the country including creation of sports infrastructure/stadia etc., are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government complements/supplements the efforts of the State Governments. It is submitted that this Ministry caters to the infrastructure requirement of the entire country in limited budget. Accordingly, proposals from each State are prioritized in the Ministry in terms of need, technical feasibility and budget availability in order to optimize the benefits of the Scheme for the entire country. Therefore, it is not possible to indicate timelines.

The details of complete proposals for creation/upgradation of sports infrastructure received through the Government of Karnataka in the Ministry during the last three years and the current year along with proposal-wise status are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of complete proposals for creation/upgradation of sports infrastructure received through the Government of Karnataka in the Ministry during the last three years and the current year along with proposal-wise status

Sl.No.	Name of project	Status
1.	Proposal for construction of Astro turf Hockey Mat at Sainik School, Bijapur.	Approved. Grant-in-aid sanctioned on 20.03.2017 for ₹ 5.50 crore.
2.	Proposal for Construction of Multi-purpose Indoor Hall at Haliyal, Karwar, Uttara Kannada District.	Approved. Grant-in-aid sanctioned on 28.07.2017 for ₹ 7.50 crore.
3.	Proposal for laying of Synthetic Athletic Track at Hassan District, Karnataka	Approved. Grant-in-aid sanctioned on 22.03.2018 for ₹ 7.00 crore.
4.	Proposal for Construction of Multi purpose Indoor Hall at Shiralakoppa Town, Shivamogga	Approved. Grant-in-aid sanctioned on 09.03.2018 for ₹ 1.50 crore.

Sl.No.	Name of project	Status
5.	Proposal for Construction of Multi-purpose Sports Complex/Indoor Hall at Hubli Dharwad, Municipal Corporation.	Approved. Grant-in-aid sanctioned on 19.07.2018 for ₹ 8.00 crore.
6.	Proposal for Construction of Indoor Stadium at Karkala, Udupi District.	Recommended in-principle.
7.	Construction tensile structural roofing at District Stadium and construction of gallery roofing wor for swimming pool at Ajjarakadu, Udupi District.	Recommended in-principle.
8.	Fixing of Synthetic Hockey Turf at Hassan District.	Recommended in-principle.
9.	Construction of Indoor Swimming Pool at Nejaru, Udupi.	Received only in November, 2018. Under process.
10.	Proposal for construction of Multi-purpose Indoor Hall complex at Indian Institute of plantation Management (IIPM), Janana Bharati Campus, Malathalli, Bangalore.	Received only in November, 2018. Under process.
11.	Construction of Swimming Pool building to Taluk level Stadium at Challakere Town in Chitradurga District.	Received only in November, 2018. Under process.
12.	Construction of Indoor Stadium building at Challakere Town in Chitradurga District.	Received only in November, 2018. Under process.

Preparation for Tokyo Olympics

2080. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the commitment of Government to create a transparent ecosystem nurturing sporting talent right from young age among youths, with details;

(b) the preparations, training, coaching being given to youths for the forthcoming international sports events in the world, especially, Tokyo Olympics in 2020, in details;

(c) whether children from across the country were identified for sporting talent and have been given financial grant; and

(d) if so, the number of children, State-wise and the details of financial grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) Sir, the revamped Khelo India Scheme launched in October, 2017 aims at strengthening the entire sports ecosystem to promote the twin national objectives of mass participation and promotion of excellence in sports, which *inter alia* includes a vertical “Talent Identification and Development” details of which are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Preparation and training of Indian sportspersons and teams for the forthcoming international events including Tokyo Olympics 2020 is a continuous process which is undertaken by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and the concerned National Sports Federations (NSFs) in accordance with the approved Annual Calendar of Training and Competitions (ACTCs). Accordingly, financial assistance for coaching camps, competition exposure in international sports events, wholesome nutritious diet, food supplements, sports equipments, state-of-the-art infrastructure, lodging, travelling facilities, services of reputed Indian and foreign coaches/supporting staff, scientific and medical support are provided to the sportspersons from the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs through concerned NSF.

Further, under Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) financial assistance is provided for customized training to identified sportspersons. Besides, out of pocket allowance (OPA) of ₹ 50,000 per sportsperson per month is being given to the sportspersons included in TOPS to enable them to meet their contingent and miscellaneous expenses.

(c) and (d) The State-wise details of children identified for providing financial assistance is given in the Statement-II (*See* below). As per the provisions of the approved revamped Scheme of Khelo India such children are entitled for a scholarship of ₹ 5 lakh per year for eight years.

Statement-I

Relevant provisions for ‘Talent Identification and Development’ under the Khelo India Scheme

The National competitions involving schools, colleges, Universities and NSFs under Khelo India Scheme, National Championships, and National Sports Talent Search Portal of SAI, will provide a platform for identification of talented sports

persons in priority Sports disciplines in which the country has potential/advantage. In addition to selection of prize winners, the duly constituted talent identification committee may also adopt globally accepted scientific methods to spot and identify talent in various sports disciplines. The identification of talented sportspersons will be done in a transparent manner through competitive performance and assessment made through scientifically designed battery of tests. Further, a National Talent Search Portal has been launched recently which will provide seamless access to upload individual achievements. In addition, the Gujarat model of mobile van will be adopted for carrying out scientific evaluation at remote places for better identification of the talented sportspersons. During the talent identification drive sporting talent hubs, discipline-wise, including indigenous games, shall be identified and duly mapped. Efforts will be made through sports academies to conduct special programmes to encourage such specific sport/game in that area.

Out of the talented players identified in priority sports disciplines at various levels through different avenues, best talents in those sports discipline will be identified by the High Powered Committee and provided annual financial assistance, at the rate of ₹ 5.00 lakh per annum, for a period of 8 years under a Long Term Athlete Development Programme. Continuation of support to an individual athlete will be subject to his/her progress/performance in the identified sports discipline concerned, ensuring the best performers, having potential to excel at the highest level, are given continuous support and non-performers/non-achievers can be taken out of the system. This will ensure a sizeable bench strength that the country is lacking at present. Additional funding requirement, if any, shall be met through mobilizing CSR support.

An amount of ₹10 crore annually will be earmarked for maintenance of the Online Portal, identification of sporting talents through different avenues, including through advanced scientific profiling, shortlisting of talents and recommending the best talents for providing support. Identification of sporting talent will involve conduct of pan-India trials involving about 50,000 to 1,00,000 children by Talent Scouts (to be engaged for the purpose), in association with States/UTs. An amount of ₹ 50 crore will be earmarked annually for providing annual financial assistance, at the rate of ₹ 5.00 lakh per annum for 1000 athletes, for a period of 8 years, to identified athletes, under a Long-Term Athlete Development Programme. Thus, ₹ 60 crore (₹ 50 crore for talent nurturing towards Training/Coaching, Consumables and Equipment, Sports Nutrition support, Sports Science Support etc., and ₹ 10 crore for maintenance of online portal, Identification of Talent through trials, shortlisting of identified talents through Scientific profiling etc.). In the second year, when additional 1000 athletes are added, ₹ 110 crore (₹ 50 crore each for first year and second year athletes for

their talent nurturing and ₹ 10 crore for talent search and development) and so on. The expenditure will be incurred on various components mentioned above and no fee/scholarship will be paid to the athlete.

Department of Sports will provide financial assistance as well as overall guidance, supervision and monitoring. Implementation will be through SAI and involve State Governments as well as reputed athletes and private bodies. International experts shall also be engaged for project implementation.

Statement-II

State-wise details of children identified for providing financial assistance to children under Khelo India vertical "Talent Identification and Development"

Sl.No.	State	Male	Female	Total
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5	8	13
2.	Andhra Pradesh	15	20	35
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	1	6
4.	Assam	11	11	22
5.	Bihar	6	2	8
6.	Chandigarh	19	5	24
7.	Chhattisgarh	4	11	15
8.	Daman and Diu	2	0	2
9.	Delhi	81	57	138
10.	Goa	9	2	11
11.	Gujarat	22	29	51
12.	Haryana	130	110	240
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1	10	11
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	8	6	14
15.	Jharkhand	5	10	15
16.	Karnataka	46	42	88
17.	Kerala	25	43	68
18.	Madhya Pradesh	21	22	43
19.	Maharashtra	69	99	168
20.	Manipur	37	35	72

Sl.No.	State	Male	Female	Total
21.	Meghalaya	1	0	1
22.	Mizoram	13	9	22
23.	Odisha	15	28	43
24.	Puducherry	1	0	1
25.	Punjab	61	48	109
26.	Rajasthan	25	16	41
27.	Sikkim	2	0	2
28.	Tamil Nadu	25	35	60
29.	Telangana	19	17	36
30.	Tripura	0	3	3
31.	Uttar Pradesh	54	31	85
32.	Uttarakhand	11	7	18
33.	West Bengal	26	27	53
TOTAL		774	744	1518

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS
SET FOR THE 28TH DECEMBER, 2018***

Assistance to tackle drought in Maharashtra

*166. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has submitted Memorandum to the Central Government asking for drought assistance in 2018, if so, details thereof and action taken thereon;

(b) whether Prime Minister had promised to help Maharashtra in tackling drought, during his visit there in October, 2018, if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the names of the districts in Maharashtra covered by crop contingency plans and relief provided thereunder;

* The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Friday, the 28th December, 2018 was adjourned on account of Interruptions. Answers to Questions put down in the lists for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Monday, the 31st December, 2018.

(d) the details of direct and indirect assistance to Maharashtra in tackling the current drought; and

(e) the special steps that are being taken to address droughts in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) The State Government of Maharashtra has submitted a Memorandum on 14.11.2018 in the wake of drought during Kharif 2018, seeking financial assistance of ₹ 7522.26 crore from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for 26 districts. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) was constituted on 28.11.2018. The IMCT visited the State during 04-07 December, 2018 for assessment of the drought condition and requirement of financial assistance. As per the existing procedure, the report/recommendations of IMCT would be placed before the Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC). Thereafter, the recommendations of the SC-NEC would be placed before the High Level Committee (HLC) for approval.

(b) The Central Government is committed to provide all assistance to Maharashtra in tackling drought.

(c) District Agriculture Contingency Plans (DACPs) have been prepared for the following 34 districts of Maharashtra:-

Thane, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Aurangabad, Beed, Latur, Nanded, Osmanabad, Parbhani, Hingoli, Jalna, Solapur, Ahmednagar, Dhule, Jalgaon, Kolhapur, Nandurbar, Nashik, Pune, Sangli, Satara, Akola, Amravati, Bhandara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Gondia, Nagpur, Wardha, Washim, Yavatmal and Palghar.

DACPs have been developed for use by district authorities during the periods of drought. These documents contain information on technical interventions to be taken for droughts (early season, mid-season and end of season drought) for both rainfed and irrigated areas.

(d) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned to take necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities, including drought. For such purpose, the States have ready availability of funds in their State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), to which contribution is made by the Government of India and State Governments concerned. The Government of India extends financial, logistic and other support. Additional assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from NDRF, for natural calamities of severe nature, in accordance with the establish procedure and on submission of Memorandum for Central assistance by the affected States, also keeping in view the extant items and norms for assistance from SDRF and NDRF.

(e) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare through ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), Hyderabad, has prepared detailed crop Contingency Plans for 623 districts. States have been advised for preparing, updating, and fine-tuning Contingency Plans for each district in consultation with CRIDA-ICAR and the State Agriculture Universities and to prepare location specific remedial measures based on these contingency plans in the event of late arrival of Monsoon, long dry spells, scanty rainfall, drought conditions, tying up availability of seeds and other inputs for implementing the Contingency Plans.

During the Kharif season, availability of Seeds etc. is being monitored and reviewed on a regular basis in the weekly Crop Weather Watch Group (CWWG) meeting being held in the Department. Weekly video conference with States is also being held to get first-hand information about States' preparedness and to advise States appropriately whenever needed.

To mitigate the adverse impact of drought, State Governments are advised to initiate remedial action *e.g.* constructing water harvesting structures under MGNREGA and other such schemes, promoting agronomic practices for moisture conservation, promoting cultivation of less water consuming crops and restoring irrigation infrastructure by desilting canals, energizing tube-wells, replacing/repairing faulty pumps and to carry out periodic assessment of preparation for kharif crops.

States have been advised to keep aside about 5 to 10% of fund allocated under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for undertaking appropriate interventions, if the situation so warrants, to minimize the adverse impact of an aberrant monsoon on the agriculture sector. The Central Government implements Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)/Central Sector (CS) Schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), the Rainfed Area Development Programme (RAD), National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), etc. which contribute towards drought proofing. Twenty five per cent of total outlay for all CSS Schemes (except for schemes, which emanate from a legislation, *e.g.*, MGNREGA), can be used as flexi funds to enable mitigation/restoration activities in cases of natural calamities. Kisan Call Centres (KCC) have been launched with the basic aim to provide information to farming community through toll free number on all seven days a week.

Kisan Portal subsumes all mobile based initiatives in the field of agriculture and allied sector. Officers, Scientists and Experts from all organizations and Department of the Government of India and State Governments [including State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and Agro-Meteorological Field Units (AMFUs)] are using this Portal for disseminating information (giving topical

and seasonal advisories and providing services through SMSs to farmers in their local languages) on various agricultural activities to registered farmers.

The Department of Land Resources (DoLR) is currently implementing 8214 watershed development projects in 28 States (except Goa) covering an area of about 39.07 million hectare under the Watershed Development Component (WDC) of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) principally for development of rainfed portions of net cultivated area and culturable wastelands, which includes drought prone areas of the country. The activities being undertaken *inter alia* include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rain water harvesting, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development, livelihoods for asset less persons etc.

National Agricultural Drought Assessment and Monitoring System (NADAMS) project, developed by National Remote Sensing Centre, provides near real-time information on prevalence, severity level and persistence of agricultural drought at state/district/sub-district level. NADAMS project is being handled by Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC), Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. Currently, it covers 17 States of India, which are predominantly agriculture based and prone to drought situation MNCFC is providing fortnightly and monthly drought assessment reports (June to October) to concerned States and national level government agencies.

The Government of India has also taken initiative to develop drought proofing plans for selected districts in the country. As part of this, in the 1st phase, 24 districts located in the States of Andhra Pradesh (4), Karnataka (16) and Rajasthan (4) were taken up for development of plans.

Operations of India Post Payments Bank

*167. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India Post Payments Bank has commenced its operations with 650 branches across the country w.e.f. 1 September, 2018;

(b) the total transaction carried out by these branches of India Post Payments Bank during the last three months;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is no information with many post offices about this Bank, except for the launch ceremony; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes Sir, consequent upon receiving the approval of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for expansion of network, India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) was formally launched with its own IT platform by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 01.09.2018 at 650 branches and 3250 Access Points across the country.

(b) The 650 India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) Branches are co-located in Post Offices and function as controlling offices for managing operations of the bank at Post office access points and to ensure regulatory compliance. The Banking services are being offered through Post office counters, doorstep and Mobile banking application. The total transactions performed from 01.09.2018 to 20.12.2018 are as under:-

Particulars	No. of Transactions (in lakhs)	Value (₹ in crores)
Money Remittance	2.46	187.89
Cash Deposit	2.6	46.29
Cash Withdrawal	0.37	10.19
Bill Payments	1.16	2.02
Sweep Transactions between IPPB Savings Accounts and Post Office Savings Accounts	1.17	186.00
Others (Payment of DoP Products, Intra-Bank transfers and inward remittances etc.)	1.94	50.68
TOTAL	9.70	483.07

(c) and (d) No Sir, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) have been circulated for Post Offices to go live with IPPB services, which are also published on the Department of Posts (DoP) website. Mandatory training and certification is carried out for DoP personnel before any Access Point goes live. Regulatory Branding is carried out at all Post offices before the launch.

IPPB stationary, QR cards, Smartphone and biometric devices are also issued to Post offices for IPPB operations. A well designed coordination mechanism between DoP and IPPB is also in place at Circle, Regional and Divisional levels to ensure exchange of information.

Drip and sprinkler irrigation in the country

*168. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Government each year for providing drip and sprinkler irrigation system to farmers in the country from 2015-16 to 2017-18, year-wise;

(b) the area of land, in hectares, that has been irrigated by drip and sprinkler irrigation during this period; and

(c) the number of farmers who have been benefited from such irrigation systems and the area of land in hectares irrigated in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is implementing Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) in the country from 2015-16. The PMKSY - PDMC mainly focuses on efficient use of water through adoption of precision/Micro Irrigation technologies viz. Drip and Sprinkler irrigation systems. The details of Central Assistance released to States and area covered under Drip and Sprinkler irrigation under PMKSY – PDMC from 2015-16 to 2017-18 is under:-

		(₹ in crore, Area in lakh Hectare)			
Sl.No.	Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Total
1.	Central Assistance released	1556.73	1991.24	2819.49	6367.46
2.	Area covered under Drip Irrigation	3.55	4.87	5.41	13.83
3.	Area covered under Sprinkler Irrigation	2.17	3.52	5.07	10.76

(c) During 2015-16 to 2017-18, 2.81 lakh farmers have been benefitted and an area of 4.51 lakh hectare was covered under Micro Irrigation under PMKSY – PDMC in the State of Gujarat.

Status of the Personnel Data Protection Bill, 2018

*169. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Personal Data Protection Bill, 2018;

(b) the details of submission received by the Ministry on public consultation carried out by Srikrishna Committee for the Personal Data Protection Bill 2018;

(c) the reasons that copies of the comments received through consultation have not been made publically available; and

(d) whether the Government intends to make these comments publically available now, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), on 31st July, 2017, *vide* OM No.3(6)/2017-CLES, constituted a Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Justice B. N. Srikrishna, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India. The said committee submitted its final report along with the draft Personal Data Protection Bill on 27th July, 2018. The said report analyzes various aspects pertaining to data protection. The report was put in the public domain and feedback was sought from the general public from 16th August till 10th October, 2018. In response feedback has been received from a large number of stakeholders. The feedback received is presently being analyzed and thereafter draft Personal Data Protection Bill is intended to be placed in parliament.

(b) to (d) The submissions received are being analysed and work is in progress towards drafting the Personal Data Protection Bill which has to be placed in Parliament. Therefore, public disclosure of the consultations at this stage will not be appropriate.

Services provided by Department of Posts

*170. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various services provided by the Department of Posts in the country and the revenue being earned from each of these services over the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been a declining trend in the use of various postal services; and

(c) if so, the details thereof over the last three years, service-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The services provided by the Department of Posts in the country and the revenue earned from each of these services over the last three years are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The Department of Posts offers various services for the use of customers. While most of the services have shown an increasing trend during the period, there are also some services which have shown a decline. The increasing and decreasing trend of services varies with requirement of the customers and also has seasonal

fluctuations. Department of Posts is closely monitoring the traffic of various postal services and is adjusting to the needs of the customers by adding value to the existing postal services as well as by introducing new services.

(c) The details of the services which have shown a decline over the last three years are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of Services being offered in Post Offices and Revenue

	(₹ in crore)		
Details of Services	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Premium Services (Speed Post, Business Post, Express Parcel, Business Parcel, Retail Post etc.)	2736.61	2913.37	2958.83
Traditional Services (Registered articles, Insured articles, Value Payable articles, Post Card etc.)	1286.75	1260.82	1289.11
Philately (Commemorative Stamps, My Stamps, Philatelic Ancillaries etc.)	38.99	62.17	100.4
Money Order and Indian Postal Order	464.84	284.62	228.11
Rural Business - Disbursement of wages of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)	425.28	48.00	156.90
Savings Bank and Cash Certificates	7783.87	7085.84	8102.32
Miscellaneous including net adjustments	203.45	-143.82	-2.91
TOTAL	12939.79	11511.00	12832.76
Insurance (Postal Life Insurance and Rural Postal Life Insurance)	619.66	664.38	716.06

* Income from Insurance is not treated as a revenue contribution. The income from Insurance results in the reduction in working expenses.

Statement-II

Details of Services which have shown a declining trend

	(₹ in crore)		
Details of Services	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Money Order and Indian Postal Order	464.84	284.62	228.11
Rural Business - Disbursement of wages of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)	425.28	48.00	156.90

Remuneration for farm produces

*171. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has devised any new schemes and programmes for the benefit of small and marginal farmers;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes and the system of farm credit to farmers;

(c) whether Government has recently assessed the reasons for slow growth of agriculture, marketing problems being faced by farmers and non-availability of proper remuneration for their farm produce; and

(d) if so, whether Government proposes to bring radical agricultural reforms to alleviate the difficulties faced by farmers and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare implements various schemes to supplement the production/income of farmers in the country. Some of the major schemes devised, *inter alia*, are, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)-RAFTAAR, National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), National Bamboo Mission (NBM), Soil Health Card (SHC), Soil Health Management (SHM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region (MOVCDNER), National Project on Agro Forestry, etc. Further, guidelines of Schemes like Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, Rainfed Area Development envisage that at least 50% of the allocation is to be utilized for small and marginal farmers.

Schemes of DAC&FW are intended to help all farmers across the country and roughly 85 per cent of the total operational holdings in the country (about 43 per cent of the gross cropped area) are in the Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs) category. As far as the issue of such farmers qualifying for loans is concerned, the Government has taken several measures to facilitate their access to institutional credit including *inter alia*:-

There are two types of Agriculture Credit namely (i) Short-Term: Loans for meeting the requirements of the cultivators for raising of crops, marketing of crops as well as working capital and production needs of farmers for a period of 6-18 months. Farmers are provided with short-term crop loans of upto ₹ 3.00 lakh per annum at subvented interest of 7% per annum. The scheme is implemented through

public sector banks and private sector banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperatives. Currently, besides 2% interest subvention, 3% incentive is given for prompt repayment thereby reducing the cost of loan to 4% per annum and (ii) Term Loans: for a period exceeding 3 years to make farm investments, allied activities, agro processing, organic farming, non-conventional energy etc.

Further, the source of Agricultural Credit are Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks.

The Government of India has also taken a number of initiatives for the benefit of small and marginal farmers to avail agricultural credit in a timely manner as under:-

- (i) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued Priority Sector Lending Guidelines (PSL), which mandates all Domestic Scheduled Commercial Banks to earmark 18% of their Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) or Credit Equivalent amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure (OBE), whichever is higher, towards agriculture.
- (ii) Government has introduced the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme, which enables them to draw cash to purchase agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilisers, pesticides as well as meet other agricultural and consumption needs. The KCC Scheme has been simplified by providing the farmers with ATM enabled debit card based on one-time documentation and built-in cost escalation in the limit, etc.
- (iii) To bring small, marginal and tenant farmers, etc. into the fold of institutional credit, Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) have been promoted by banks. Government also promotes formation of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) to enable farmers to leverage economies of scale, not only for agricultural inputs but also for enhanced marketing opportunities.
- (iv) Since June 2010, collateral- free limit of agricultural loans has been raised from ₹ 50,000 to ₹ 1,00,000/-.

(c) and (d) The Government of India regularly monitors/reviews progress of the schemes through meetings with concerned officers of State Governments, Zonal conferences held both for Rabi and Kharif seasons, review meetings, video conferences. Besides, review is also conducted at the level of Union Agriculture Ministers and officers of the Department through visits to the States to keep a close watch on the implementation of various agricultural schemes.

To develop Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure including Storage infrastructure, Integrated Scheme for Agriculture Marketing is being implemented and a sub-scheme

of the same is Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI). Further, a scheme for transparent price discovery for remunerative prices for the produce of farmers is being implemented under National Agriculture Market (e-NAM). So far, 585, wholesale regulated markets of 16 States and 2 UTs have been integrated with e-NAM platform. For getting onboard, the States/Union Territories have to adopt model APMC Act by amending their Agriculture Produce Market Committee Act.

The Government has set a target to double farmers' income by the year 2022. The Government had constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee to examine issues relating to doubling of farmers' income and to recommend a strategy to achieve doubling of farmers' income in real terms by the year 2022.

The committee has identified seven sources of income growth *viz.*, improvement in crop productivity, livestock productivity, resource use efficiency or savings in the cost of production, increase in the cropping intensity, diversification towards high value crops, improvement in real prices received by farmers, and shift from farm to non-farm occupations. The committee examined various aspects like investments in and for agriculture *e.g.* increasing public investments for agriculture-rural roads, rural electricity, irrigation; the need for policy support to enable investments by corporate sector in agriculture.

The Government reoriented the agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centeredness which goes beyond achieving merely the targeted production. The income approach focuses on achieving high productivity, reduced cost of cultivation and remunerative price on the produce, with a view to earn higher profits from farming.

Some of the radical agricultural reforms to alleviate the difficulties faced by farmers *inter alia*, include:—

- (i) Initiating market reforms through the State Governments by amending the agriculture marketing regime.
- (ii) Encouraging contract farming through the State Governments by promulgating of Model Contract Farming Act.
- (iii) 22,000 Gramin Haats are to be upgraded to work as centers of aggregation and for direct purchase of agricultural commodities from the farmers.
- (iv) Launch of e-NAM initiative to provide farmers an electronic online trading platform.
- (v) Implementation of flagship scheme of distribution of Soil Health Cards to farmers so that the use of fertilizers can be optimized. So far more than 15 crore Soil Health Cards have been distributed in two cycles.

- (vi) “Per Drop More Crop” initiative under which drip/sprinkler irrigation is being encouraged for optimal utilization of water.
- (vii) “Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)” under which organic farming is being promoted. North East is being developed as organic hub under Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region.
- (viii) A revised farmer friendly “Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana” have been launched. The scheme covers various types of risks from pre-sowing to post harvest and the farmers have to pay very nominal premium.
- (ix) Under “Har Medh Par Ped”, agro forestry is being promoted. With the amendment of Indian Forest Act, 1947 Bamboo grown outside forest area has been removed from the definition of trees and a mission have been launched to promote bamboo plantation.
- (x) Launch of PM-Aasha scheme which will ensure MSP to farmers for oilseeds, pulses and copra.
- (xi) Minimum Support Price (MSP) is notified by the Government for certain crops. Giving a major boost for the farmers income, the Government has approved the increase in the MSPs for all Kharif and Rabi crops for 2018-19 season at a level of at least 150 per cent of the cost of production.
- (xii) Bee keeping has been promoted under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) to increase the productivity of crops through pollination and increase the honey production as an additional source of income of farmers.
- (xiii) Rashtriya Gokul Mission has been implemented to enhance milk production and productivity of bovines and to make milk production more remunerative to the farmers.
- (xiv) National Livestock Mission has been implemented to increase productivity and genetic improvement of livestock.
- (xv) Foreseeing high potential in fisheries sector, a Blue Revolution with multi-dimensional activities mainly focusing on fisheries production, both inland and marine is being implemented.

Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)

*172. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has come up with a proposal to approve ₹ 2,477 crore towards Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) which would finance infrastructure requirement of dairy, livestock and fisheries sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the fund would be directly given to the States or released through Central Government schemes, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) The Central Government has declared establishment of Fisheries Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) and Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) for a total Corpus of 10,000 crores. FIDF has been approved with a corpus of ₹ 7522.48 crores. Remaining amount of ₹ 2477.52 crores has been proposed for AHIDF.

(c) The fund is proposed to be utilized through National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) for financing State Governments and Public Sector Entities, National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for funding to the Cooperative Institutions and Scheduled Banks for private firms, individual, entrepreneurs etc. The Central Government would provide budgetary support towards interest subvention and other administrative and incidental charges.

However, though the proposal was submitted to EFC, but the EFC has not yet approved. The Department of Expenditure has advised to revisit the proposal and resubmit the same.

Availability of fertilizers

*173. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of national policy on supply of quality fertilizers to farmers;

(b) the annual requirement of fertilizers and reasons for short supply;

(c) the quantum of fertilizers imported during last three years and current year along with the value of such imports;

(d) the details of subsidies extended on fertilizers during the said period, year-wise;

(e) whether Government is planning to scale down these subsidies and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether Government is aware of smuggling of fertilizers from our country to neighbouring countries and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) Sir, in order to ensure supply of good quality of fertilizers to the farmers, Government of India has declared the fertilizer as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and has promulgated the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985. Specifications of fertilizers are prescribed in the said order. The Fertiliser (Control) Order, strictly prohibits the sale of fertilizers which are not of prescribed standards. Any violation of the provision of FCO invokes both administrative and penal action.

The mandate of the Department of Fertilizers (DoF) is to make available fertilizers to farmers at affordable prices. The “affordable prices” part of mandate gets translated into subsidized fertilizers. The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Integrated Fertilizer Management System (IFMS).

Urea is being provided to the farmers at a statutorily notified Maximum Retail Price (MRP). The difference between the delivered cost of fertilizers at farm gate and net market realization by the urea units is given as subsidy to the urea manufacturer/importer by the Government of India.

The Government is implementing Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme w.e.f. 1.4.2010. Under the said Scheme, a fixed amount of subsidy decided on annual basis, is provided on each grade of subsidized Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers of FCO standards, depending upon its Nutrient Content.

(b) The projected requirement of fertilizers *i.e.* Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK in the current year 2018-19 is 316.05 LMT, 98.41 LMT, 36.81 LMT and 97.68 LMT respectively. Upto November’18, availability of fertilizers *i.e.* Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK was 203.68 LMT, 77.85 LMT, 23.22 LMT and 76.69 LMT against the sales of 198.12 LMT, 71.52 LMT, 21.27 LMT and 66.48 LMT respectively. It may be noted that availability of fertilizers is more than the sales.

(c) The year-wise quantity and value of urea imported during the last three years and current year (upto November, 2018) are as under:—

Year	From OMIFCO (LMT)	Through STEs (LMT)	Total Urea Imported (LMT)	Value (Million US\$)
2015-16	20.77	63.96	84.73	2,087.61
2016-17	20.02	34.79	54.81	1,047.28
2017-18	20.92	38.83	59.75	1,295.72
2018-19*	14.39	27.64	42.03	1,048.59

* upto November, 2018.

Import of fertilizers (other than Urea) is free, commonly known as Open General Licence (OGL). Various companies import these fertilizers as per their commercial judgement. Government does not maintain the value of these imports. The year-wise details of quantity of P&K fertilizers imported during the last three years and current year (upto November, 2018) are as under:—

(Figures in Lakh MT)

Year	DAP	NPK	MOP#
2015-16	60.08	6.29	32.43
2016-17	43.85	5.21	37.36
2017-18	42.17	4.99	47.36
2018-19*	52.20	4.04	27.53

* upto November, 2018

MOP includes both for use as direct application as well as NPK manufacture.

(d) The details of subsidies extended on fertilizers during the last three years and the current year 2018-19 (as on 24.12.2018) is given in the table below:—

(₹ in crores)

Year	Indigenous Urea	Imported Urea	Indigenous P&K	Imported P&K	City Compost
2015-16	38,200.00	16,400.00	11,969.00	9,968.56	-
2016-17	40,000.00	11,256.59	11,842.88	6,999.99	0.55
2017-18	36,973.70	9,980.00	14,337.00	7,900.00	7.26
2018-19 (As on 24.12.2018)	29,067.12	8,796.65	13,640.61	8,775.98	6.92

(e) No, Sir. There is no proposal.

(f) Government of India has declared fertilizer as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (ECA) and notified Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO), 1985 and Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973 under the EC Act. State Governments have been adequately empowered to check smuggling of fertilizers. State Governments are empowered to conduct search, make seizures and take punitive action against any person violating provisions of FCO, 1985 and Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Details of seizure of fertilizers along Indian Borders during the last three years and current year upto 30.11.2018 by the Border Guarding Forces of all land borders collected by Ministry of Home affairs are as follows:-

India-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh Border:-

Particular	[Fertilizers seizure (in Kg)]			
	Year 2015	2016	2017	2018 (Up to 30.11.18)
Seized	7749	587	1515	557

India-Nepal and Indo-China Border:-

Particular	[Fertilizers seizure (in Kg)]			
	Year 2015	2016	2017	2018 (Up to 30.11.18)
Seized	2,23,250	70,650	64,300	36,987

India-Bhutan Border:- Nil.

India-Myanmar Border:-

Particular	[Fertilizers seizure (in KG)]			
	Year 2015	2016	2017	2018 (Up to 30.11.18)
Seized	12,000	Nil	Nil	1,100

It has also been informed by the Ministry of Home Affairs that the following measures have been taken by Border Guarding Force's to check cross border smuggling along Indian Borders (IBs):-

- (i) Vulnerability mapping of BOPs has been done and being reviewed from time-to-time from the point of view of cross-border crimes. Strengthening of BOPs is done by deploying additional manpower, special Surveillance, Equipment, vehicles and other infrastructure support.
- (ii) Effective domination of the borders by carrying out round the clock surveillance of the border viz patrolling, laying nakas, establishing of observation posts all along the IB and strengthening of existing defences of the BOPs.

- (iii) Erection of Border fencing and Installation of Border floodlight on the International Border along Pakistan and Bangladesh Borders.
- (iv) Use of Water crafts/boats and floating BOPs for domination of riverine area along India-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh Border.
- (v) Sharing of intelligence and close liaison with sister agencies.
- (vi) Conduct of special operations along the border and in-depth areas. Introduction of Force multipliers and Hi-tech Surveillance equipment.
- (vii) Random checking and nakabandi to check illegal activities.

Denial of entitlement to beneficiaries on Aadhaar authentication

*174. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether UIDAI had issued an exemption circular in October, 2017 to ensure that no beneficiary is denied entitlement due to authentication failures or other extraneous failures like internet outage, etc.;

(b) if so, the State-wise list of exception handling mechanisms put in place, number of beneficiaries who have availed these mechanisms since October, 2017;

(c) whether any action has been taken against authorities where it was found that entitlement was denied for Aadhaar-related reasons despite orders for exemption;

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

(e) the remedial actions taken to prevent such incidents from happening in future?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) had issued a circular dated 24.10.2017 regarding "Exception handling in Public Distribution Services and other Welfare Schemes" addressed to all Ministries/ Departments and State Governments. The circular, *inter alia*, stipulated exception handling mechanism and back up identity authentication mechanism for implementation to ensure seamless delivery of subsidy, benefit or service to the beneficiaries. The said circular is available at UIDAI website under the following URL: <https://uidai.gov.in/legal-framework/acts/circulars.html>

Further, DBT Mission had also issued another circular regarding 'Use of Aadhaar in Benefit Schemes of Government-Exception Handling' dated 19.12.2017 to all Ministries/Departments and State Governments detailing the steps to be taken for

exception handling, which is available at the following URL: https://dbtbharat.gov.in/data/om/Aadhaar_Exception_Handling_OM_19122017.pdf

(b) to (e) The aforesaid circular was of an advisory nature wherein the Ministries/ Departments were requested to issue appropriate directions to the State Governments/ Implementing Agencies for the suggested exception handling mechanism and also monitor the same on a periodical basis.

Unspent MPLADS funds

*175. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of ₹ 12,000 crore of the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) funds remain unspent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government asks district administration to provide regular information on work-wise, MP-wise and year-wise details on progress of projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) The unspent balance of the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) funds as on 30.11.2018 is ₹ 4480.14 crore. Details given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Ministry has been receiving MP-wise and year-wise aggregate information from all Nodal District Authorities about the physical and financial progress of the works recommended and fund utilization, which is essentially required for release of funds.

The Ministry has also been regularly asking the District Authorities to upload the work-wise details on MPLADS Portal. As a result, 247 Nodal Districts out of total 471 nodal districts have already started uploading work-wise details.

Statement

Details of unspent balance as on 30.11.2018

Sl.No.	State/Category	Unspent Balance (₹ in crore)
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4.22
2.	Andhra Pradesh	265.91

Sl.No.	State/Category	Unspent Balance (₹ in crore)
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.73
4.	Assam	141.75
5.	Bihar	309.03
6.	Chandigarh	3.26
7.	Chhattisgarh	63.88
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8.36
9.	Daman and Diu	6.00
10.	Delhi	73.40
11.	Goa	16.10
12.	Gujarat	193.56
13.	Haryana	88.79
14.	Himachal Pradesh	56.94
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	58.38
16.	Jharkhand	157.67
17.	Karnataka	259.70
18.	Kerala	108.46
19.	Lakshadweep	6.70
20.	Madhya Pradesh	225.38
21.	Maharashtra	385.49
22.	Manipur	14.52
23.	Meghalaya	6.64
24.	Mizoram	1.91
25.	Nagaland	5.15
26.	Odisha	249.50
27.	Puducherry	10.97
28.	Punjab	118.93
29.	Rajasthan	240.30
30.	Sikkim	9.12
31.	Tamil Nadu	247.10
32.	Telangana	68.22
33.	Tripura	9.13
34.	Uttar Pradesh	665.58

Sl.No.	State/Category	Unspent Balance (₹ in crore)
35.	Uttarakhand	71.34
36.	West Bengal	229.49
	SUB TOTAL	4389.61
37.	Nominated	90.53
	SUB TOTAL	90.53
	GRAND TOTAL	4480.14

Unremunerative agricultural sector

*176. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the fact that India is an agriculture-based country and agro production has a big role in the economy of the country, agriculture is proving unprofitable as agro production has become unremunerative; and

(b) if so, the action Government has taken to improve the agricultural sector in the country and if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) As there are limits to increasing area sown, profitability of crops depends on productivity and demand-supply conditions. Productivity of crops varies on the basis of location specific factors including soil, climatic condition, methods of cultivation, application of technology and inputs used. No generalized evidence on reduction in profitability of crops in recent years has been observed on an all-India basis. Increase in productivity is reflected in the record foodgrain production in the last two years. As per the Fourth Advance Estimates for 2017-18, total foodgrain production in the country is estimated at a record high of 284.83 million tonnes which is 9.72 million tonnes higher than the earlier record foodgrain production of 275.11 million tonnes achieved during 2016-17.

Government is committed to farmer's welfare. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) policy announced in 2018-19 season, whereby the farmers are assured of a minimum of 50 per cent as margin of profit is another progressive step forward in a series of reforms that the Government has been rolling out for the last 4 years.

Government has been implementing/reorienting various schemes for betterment of agriculture sector with four key elements: reducing input costs; ensuring fair price for the produce; reducing wastage; and creating alternate sources of income.

Some of the major initiatives of the Government to increase the welfare of the farmers are Soil Health Cards (SHC), production and availability of quality seeds, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), e-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). Moreover, Government is also promoting allied activities like dairying, poultry, beekeeping and fisheries which will mitigate risks associated with dependence on agricultural crops through such income supplementation.

The Government is promoting group farming amongst the farmers. Small and marginal farmers are mobilized to form Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)/Farmer Interest Group for aggregation and economies of scale. FPOs are eligible for financial assistance *inter alia* under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture and National Food Security Mission.

Giving a major boost to the pro-farmer initiatives of the Government and in keeping with its commitment and dedication for the Annadata, the Government has approved a new Umbrella Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan' (PM-AASHA). The Scheme is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018 which envisages scaling up procurement significantly from the current Kharif marketing season.

Renaming of Allahabad High Court

*177. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state whether Government proposes to rename the Allahabad High Court to Prayagraj High Court, as the name of Allahabad city has been changed officially?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): No, Sir. There is no proposal presently for renaming the Allahabad High Court as Prayagraj High Court.

Quality of Legal Education

*178. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the step being taken by Government to improve the quality of legal education in the country;

(b) whether there exists guidelines to declare a Law University as National Law University (NLU), if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Law colleges/Universities in the Country have been bestowed the tag of “Institutes of National Importance” or “Institutes of Eminence”;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) The Bar Council of India has framed Rules of Legal Education, 2008 under the power conferred by the Advocates Act, 1961. The Law Commission of India submitted its 266th report to Government of India in March, 2017 titled “The Advocates Act, 1961 (Regulation of Legal Profession)” in which it has made various recommendations to improve standards of legal education in India.

(b) Bar Council of India has informed that there are no guidelines to declare any university or institution as National Law University. Moreover, National Law Universities, which have been established and are in existence today, are all creation of statutes of the State Government and are also run by the respective State Governments.

(c) to (e) The entry 64 of list-I of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India provides that “Institutions for scientific or technical education financed by the Government of India wholly or in part and declared by Parliament by law to be institutions of national importance”. At present no Law Colleges/Universities in the country have been bestowed the tag of “Institutes of National Importance” or “Institutes of Eminence”.

Effect of climate change on agriculture

*179. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is cognisant of the annual report of ICAR, published recently, which states that one-third of the districts in the country would be susceptible to extreme effects of climate change;

(b) if so, whether Government has a strategy to counter extreme weather events and act swiftly to mitigate damage, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which Government would deal with 15-18 per cent average decline in farmers’ income, as projected in the ICAR report?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India is implementing National Action Plan on Climate Change, which includes agriculture as one of the missions. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) developed heat and drought tolerant wheat, flood tolerant rice, drought tolerant pulses, water logging and high temperature tolerant tomato etc. As part of NICRA project, relative vulnerability of agriculture to climate change was assessed during 2011. Based on the index, 572 rural districts were divided into five categories with equal number of districts and the top 20% of districts (115) were categorized as districts with 'very high' vulnerability and the next 20 % (115 districts) as districts with 'high' vulnerability. Further ICAR developed district agricultural contingency plans for 633 districts to provide agro-advisories during extreme climatic conditions.

(c) The Technology Demonstration Component (TDC) of NICRA was initiated in 2011 to demonstrate the location specific technologies enabling farmers to cope with current climatic variability and to enhance their adaptive capacity. The programme is being taken up in 151 climatically vulnerable districts of the country by taking one representative village from each of the district. The objective is to make the farmers aware about the new technologies by way of demonstrations and also by trainings so that farmers adopt these technologies which enables them to become resilient even under variable climatic conditions.

Changes in drought management manual

*180. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the changes made in the Manual for Drought Management, 2016 from the previous Manual of 2009;

(b) the reasons for making changes in the Manual for Drought Management;

(c) the details of the districts affected due to drought in the last two years, State/UT-wise; and

(d) the assistance provided by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) The revised Drought Manual, 2016 provides use of modern technology in monitoring/determination of drought. New scientific indices and parameters, such as, Mandatory Indicators (Rainfall deviation or Standardized Precipitation Index/Dry Spell); Impact Indicators (Agriculture-Crop Area Sown; Remote

Sensing-Vegetation Condition Index or Normalized Difference Vegetation Index and Normalized Difference Wetness Index Deviations; Soil Moisture-Per cent Available Soil Moisture/Moisture Adequacy Index; and Hydrology-Stream Flow Drought Index/Reservoir Storage Index/Ground Water Drought Index); have been introduced for a more accurate assessment and monitoring of drought. Revised Manual also contains methodology for computation of various indices/for determination of Severity of drought and timelines for Declaration of drought, Assessment and Release of financial assistance.

(b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its judgement pronounced on 11.05.2016 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 857/2015- Swaraj Abhiyan Vs. Union of India and others, directed Union of India to, *inter alia*, revise the Manual for Drought Management, published by the Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare in 2009. While appreciating the efforts of the Department in bringing Drought Manual, the Court felt that sufficient time had elapsed to warrant a revision of the Manual to incorporate new developments. Specific directions were issued in this regard, which *inter alia*, included, (i) weightage to be ascribed to each of the four key indicators, namely, Rainfall Deficiency, Area under Sowing, Normalized Difference Vegetation Index and Moisture Adequacy Index; (ii) time limit to be set for declaring a drought; (iii) delineate any possible factors not already considered; (iv) standardization of the nomenclature; and (v) use of technology etc. In compliance of the Court judgement, the Drought Manual has been revised/updated in December, 2016 through a consultative process involving the concerned Central Ministries, State Governments, scientific, technical and research organisations.

(c) Names of the districts, affected by drought during the last two years *i.e.* 2016-17 and 2017-18, State/UT-wise, are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(d) Details of assistance sought by the State and the assistance approved, are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Detail of the

Sl.No. State	Name of the District as Drought affected
2016-17	
1. Karnataka	Kharif: Bagalkote, Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru Urban, Ballari, Belagavi, Chamarajnagar, Chickballapur, Chikkamagalur, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Dharwad, Gadag, Hassan, Haveri, Kodagu, Kolar, Koppal, Mandya, Mysuru, Raichur, Ramanagara, Shivamogga, Tumakuru, Uttara Kannada, Vijayapura, Yadgir (26 districts).

Sl.No.	State	Name of the District as Drought affected
		Rabi: Bagalkote, Bangalore Rural, Bangalore Urban, Ballari, Belagavi, Bidar, Chamarajnar, Chickballapur, Chikkamagalur, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Dharwad, Gadag, Hassan, Haveri, Kalaburgi, Kodagu, Kolar, Koppal, Mandya, Mysuru, Raichur, Ramanagara, Shivamogga, Tumakuru, Dakshin Kannada, Udupi, Uttara Kannada, Vijayapura, Yadgir (30 districts).
2.	Chhattisgarh	—
3.	Madhya Pradesh	—
4.	Andhra Pradesh	Anantapur, Chittoor, Kadapa, Kurnool, Nellore, Prakasam, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram (8 districts).
5.	Uttar Pradesh	—
6.	Rajasthan	Ajmer, Barmer, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Churu, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhalawar, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Udaipur (13 districts).
7.	Tamil Nadu	Ariyalur, Chennai, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Kancheepuram, Kanniyakumari, Karur, Krishnagiri, Madurai, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, Nilgiris, Perambalur, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram, Salem, Sivagangai, Thanjavur, Theni, Thoothukudi, Tiruchirapalli Tirunelveli, Tiruppur, Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruvarur, Vellore, Villupuram, Virudhunagar (32 districts).
8.	Kerala	Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Idukki, Kannur, Kasaragode, Kollam, Kottayam, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Palakkad, Pathanamthitta, Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur, Wayanad (14 districts).
9.	Puducherry	Puducherry, Karaikad (2districts).

2017-18

1. Karnataka —
2. Chhattisgarh Raipur, Baloda Bazaar, Gariyaband, Dhamtari, Mahasamund, Durg, Balod, Bemetara, Rajnandgaon, Kabirdham, Kondagaon, Dantewada, Kanker, Bilaspur, Mungeli, Jajgir-Champa, Korba, Raigarh, Koriya, Narayanpur, Bijapur (21 districts).

Sl.No.	State	Name of the District as Drought affected
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Ashoknagar, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Damoh, Gwalior, Panna, Sagar, Satna, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Vidisha, Sheopur, Morena, Datia, Shajapur, Shahdol, Umaria (18 districts).
4.	Andhra Pradesh	YSR Kadapa, Anantapur, Kurnool, Chittoor, Prakasam (5 districts).
5.	Uttar Pradesh	Jhansi, Sonbhadra, Lalitpur, Mahoba, Mirzapur (5 districts).
6.	Rajasthan	Barmer, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Churu, Dungarpur, Sri Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Sawai Madhopur (13 districts).
7.	Tamil Nadu	—
8.	Kerala	—
9.	Puducherry	—

Statement-II

Details of assistance sought by the State and the assistance approved

Sl. No.	State	(₹ in crore)			
		2016-17		2017-18	
		Assistance sought	Assistance approved	Assistance sought	Assistance approved
1.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	678.98(R)	157.23(R)
2.	Karnataka	4702.54(K) 3310.83(R)	1782.44(K) 795.54(R)	-	-
3.	Andhra Pradesh	2513.97(K)	518.93(K)	679.19(R)	113.14(R)
4.	Rajasthan	3660.97(K)	588.34(K)	3078.26(K)	526.14(K)
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	4401.00(K)	395.91(K)
6.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	3705.95(K)	836.09(K)
7.	Kerala	1019.90	112.05	-	-
8.	Tamil Nadu	39565.00	1748.28	-	-
9.	Puducherry	150.52	17.70	-	-

K-Kharif. R-Rabi.

Threat of Fall Armyworm on farming

1761. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn towards media reports regarding Fall Armyworm or Pesky worm, a global farm threat that knocks on India's door;

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

(c) the precautionary measures Government proposes to take to counter the threat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) During Kharif 2018, the Maize Crop was affected by a Pest called Fall Armyworm (FAW) (*Spodoptera frugiperda*). As per the available reports, an area (approx.) of 81000 ha. in Karnataka, 1740 ha. in Telangana, 1431 ha. in Andhra Pradesh and 315 ha. in Tamil Nadu was affected by this Pest. During Rabi 2018, the Pest has also been noticed on Sorghum and Sugarcane crop. Taking cognizance of the situation, the Department of Agriculture, cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) has assisted the State Agriculture Departments, *inter alia*, by undertaking exhaustive surveys, disseminating timely advisories, organizing review meetings, distributing bio-control agents, extending label claims of pesticides against FAW and promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) package of practices for Maize.

'Save Fisheries' campaign

1762. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that fisheries farmers bear huge loss every year due to sizzling temperature and water shortage in summer season across the country resulting in stunted growth, deaths of fishes and thus reduced production;

(b) if so, the details of estimated loss incurred by fisheries farmers during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to launch a 'Save Fisheries' campaign by educating farmers to follow certain tips to maintain base level of their farm pond?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) and (b) It is but natural

that during the summer season water level would be down in all water bodies in the country. However, there is no studies conducted to ascertain if any loss is incurred by the fishermen. No statistics are available on this account. This Department does not have report from any State regarding losses incurred by respective fishermen, during summer season.

(c) Notwithstanding the above, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries", across the country which has a three sub-components namely (i) Management of Marine Fisheries, (ii) Riverine Fisheries Conservation and Awareness Programme and (iii) Training, awareness building programmes and seminars/workshop to train staff and beneficiaries/stakeholders etc., wherein, there is provision to create awareness among fish farmers to adopt best management practices for fish culture. Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare is also conducting necessary training and awareness programme regularly to benefit fish farmers, wherein the farmers are advised to use these seasonal water bodies for nursery rearing of fry and fingerling production. Further, the farmers are also advised to adopt farming of medium carps and other diversified species for short duration culture.

Production of paddy, vegetables and fish in the country

1763. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is giving due importance to produce more paddy, vegetables and fishes in different States; and

(b) if so, the amount of paddy, vegetables and fishes produced in different States in the year 2016-17, 2017-18 and upto November, during 2018-19?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) The Government is giving due importance to produce more paddy, vegetables and fishes in different States through various schemes/programmes. In so far as Paddy is concerned, the programme/schemes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)/Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI) – a sub scheme of RKVY, National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) etc. are being implemented for production of more Paddy in the country.

As regards vegetable production, the programmes of Mission for Integrated

Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana are being implemented.

Similarly for increasing fish production and for Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries, the Government has formulated the Blue Revolution, which is a restructured Central Sector Scheme with its multi-dimensional activities, focusing on increasing fisheries production and productivity from aquaculture and fisheries resources, both inland and marine. Blue Revolution, visualizes “Creating an enabling environment for an integrated and holistic development and management of fisheries and improving the socio-economic conditions of fishers and fish farmers keeping in view the sustainability, bio-security and environmental concerns. Besides fisheries production is also being promoted through Rainfed Area Development (RAD) component of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and RKVY.

(b) The amount of paddy, vegetables and fishes produced in different States from 2016-17 to 2018-19 are given in the Statement-I to III respectively.

Statement-I

State-wise Estimates of Production of Rice during 2016-17 to 2018-19

States	Production ('000 Tonnes)		
	2016-17	2017-18*	2018-19**
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	7452.4	8176.2	5068.7
Assam	4727.4	5164.0	3926.0
Bihar	8239.3	7911.2	6787.8
Chhattisgarh	8048.4	4725.5	6298.8
Gujarat	1930.0	2039.0	1938.4
Haryana	4453.0	4523.4	4299.3
Himachal Pradesh	146.6	116.6	116.8
Jammu and Kashmir	572.2	613.9	577.2
Jharkhand	3841.8	4078.0	4047.0
Karnataka	2604.8	2807.0	2665.7
Kerala	437.1	499.0	139.7
Madhya Pradesh	4226.8	4123.9	5362.0
Maharashtra	3109.5	2712.7	3127.5

1	2	3	4
Odisha	8325.9	6527.9	6854.9
Punjab	11586.2	13382.0	13363.5
Rajasthan	452.7	450.9	452.3
Tamil Nadu	2369.4	7277.7	1959.6
Telangana	5173.4	6250.0	3490.1
Uttar Pradesh	13754.0	13270.6	14483.5
Uttarakhand	630.0	655.0	600.0
West Bengal	15302.5	14967.0	11679.0
Others	2314.9	2633.8	2001.4
ALL-INDIA	109698.4	112905.5	99239.4

* As per 4th Advance Estimates.

** As per 1st Advance Estimates (Kharif only) released on 26th September, 2018.

Statement-II

State-wise Production of Vegetables Crops

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Production in '000 MT	
		2016-17	2017-18 (3rd Advance Estimates)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8026.36	7378.60
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14.42	14.71
3.	Assam	3329.58	4033.30
4.	Bihar	14520.97	13948.04
5.	Chhattisgarh	6728.00	6827.35
6.	Gujarat	13161.25	13292.86
7.	Haryana	6180.43	6661.91
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1783.77	1806.22
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1410.42	1424.52
10.	Jharkhand	3370.00	3476.35
11.	Karnataka	8167.16	7423.38
12.	Kerala	1921.45	2102.09

1	2	3	4
13.	Madhya Pradesh	17928.50	17647.33
14.	Maharashtra	10520.49	10026.05
15.	Manipur	369.85	333.20
16.	Meghalaya	523.42	520.60
17.	Mizoram	179.88	169.81
18.	Nagaland	564.62	561.61
19.	Odisha	8761.61	8766.08
20.	Punjab	4564.91	4919.71
21.	Rajasthan	1795.37	2109.30
22.	Sikkim	190.72	229.10
23.	Tamil Nadu	6559.84	6474.94
24.	Telangana	1647.03	2183.46
25.	Tripura	817.94	827.11
26.	Uttar Pradesh	28192.63	27515.92
27.	Uttarakhand	945.29	946.38
28.	West Bengal	25505.66	27565.10
29.	Others	490.83	506.76
TOTAL		178172.40	179691.80

Note: The final Estimates of 2017-18 and First Estimates of 2018-19 will be finalized shortly in January, 2019.

Statement-III

State-wise Fish Production during 2016-17 to 2018-19

(in MMT)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Inland	Marine	Total
2016-17 (P)				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2.186	0.580	2.766
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.004	0.000	0.004
3.	Assam	0.307	0.000	0.307
4.	Bihar	0.510	0.000	0.510
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.377	0.000	0.377
6.	Goa	0.004	0.114	0.118

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Inland	Marine	Total
7.	Gujarat	0.113	0.699	0.812
8.	Haryana	0.144	0.000	0.144
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.012	0.000	0.012
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.019	0.000	0.019
11.	Jharkhand	0.145	0.000	0.145
12.	Karnataka	0.159	0.399	0.557
13.	Kerala	0.161	0.447	0.609
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0.139	0.000	0.139
15.	Maharashtra	0.200	0.463	0.663
16.	Manipur	0.032	0.000	0.032
17.	Meghalaya	0.012	0.000	0.012
18.	Mizoram	0.008	0.000	0.008
19.	Nagaland	0.009	0.000	0.009
20.	Odisha	0.455	0.153	0.608
21.	Punjab	0.112	0.000	0.112
22.	Rajasthan	0.050	0.000	0.050
23.	Sikkim	0.000	0.000	0.000
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.197	0.472	0.669
25.	Telangana	0.199	0.000	0.199
26.	Tripura	0.072	0.000	0.072
27.	Uttarakhand	0.004	0.000	0.004
28.	Uttar Pradesh	0.618	0.000	0.618
29.	West Bengal	1.525	0.177	1.702
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.000	0.039	0.039
31.	Chandigarh	0.000	0.000	0.000
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.000	0.000	0.000
33.	Daman and Diu	0.001	0.023	0.024
34.	Delhi	0.001	0.000	0.001
35.	Lakshadweep	0.000	0.030	0.030
36.	Puducherry	0.004	0.046	0.050
ALL INDIA		7.781	3.641	11.422

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Inland	Marine	Total
2017-18 (P)				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2.845	0.605	3.450
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.004	0.000	0.004
3.	Assam	0.327	0.000	0.327
4.	Bihar	0.588	0.000	0.588
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.457	0.000	0.457
6.	Goa	0.006	0.119	0.125
7.	Gujarat	0.118	0.701	0.819
8.	Haryana	0.190	0.000	0.190
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.013	0.000	0.013
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.021	0.000	0.021
11.	Jharkhand	0.190	0.000	0.190
12.	Karnataka	0.188	0.414	0.603
13.	Kerala	0.148	0.414	0.563
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0.143	0.000	0.143
15.	Maharashtra	0.131	0.475	0.606
16.	Manipur	0.033	0.000	0.033
17.	Meghalaya	0.012	0.000	0.012
18.	Mizoram	0.008	0.000	0.008
19.	Nagaland	0.009	0.000	0.009
20.	Odisha	0.534	0.151	0.685
21.	Punjab	0.137	0.000	0.137
22.	Rajasthan	0.054	0.000	0.054
23.	Sikkim	0.000	0.000	0.000
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.215	0.497	0.712
25.	Telangana	0.270	0.000	0.270
26.	Tripura	0.077	0.000	0.077
27.	Uttarakhand	0.005	0.000	0.005
28.	Uttar Pradesh	0.629	0.000	0.629
29.	West Bengal	1.557	0.185	1.742

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Inland	Marine	Total
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.000	0.039	0.040
31.	Chandigarh	0.000	0.000	0.000
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.000	0.000	0.000
33.	Daman and Diu	0.000	0.024	0.025
34.	Delhi	0.001	0.000	0.001
35.	Lakshadweep	0.000	0.021	0.021
36.	Puducherry	0.007	0.042	0.050
	ALL INDIA	8.917	3.688	12.606

2018-19 (P) (Up to 2nd Quarter)

1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.239	0.057	1.295
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.001	0.000	0.001
3.	Assam	0.126	0.000	0.126
4.	Bihar	0.252	0.000	0.252
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.234	0.000	0.234
6.	Goa	0.003	0.044	0.047
7.	Gujarat	0.000	0.000	0.000
8.	Haryana	0.084	0.000	0.084
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.004	0.000	0.004
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.005	0.000	0.005
11.	Jharkhand	0.054	0.000	0.054
12.	Karnataka	0.052	0.067	0.119
13.	Kerala	0.000	0.000	0.000
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0.052	0.000	0.052
15.	Maharashtra	0.049	0.163	0.212
16.	Manipur	0.000	0.000	0.000
17.	Meghalaya	0.000	0.000	0.000
18.	Mizoram	0.001	0.000	0.001
19.	Nagaland	0.002	0.000	0.002
20.	Odisha	0.166	0.017	0.183
21.	Punjab	0.066	0.000	0.066

Sl.No.	State/UT's	Inland	Marine	Total
22.	Rajasthan	0.005	0.000	0.005
23.	Sikkim	0.000	0.000	0.000
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.000	0.000	0.000
25.	Telangana	0.179	0.000	0.179
26.	Tripura	0.000	0.000	0.000
27.	Uttarakhand	0.000	0.000	0.000
28.	Uttar Pradesh	0.310	0.000	0.310
29.	West Bengal	0.000	0.000	0.000
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.000	0.019	0.019
31.	Chandigarh	0.000	0.000	0.000
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.000	0.000	0.000
33.	Daman and Diu	0.000	0.001	0.001
34.	Delhi	0.000	0.000	0.000
35.	Lakshadweep	0.000	0.000	0.000
36.	Puducherry	0.002	0.008	0.010
	All India	2.885	0.375	3.260

P- Provisional.

Source: Director of Fisheries State Government/UT Administration.

Development of fisheries sector

1764. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to augment the fisheries production and provide sufficient infrastructure facilities for development of fisheries in the country and earmarked ₹ 7,522 crore for the purpose;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the funds being provided to the State of Andhra Pradesh for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Union Government has recently approved a proposal for creation of Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) with a total fund size of ₹ 7522.48 crore.

The FIDF provides concessional finance to the Eligible Entities (EEs), including State Governments/UTs and State entities for development of identified fisheries infrastructure facilities. The concessional finance is provided by the Nodal Loaning Entities (NLEs) namely: (i) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), (ii) National Cooperatives Development Corporation (NCDC), and (iii) All scheduled Banks. Under the FIDF, the Government of India provides interest subvention up to 3% per annum for providing the concessional finance by the NLEs at the interest rate not lower than 5% per annum. Loan lending will be over a period of five years from 2018-19 to 2022-23 and maximum repayment will be over a period of 12 years inclusive of moratorium of 2 (two) years on repayment of principal.

As it is a new scheme, approval of projects under FIDF for Eligible Entities (EEs) including State Governments/UTs and State entities would be undertaken on receipt of detailed project proposal and their evaluation as per the Operational Guidelines of FIDF being finalized by this department.

(c) Yes, Sir, However the Government of Andhra Pradesh has indicated their intension to develop 5 fishing harbours as per details below with the concessional funding under the FIDF.

(₹ in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the fishing harbour	District	Estimated cost
1.	Juvvaladine	Nellore	242.22
2.	Uppada	East Godavari	289.40
3.	Vodarevu	Prkasham	409.22
4.	Machilipattinam	Krishna	252.00
5.	Nizampattinam	Guntur	340.78
TOTAL			1533.62

Land rights of farm widows in Maharashtra

1765. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of non-recognition of land rights of widows of farmers in Vidarbha and Marathwada in Maharashtra, and in other States where farmers' suicides are reported;

(b) if so, whether Government conducted a study on the same, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

(c) Government policy towards women farmers and widows of deceased farmers, especially to recognition of their land rights, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to address land rights and social security of women farmers in general, and widowed women farmers in particular, in Maharashtra and other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) State Government of Maharashtra has reported that land rights of widows of farmers are recognized on time as per the provision of Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966. No complaint regarding non mutation of names of legal heirs of deceased farmers have been received by the Collectors in Vidarbha and Marathwada region of Maharashtra.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government of Maharashtra had issued instructions for recording name of wife of a farmer in record of rights as per request of concerned farmers. The provisions in Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966, provide for mutating names of widows and legal heirs of deceased farmers.

Further, State Governments provide relief to families of farmers who commit suicide. As per information available, some of the States provide relief to the families of farmers who committed suicide are as follows:—

- (i) *Ex-gratia* relief to the heirs of the deceased farmer. The three norms of eligibility for *ex-gratia* are crop failure, indebtedness and harassment due to inability to pay agriculture related loans.
- (ii) One time settlement to wipe off loans/liabilities towards rehabilitation of the family members.
- (iii) Relief provided to the children of the deceased get free education up to post-graduation including hostel facility.

To address the issues of social security, a number of schemes and programmes are also being implemented by the Government of India which help the farmers including the women farmers. A few of them are Atal Pension Yojana (APY), Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY), Integrated Programme of Older Persons (IPOP), Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY).

Production of fruits and vegetables in Uttar Pradesh

†1766. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of fruits and vegetables during last three years and current year, State-wise;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to increase the production of fruits and vegetables in the country;

(c) the contribution of Uttar Pradesh in production of fruits and vegetables; and

(d) whether efforts are being made by Government to encourage the farmers of Uttar Pradesh for increasing production of fruits and vegetables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The details of the production of fruits, and vegetables during last three years and current year, State-wise are given in the Statements-I and II respectively (*See below*).

(b) To increase the production of fruits and vegetables, Government is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), for holistic growth of the horticulture sector. The scheme provides support for production of planting material, high yielding varieties of vegetable seed production, vegetable cultivation, rejuvenation of senile orchards, protected cultivation, and for adoption of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM)/Integrated Pest Management (IPM), organic farming, including *in situ* generation of organic inputs.

Besides this, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is undertaking Flagship Projects to promote research in different Horticultural Crops to increase production of fruits and vegetables in areas such as crop improvement, crop production, crop protection and Post Harvest Technology.

(c) As per 2017-18 (3rd Advance Estimates), out of 97.05 Million Tonnes of total fruit production in the country, Uttar Pradesh contributes 10.54 Million Tonnes, which comes to 10.86%.

As per 2017-18 (3rd Advance Estimates), out of 179.7 Million Tonnes of total vegetable production in the country, Uttar Pradesh contributes 27.52 Million Tonnes, which comes to 15.31%.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) Yes, Sir. Efforts are being made by the Government to encourage the farmers of Uttar Pradesh for increasing production of fruits and vegetables by providing subsidies on various inputs through State/Central Sector schemes such as MIDH and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

Under HRD component of MIDH, awareness programmes, farmers training, exposure visit, etc, are being provided to make farmers aware about the latest technologies being used in Horticulture. Farmers are also made aware of the processing facilities/mega food parks nearby and processable varieties of horticulture crops.

Statement-I

State-wise production of fruits crop

		(Production in '000 MT)			
Sl. No.	State/UT	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 (3rd Advance Estimates)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9121.62	10088.82	13612.92	15002.83
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	331.40	306.27	124.38	125.66
3.	Assam	2030.14	2077.77	2024.84	2433.95
4.	Bihar	3990.00	4230.63	4234.62	4273.85
5.	Chhattisgarh	2071.14	2294.73	2480.40	2659.60
6.	Gujarat	8300.60	8477.17	8937.42	9026.79
7.	Haryana	703.68	737.82	770.97	704.32
8.	Himachal Pradesh	751.94	928.83	611.88	596.29
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1779.44	2115.72	2241.06	2343.43
10.	Jharkhand	898.08	961.19	1047.97	1075.97
11.	Karnataka	6799.89	7023.69	7218.38	7029.69
12.	Kerala	2554.12	2532.94	2509.13	2261.06
13.	Madhya Pradesh	6119.00	5783.06	6935.60	7031.37
14.	Maharashtra	11089.53	9749.80	10630.08	11739.42
15.	Manipur	521.57	467.76	478.77	470.88
16.	Meghalaya	377.25	395.40	426.86	369.23
17.	Mizoram	350.91	330.28	339.05	340.51
18.	Nagaland	411.00	374.13	388.49	380.52

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Odisha	2156.49	2386.94	2432.27	2429.30
20.	Punjab	1644.64	1790.94	1818.19	1908.85
21.	Rajasthan	735.60	681.57	995.60	1036.72
22.	Sikkim	0.03	23.48	25.56	26.08
23.	Tamil Nadu	5963.93	6635.10	6181.77	6158.37
24.	Telangana	5287.70	4319.87	1200.30	1829.40
25.	Tripura	819.12	854.05	559.92	593.37
26.	Uttar Pradesh	7558.99	10296.14	10302.76	10539.78
27.	Uttarakhand	785.97	659.10	662.85	663.23
28.	West Bengal	3313.70	3516.71	3585.30	3849.06
29.	Others	134.23	143.16	140.75	155.23
TOTAL		86601.68	90183.04	92918.04	97054.75

Statement-II*State-wise production of vegetables crop*

		(Production in '000 MT)			
Sl. No.	State/UT	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 (3rd Advance Estimates)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4592.58	5442.77	8026.36	7378.60
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	41.00	33.01	14.42	14.71
3.	Assam	4469.73	3821.71	3329.58	4033.30
4.	Bihar	14467.15	14400.12	14520.97	13948.04
5.	Chhattisgarh	5812.32	6318.41	6728.00	6827.35
6.	Gujarat	11861.23	13401.39	13161.25	13292.86
7.	Haryana	5305.59	6129.36	6180.43	6661.91
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1585.37	1715.16	1783.77	1806.22
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1395.47	1386.37	1410.42	1424.52
10.	Jharkhand	4279.28	3373.82	3370.00	3476.35
11.	Karnataka	8828.37	7804.57	8167.16	7423.38
12.	Kerala	1645.06	2088.66	1921.45	2102.09

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Madhya Pradesh	14199.00	15568.26	17928.50	17647.33
14.	Maharashtra	8783.01	9452.07	10520.49	10026.05
15.	Manipur	268.01	316.51	369.85	333.20
16.	Meghalaya	534.00	494.88	523.42	520.60
17.	Mizoram	273.76	179.02	179.88	169.81
18.	Nagaland	492.37	494.61	564.62	561.61
19.	Odisha	9413.54	8755.51	8761.61	8766.08
20.	Punjab	4167.65	4301.63	4564.91	4919.71
21.	Rajasthan	1433.23	1986.73	1795.37	2109.30
22.	Sikkim	130.06	106.94	190.72	229.10
23.	Tamil Nadu	7521.02	6976.15	6559.84	6474.94
24.	Telangana	3005.33	3195.44	1647.03	2183.46
25.	Tripura	811.09	793.24	817.94	827.11
26.	Uttar Pradesh	26120.18	26251.00	28192.63	27515.92
27.	Uttarakhand	1109.65	945.36	945.29	946.38
28.	West Bengal	26354.61	22825.45	25505.66	27565.10
29.	Others	578.57	505.81	490.83	506.76
TOTAL		169478.23	169063.93	178172.40	179691.80

Availability of fodder in the country

†1767. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether enough pasture land and fodder for cattle is available in country;

(b) if so, the area of pasture land and quantity of fodder available at present, State-wise; and

(c) the per cattle fodder availability in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) As per IGFR vision-2050

document, which is an estimate based on secondary data/information, at present the country faces a net deficit of 35.6% green fodder (supply of 526 MT against demand of 817 MT) and 11.0% of dry forage (supply of 453 MT against demand of 509 MT).

(b) State-wise area under permanent pasture and other grazing land in the country is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Availability of green and dry fodder per year per cattle unit estimated to be 2.75 MT and 2.37 MT respectively.

Statement

*State-wise area under permanent pasture and other grazing
land in the country*

Name of the State/UT	2014-15
Andhra Pradesh	214
Arunachal Pradesh	18
Assam	167
Bihar	15
Chhattisgarh	887
Goa	1
Gujarat	851
Haryana	25
Himachal Pradesh	1510
Jammu and Kashmir	112
Jharkhand	114
Karnataka	904
Kerala	0
Madhya Pradesh	1303
Maharashtra	1249
Manipur	1
Meghalaya	-
Mizoram	11
Nagaland	-
Odisha	524

Name of the State/UT	2014-15
Punjab	5
Rajasthan	1674
Sikkim	-
Tamil Nadu	108
Telangana	299
Tripura	1
Uttarakhand	192
Uttar Pradesh	65
West Bengal	2
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4
Chandigarh	-
Dadar and Nagar Haveli	1
Daman and Diu	-
Delhi	0
Lakshadweep	-
Puducherry	-
TOTAL	10258

“-” Not Available/Not Received.

“0” relates to the area below 500 hectares.

* provisional.

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

CAG audit of NDDB

1768. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a settled law by a Judgement of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in 2010 that the CAG has jurisdiction and the right to carry out audit (including performance audit) of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB);

(b) if so, whether the CAG has carried out any audits of NDDB, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has the intent to arrange for expeditious CAG audit of NDDB, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. Subject to provisions of the CAG Act, 1971, read with the provision of the NDDB Act, 1987 as per judgement of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi dated 27.01.2010.

(b) CAG has not carried out any audits of NDDB. CAG *vide* letter dated 20.11.2009 had stated that no useful purpose would be served in auditing old accounts for the period 1987 to 1994 at this stage, and therefore, CAG is not any more interested in the said audit.

(c) Government *vide* letter dated 18.12.2018 has requested CAG to consider auditing of the accounts of NDDB in National Dairy Plan (Phase-I) after closure of the scheme in November, 2019.

Audit of NDDB and NDP by CAG

1769. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CAG has jurisdiction and the right to carry out audit of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB);

(b) whether NDDB and National Dairy Plan Scheme of Central Government with an outlay of ₹ 2241 crore, being implemented by NDDB since 2012, have been duly audited by CAG, if so, details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government has intent to CAG audit of NDP and NDDB, if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether Government's Dairy Infrastructure Development Fund with an outlay of more than ₹ 8000 crore being implemented by NDDB since 2016, is also being duly audited by CAG, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. Subject to the provisions of the CAG Act, 1971 [Section 14(2)], read with the provisions of the NDDB Act, 1987. The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in its judgement dated 27.01.2010 has accepted the position of the Government that the CAG can audit the accounts of NDDB under Section 14(2) of the CAG Act wherein CAG can audit all receipts and expenditure of any body or authority where the grants or loans to such body or authority from Consolidated Fund of India or of any State or of any Union Territory having a Legislative Assembly, as the case may be in a financial year is not less than rupees one crore.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government *vide* letter dated 18.12.2018 has requested CAG to consider auditing of the accounts of NDDDB in National Dairy Plan (Phase-I) after closure of the scheme in November, 2019.

(d) No, Sir.

Assistance for setting up of cold storage in Gujarat

†1770. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided any assistance for establishing cold storages in Gujarat, especially in districts of South Gujarat, during last three years in order to avoid the deterioration of foodgrains and vegetables;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of above assistance, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) Government is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic development of horticulture which includes assistance for establishment of cold storage throughout the country including Gujarat.

National Horticulture Mission (NHM), a sub-Mission of MIDH is implemented by State Horticulture Mission (SHM). State Level Executive Committee (SLEC) of SHM approves the projects of cold storage upto 5000 MT capacity. SLEC of Gujarat has approved 177 numbers of cold storage projects with total assistance of ₹ 22204.46 lakh under NHM scheme during last three years.

The district-wise details of cold storage projects sanctioned under NHM are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

National Horticulture Board (NHB) has mandate to approve cold storage projects with more than 5000 MT capacity up to 10000 MT capacity. NHB has sanctioned one cold storage project in 2016-17 with assistance of ₹ 133.37 lakh in Valsad district of Gujarat during last three years.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) under cold chain component of

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

its scheme Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY) has approved 10 cold chain projects with assistance of ₹ 9714.00 lakh in Gujarat during last three years.

The district-wise details of cold chain projects sanctioned under MoFPI scheme are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

Further, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has assisted 3 projects in 2015-16 of common infrastructure, integrated pack house and cold storage facility at Surat, Ahmadabad and Kodinar districts of Gujarat with total assistance of ₹ 1705.00 lakh during last three years.

Statement-I
District-wise cold storages assisted by Gujarat State Horticulture Mission under NHM (MIDH) during last three years

Sl. No.	Name of District	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		Total	
		Number of Cold Storage	Assistance Approved	Number of Cold Storage	Assistance Approved	Number of Cold Storage	Assistance Approved	Number of Cold Storage	Assistance Approved
1.	Ahmedabad	1	41.28	3	165.94			4	207.22
2.	Anand	1	57.24					1	57.24
3.	Arvalli	6	707.52	7	1174.56	2	283.5	15	2165.58
4.	Banaskantha	13	1396.72	18	2852.24	26	3595.21	57	7844.17
5.	Bhavnagar	4	492.76	2	196.19	5	608.41	11	1297.36
6.	Gandhinagar	15	1558.13	5	767.59	8	1007.3	28	3333.02
7.	Gir somnath			1	91.69			1	91.69
8.	Jamnagar			3	245.32	1	143.5	4	388.82
9.	Kheda	1	17.1			2	236.49	3	253.59
10.	Kutch	1	46.86					1	46.86
11.	Mehsana	5	703.49	1	23.32	3	422.33	9	1149.14
12.	Morbi	1	37.32	1	44.32	1	143.5	3	225.14
13.	Navsari					1	141.89	1	141.89
14.	Panchmahal	1	148.4					1	148.4
15.	Rajkot	7	719.988	4	668.467	4	405.91	15	1794.365

(₹ in lakh)

16. Sabarkantha	8	887.59	6	958.85	4	701.92	18	2548.36
17. Surendranagar			1	55.468			1	55.468
18. Surat					1	198.5	1	198.5
19. Vadodara			2	156.54			2	156.54
20. Valsad			1	101.11			1	101.11
TOTAL	64	6814.398	55	7501.605	58	7888.46	177	22204.46

Statement-II

District-wise cold storages assisted under the scheme of Ministry of Food Processing Industries during 2015-16 and 2017-18

Sl. No.	Name of District	2015-16		2017-18		Total	
		Number of Cold Chain	Assistance Approved	Number of Cold Chain	Assistance Approved	Number of Cold Chain	Assistance Approved
1.	Ahmedabad			2	1871.00	2	1871.00
2.	Banaskantha			2	2000.00	2	2000.00
3.	Kheda			1	1000.00	1	1000.00
4.	Mehsana			2	1843.00	2	1843.00
5.	Sabarkantha			1	1000.00	1	1000.00
6.	Surat	1	1000.00			1	1000.00
7.	Vadodara			1	1000.00	1	1000.00
TOTAL		1	1000.00	9	8714.00	10	9714.00

(₹ in lakh)

Drought in the country

1771. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any existing mechanism to ascertain and declare drought in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total number of States reeling under drought at present, district-wise;

(c) the measures taken by Government to tackle drought in the country;

(d) whether there has been any progress on the proposed National Disaster Mitigation (Drought) Action Plan, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) State Governments are responsible for declaration of drought. The Manual for Drought Management 2016 of Government of India provides use of modern technology in monitoring/determination of drought. New scientific indices and parameters have been introduced for a more accurate assessment and monitoring of drought.

Rainfall related indices have been recommended as the first trigger in the assessment of drought. In the event of rainfall inadequacy of a certain magnitude, the first trigger is set off which would then obligate State Governments to consider other impact indicators related to agriculture (crop sowing coverage), remote sensing, soil moisture and hydrology. The level of severity of drought will be based on the recorded values against the impact indicators and accordingly the second drought trigger is set off. In the event, the second drought trigger is set off, the Manual prescribes field level verification by ground truthing of crop damage through sample field survey in 10% of the villages in the affected area. Time-lines have been indicated for declaration of drought, namely, 31 October for Kharif and 31 March for Rabi.

(b)

Sl.No.	States which have declared drought	Affected districts
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9
2.	Karnataka	24
3.	Maharashtra	24
4.	Rajasthan	9
5.	Gujarat	11
6.	Jharkhand	18

(c) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare through ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), Hyderabad, has prepared detailed crop Contingency Plans for 623 districts. States have been advised for preparing, updating, and fine-tuning Contingency Plans for each district in consultation with CRIDA-ICAR and the State Agriculture Universities and to prepare location specific remedial measures based on these contingency plans in the event of late arrival of Monsoon, long dry spells, scanty rainfall, drought conditions, tying up availability of seeds and other inputs for implementing the Contingency Plans. Availability of Seeds etc. is being monitored and reviewed on a regular basis in the weekly Crop Weather Watch Group (CWWG) meeting being held in the Department. Weekly video conference with States is also being held to get first-hand information about States' preparedness and to advise States appropriately whenever needed.

To mitigate the adverse impact of drought, State Governments are advised to initiate advance remedial action *e.g.* constructing water harvesting structures under MGNREGA and other such schemes, promoting agronomic practices for moisture conservation, promoting cultivation of less water consuming crops and restoring irrigation infrastructure by desilting canals, energizing tube-wells and replacing/repairing faulty pumps. Further, the States are also advised to carry out periodic assessment of preparation for kharif crops, particularly contingency crops.

States have been advised to keep aside about 5 to 10% of fund allocated under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for undertaking appropriate interventions, if the situation so warrants, to minimize the adverse impact of an aberrant monsoon on the agriculture sector. The Central Government implements Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)/Central Sector (CS) Schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), the Rainfed Area Development Programme (RAD), National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), etc. which contribute towards drought proofing. Twenty five per cent of total outlay for all CSS Schemes (except for schemes, which emanate from a legislation, *e.g.*, MGNREGA), can be used as flexi funds to enable mitigation/restoration activities in cases of natural calamities. Kisan Call Centres (KCC) have been launched with the basic aim to provide information to farming community through toll free number on all seven days a week.

Kisan Portal subsumes all mobile based initiatives in the field of agriculture and allied sector. Officers, Scientists and Experts from all organisations and Department of the Government of India and State Governments [including State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and Agro-Meteorological Field Units (AMFUs)] are using this Portal for disseminating information (giving topical

and seasonal advisories and providing services through SMSs to farmers in their local languages) on various agricultural activities to registered farmers.

The Department of Land Resources (DoLR) is currently implementing 8214 watershed development projects in 28 States (except Goa) covering an area of about 39.07 million hectares under the Watershed Development Component (WDC) of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) principally for development of rainfed portions of net cultivated area and culturable wastelands which includes drought prone areas of the country. The activities being undertaken *inter alia* include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rain water harvesting nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development, livelihoods for asset less persons etc. National Agricultural Drought Assessment and Monitoring System (NADAMS) project, developed by National Remote Sensing Centre, provides near real-time information on prevalence, severity level and persistence of agricultural drought at State/district/sub-district level. NADAMS project is being handled by Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC), Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. Currently, it covers 17 States of India, which are predominantly agriculture based and prone to drought situation. MNCFC is providing fortnightly and monthly drought assessment reports (June to October) to concerned States and national level government agencies.

(d) and (e) A Manual for Drought Management was published in the year 2009 by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. This Manual suggests a system for drought management policy and programmes to be followed by the Government of India and State Governments. It focuses on the general/common elements of drought management at the national level, while allowing the States to include their specific schemes and interventions and incorporates drought forecasting, monitoring, response and mitigation as a continuum of activities. The Drought Manual has been revised/updated in December, 2016 through a consultative process involving the concerned Central Ministries, State Governments, scientific, technical and research organisations. The revised Drought Manual provides use of modern technology in monitoring/determination of drought. New scientific indices and parameters have been introduced for a more accurate assessment and monitoring of drought.

Schemes for women farmers in the country

1772. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government runs any specific schemes to address the challenges faced by women farmers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total number of women farmers in the country at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Yes Sir. In line with the provisions of National Policy for Farmers (NPF) (2007), the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) is promoting 'mainstreaming of gender concerns in agriculture'. The Guidelines of the Scheme namely Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization, National Project on Soil Health and Fertility, National Food Security Mission, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Mission on Oil Seeds and Oil Palm, Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana, Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material, National Project on Organic Farming, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana-Per-Drop More Crop, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture, Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension, Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region, Rainfed Area Development and Climate Change, National Project on Agro-Forestry have provisions for flow of funds and benefits to the tune of 30% for the women farmers under these Schemes.

The Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development is also implementing a programme exclusively for women farmers namely, Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP), which is a sub-component of National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) As per the Census 2011 conducted by the Registrar General of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, the total number of women farmers as cultivators (main and marginal) are 3.60 crore (30.33%) and agricultural labour (main and marginal) are 6.15 crore (42.67%) in the country.

Provision for landless and tenant farmers

†1773. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision of providing Minimum Support Price (MSP) to the farmers across the country at the same rate and whether this rate is different in various States;

(b) if the rate is different in various States, the reasons therefor; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government proposes a separate provision for the landless and tenant farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Government fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) for mandated agricultural crops on the basis of recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). Region specific parameters are kept in view by the CACP while recommending MSP for agricultural crops. Since cost of production varies in different States on account of differences in levels of irrigation, resource endowment, farm mechanization, land holding size etc., CACP uses all-India weighted average cost of production while making its recommendations and recommends uniform MSP which is applicable to all States and not region or State-specific. The MSP so fixed provides atleast 50% return over all India weighted average cost of production. The objective is to promote regionally differentiated production strategy and encourage an efficient state of agricultural production in the country.

(c) No, Sir. MSP is applicable to all farmers irrespective of the nature of landholding. Besides MSP crops, Government also implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for specified crops at the request of State/UT Governments. MIS is implemented in order to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of bumper crop when the prices tend to fall below the economic level/cost of production. Government is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and other Schemes to benefit rural people including the landless and farm workers through creation of employment and livelihood opportunities. These are devised to benefit agricultural households to supplement their income.

Soil and its nutrient contents in the country

1774. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has created any complete data-base regarding soil and its nature after it started issuing soil health cards to farmers across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has arrived at any conclusion regarding nature of soil, its nutrient contents, level of chemicals contained etc., in order to migrate towards organic farming across the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Database on Soil Health Card Portal has been created containing information on soil sample details, farmers details, land details, crop details, test results for 12 parameters (Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potash) secondary nutrient (Sulphur), Micronutrients (Zinc, Copper, Iron, Manganese Boron) and other parameters (pH, Electrical Conductivity and Organic Carbon).

(c) to (e) The nutrient content of soil samples is available on the dashboard of portal <https://soilhealth.dac.gov.in> which is summarised below:—

Major Nutrients	Category-wise per cent of samples		
	Low	Medium	High
Nitrogen	82.1	13.9	4.0
Phosphorus	20.0	41.0	39.0
Potassium	15.0	47.0	38.0

Micro/Secondary Nutrients	Category-wise per cent of samples	
	Sufficient	Deficient
Sulphur	74.2	25.8
Zinc	66.3	33.7
Iron	68.7	31.3
Copper	95.2	4.8
Manganese	87.5	12.5
Boron	77.4	22.6

There are separate schemes for conversion to organic farming in the country, namely Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Regions (MOVCDNER).

Drought in Maharashtra

1775. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted a report to the Central Team stating that the State is facing the consecutive droughts;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of small, marginal farmers who have been hit by drought condition during Kharif season, crop-wise; and

(c) if so, by when the Central Team would submit its report to the Government reflecting the miserable condition of farmers in drought-affected districts in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra has declared drought in the State during Kharif season 2018 and submitted a Memorandum seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). As per Memorandum submitted, a total of 69,26,248 small and marginal farmers have been affected by Drought during Kharif-2018. Further, as per the memorandum, the crops of Cotton, Jowar, Bajara, Maize, Soyabean, Tur, Mung, Urad and Fruit crops have been damaged.

(c) Inter-Ministerial Central Team has visited the affected areas of State from 4th to 7th December, 2018. IMCT report is not finalized. As per existing procedure, the report of IMCT is placed before the Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC). Thereafter, the recommendations of the SC-NEC are considered by the High Level Committee (HLC), headed by Home Minister to approve quantum of financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF).

**Soil Health Cards to Farmers of Andhra Pradesh,
Telangana and Maharashtra**

1776. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Soil Health Card scheme plays a vital role in enhancing agricultural production in a sustainable manner in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Soil Health Cards have been distributed to the farmers of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Telangana, advocating the farmers to adopt soil test based fertilizers; and

(c) if so, the number of Soil Health Cards issued to the farmers of these States during the last four years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) The Government has introduced Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme to assist State Governments to provide Soil Health Cards to all farmers across the country once in a cycle of 2 years. Soil Health Card provides information to farmers on nutrient status of their soil along with

recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility, which results in enhanced sustainable agricultural productivity.

Number of soil health cards issued by State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra to farmers in cycle-I (2015-17) and cycle-II (2017-19) is given below:-

State	Cycle-I (2015-17)	Cycle-II (2017-19)
Andhra Pradesh	7455204	4093781
Maharashtra	12977232	8256291
Telangana	5720737	2173763

Assistance for dairy sector

1777. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is providing financial assistance to various States for setting up of dairies in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the salient features of the schemes for the purpose along with the amount of assistance provided by Government to various States during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has any scheme for training of milk producers in the use of new techniques for developing the dairy sector with upgraded technology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India is providing assistance to various States across of the country for dairy development activities including setting up of dairy plant under the following schemes:-

1. National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD)
2. Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF)

Salient features of NPDD scheme and State-wise financial assistance provided during the last three years and the current year are given in the Statement-I and II respectively (*See* below). Salient features and State-wise projects sanctioned under

DIDF scheme are given in the Statement-III (*See* below).

(c) and (d) This Department supplements the efforts of State Governments to impart training and knowhow to the milk producers about the latest technology to augment the dairy production by implementing following schemes.

1. National Programme for Dairy Development
2. National Dairy Plan-I

Apart from above, ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute has informed that they have established a Business Planning Development Unit that provides, amongst others, training to milk producers to promote use of new techniques in dairy sector with upgraded technology.

Statement-I

Salient features of the National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD)

NPDD launched in Feb., 2014 with the following objectives:—

- (i) To create and strengthen infrastructure for production of quality milk including cold chain infrastructure linking the farmer to the consumer;
- (ii) To create and strengthen infrastructure for procurement, processing and marketing of milk;
- (iii) To create training infrastructure for training of dairy farmers;
- (iv) To strengthen dairy cooperative societies/Producers Companies at village level;
- (v) To increase milk production by providing technical input services like cattle-feed, and mineral mixture etc.;
- (vi) To assist in rehabilitation of potentially viable milk federations/unions;

Implementing Agency:—

State Implementing Agencies (SIA):- State Dairy Federations and Milk Unions (in absence of Dairy Federations)

End Implementing Agencies (EIA):- District Milk Unions, New Generation Milk Producer Companies, District Rural Development Authority/Zila Parishad/ District Mission Management Units DRDA/Zila Parishad (in respect of projects where there is no District Dairy Cooperative Unions).

Funding pattern:-

100 % Central grant: All components, except for bulk milk coolers; milk processing plants; milk powder plants; milk marketing and rehabilitation Milk Unions/federations.

For Bulk milk coolers, milk processing plants, milk powder plants and milk marketing components:-

50% Central Grant for 18 States covered under National Dairy Plan-Phase I (NDP),

90% Central Grant: for North Eastern States and hilly States of Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh

For non-NDP States:-

- For profit making EIAs- *i.e.* EIAs with accumulated profit of ₹1 crore or more in the previous financial year-75 % grant-in-aid
- For other EIAs-*i.e.* loss making EIAs and EIAs with accumulated profit of less than ₹1 crore in the previous year-90%

Major Components

Milk Chilling facilities: Plants, Bulk Milk Coolers, Milk Processing and Marketing, Milk Procurement: Dairy Cooperative Society formation, Milk and Milk Product Testing Laboratories, Information and Communication Technology Networking, Manpower and Skill Development and Working Capital

Statement-II

State-wise financial assistance provided during last three years and current year under NPDD scheme (2015-16 to 2018-19)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Fund released (₹ in crore)			
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (As on 21.12.2018)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.50	4.36	6.22	0.71
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.72	3.07	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	0.00	4.68	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Bihar	10.59	12.87	35.67	37.93
5.	Chhattisgarh	2.04	1.75	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	7.92	0.00
7.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	10.91	43.26
8.	Haryana	0.28	0.00	6.51	1.62
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.50	12.63
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	5.05	1.00	15.39
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	3.08	0.00	0.00
12.	Karnataka	4.46	0.00	2.60	10.11
13.	Kerala	1.06	13.05	5.44	23.81
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3.64	1.55	3.59	20.85
15.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.84
16.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	2.98	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	3.87	4.27
18.	Mizoram	0.00	4.38	3.10	0.00
19.	Nagaland	1.00	1.00	1.12	0.00
20.	Odisha	10.67	12.43	0.00	8.40
21.	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	2.40	0.00
22.	Punjab	20.92	17.78	10.89	3.69
23.	Rajasthan	2.30	9.02	19.00	42.90
24.	Sikkim	3.39	4.37	5.94	0.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	2.00	6.89	11.93	7.60
26.	Telangana	2.92	4.32	2.76	0.00
27.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.37
28.	Uttarakhand	0.00	7.03	11.80	0.00
29.	Uttar Pradesh	1.46	3.00	12.32	20.96
30.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	1.90	0.00
TOTAL		73.95	119.67	170.34	269.34

Statement-III

*Salient features of the Dairy Processing and Infrastructure
Development Fund (DIDF)*

- Launched in December, 2017.
- Year of implementation: 2017-18 to 2019-20 with a scheme outlay of ₹ 10881 crore.

Objectives:

- (i) To modernise the milk processing plants and machinery and to create additional infrastructure for processing more milk.
- (ii) To create additional milk processing capacity for increased value addition by producing more dairy products.
- (iii) To bring efficiency in dairy processing plants/producer owned and controlled dairy institutions, thereby enabling optimum value of milk to milk producer-farmers and supply of quality milk to consumers.
- (iv) To help the producer owned and controlled institutions to increase their share of milk, thereby providing greater opportunities of ownership, management and market access to rural milk producers in the organised milk market.

Implementing Agency and End Borrowers:–

- Implemented by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)
- End Borrowers: Milk Unions, State Dairy Federations, Multi-State Milk Cooperatives, Milk Producer Companies and NDDB subsidiaries.

Physical Target and Source of funding under DDF

Component	Physical Targets	Financial Outlays (₹ in crore)			Total Outlay
		NABARD Loan	End Borrower's contribution	NDDB/NCDC's contribution	
Modernisation and creation of milk processing facilities and manufacturing facilities for Value Added Products (VAP)	Processing Cap – 126 LLPD, Drying Cap – 210 MTPD VAP – 59.78 LLPD	5577	1384	0	6971
Chilling Infrastructure	140 LLPD	2063	516	0	2579
Electronic Milk Testing Equipment	28000 Nos.	364	91	0	455
Project Management and Learning		0	0	12	12
TOTAL		8004	2001	12	10017
Interest subvention from DADF, GoI					864
TOTAL PROJECT COST INCLUDING INTEREST SUBVENTION AMOUNT					10881

LLPD-Lakh Litres per day, MTPD-Metric Tonnes per day.

Details of sanctioned projects under DIDF during 2018-19 (as on 14.12.2018)

Sanctioned projects			Proposed financial Outlay (₹ in crore)		
Sl. No.	State	No. of proposals	Total Estimated Cost	Loan under DIDF	End Borrower's contribution
1.	Karnataka	8	1626.4	941.4	685.0
2.	Punjab	4	318.0	254.4	63.6
3.	Haryana	6	54.2	43.4	10.8
4.	Maharashtra	1	74.4	59.5	14.9
5.	Gujarat	2	976.5	780.7	195.8
TOTAL		21	3049.5	2079.4	970.1

Note: Department has released ₹ 10 crore as interest subvention to NABARD during 2018-19.

Setting up of Central Potato Research Sub-Division under CPRI at Hassan in Karnataka

1778. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka requested for establishment of Central Potato Research Sub-Division under CPRI, Shimla at Somanahalli Kaval, Hassan (Karnataka);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has considered and given approval for the same; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Recently Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka Shri H. D. Kumaraswamy has requested Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Radha Mohan Singh for the establishment of Central Potato Research Sub-Division at Somanahalli, Hassan District, Karnataka under ICAR-CPRI, Shimla.

(c) Decision for the establishment of Central Potato Research Sub-Division under CPRI, Shimla at Somanahalli Kaval, Hassan (Karnataka) has not been taken.

(d) ICAR-CPRI has 7 regional research stations and 25 AICRP Potato Centres located in different agro-climatic zones. As far as Hassan is concerned, there are two AICRP Centres already located in Karnataka, one in UAS, Dharwar and other in Hassan District itself which is working under University of Horticultural Sciences, Bagalkot.

All the activities related to potato crop management like development of new varieties, seed production, processing, agronomy and cropping system, nutrient water management are already being looked after by above two centres of AICRP in Karnataka. Further, for late blight management as emphasized by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, ICAR-CPRI has developed indo-blight cast forecasting model which is a PAN-INDIA model and is working for forecasting of the disease in Hassan area as well. Besides all the varieties having late blight resistance are being rigorously tested in Karnataka centres of AICRP for their performance in recent years, one such variety named Kufri Himalini has shown good performance in the area for disease resistance and crop yield.

Therefore, in this instant case in the light of above points, centres at Hassan and Dharwar are fully capable of catering to the research needs of potato to benefit farmers of Karnataka State and as such there is no need to open one more centre in the same Agro Ecological Zone.

Suicide by farmers in Andhra Pradesh

1779. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in just concluded Kharif Season, nearly 30 farmers committed suicide in Andhra Pradesh and the figure in last four years is 2000;

(b) whether it is a fact that suicides are mainly due to farm debt and State Government's failure to waive loan as promised by it, and MSP, etc.;

(c) if so, Government's stand on farmers' suicides in Andhra Pradesh which remains unabated year-after-year and the plan to help farming community in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) by when Central Government would rescue farmers in Andhra Pradesh and steps taken/proposed to be taken to stop farmers' suicides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The State Government

of Andhra Pradesh has reported that 15 farmers suicides were confirmed during 2018, in the State as per the District level three Member Committee reports. Further, during last four years *i.e.* 2014 to 2017, 394 suicides were reported in the State.

(b) No, Sir. The three Member Committees of different districts have identified the reasons for farmer suicide as: failure of Borewells, Raising of Commercial crops with high cost of cultivation, Non-Remunerative Prices, Oral tenancy and ineligibility to avail Bank Loans, Private lending with higher interest rates, Adverse seasonal conditions due to low and erratic rainfall and Natural Calamities, Heavy expenditure incurred towards Children education, ill health and marriages.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh is implementing the Debt Redemption Scheme 2014.

Further, MSP for various agricultural commodities have been progressively increased by the Government to incentivize farmers to bring more area under cultivation of crops and to invest on increasing the productivity. Giving a major boost for the farmers' income, the Government has increased the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of all Kharif crops for 2018-19 Season. This decision of the Government is a historic one as it redeems the promise of the pre-determined principle of fixing the MSPs at a level of at least 150 per cent of the cost of production announced by the Union Budget for 2018-19.

(c) and (d) Agriculture is a State subject and State Governments are primarily responsible for development of the agriculture sector. However, Government of India, supplements the efforts of the States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support.

Further, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has implemented the "Debt Redemption Scheme" on Crops Loans to Farmers during 2014-15. The Government has declared the policy to waive the agricultural crop loans and gold loans availed for agricultural purposes together not exceeding ₹ 1.50 lakh per family.

To address the farmers distress and thereby to decrease farmers' suicides, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken steps and implemented different welfare schemes across the State which are, *inter alia*, as follows:-

- Financial assistance to deceased farmer families
- The Andhra Pradesh Land Licensed Cultivator Act, 2011

The Government of India is targeting to double the income of the farmers by the year 2022. To achieve this, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare has taken a number of measures. The Government is aims to reorient the

agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centeredness in addition to pure production centeredness approach. The Department is, therefore, implementing various schemes to meet this objective, *viz.* Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, Neem Coated Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market scheme (e-NAM) and Pradhan Mantryee Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), Interest subvention schemes and Kisan Credit Card Schemes. The Government is also implementing several centrally sponsored Schemes *viz.* National Food Security Mission (NFSM); Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH); National Mission on Oilseeds and Oilpalm (NMOOP); National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA); National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for enhancing production and productivity and development of the sector as a whole.

All these steps are implemented to reduce agrarian distress and increase the farmers' income.

Encouraging farmers to grow cash crops

†1780. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has chalked out any special action plan for encouraging farmers of country to grow cash crops like vegetables and fruits; and

(b) if so, the details of format of this action plan and the increase in production of these crops recorded under this plan during last four years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a centrally sponsored scheme is implemented for the holistic development of horticulture sector in the country covering fruits, vegetables, root and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew, cocoa and bamboo through various interventions. All States/UTs are covered under MIDH.

Under MIDH, for promotion of horticulture throughout the country, financial and technical assistance is provided to States/UTs for following major interventions/activities:

- Setting up of nurseries, tissue culture units for production of quality seed and planting material.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- Area expansion *i.e.* Establishment of new orchards and gardens for fruits, vegetables, and flowers.
- Rejuvenation of unproductive, old, and senile orchards.
- Protected cultivation, *i.e.* poly-house, green-house, etc., to improve the productivity and grow off season high value vegetables and flowers.
- Organic farming and certification.
- Creation of water resources structures and watershed management.
- Bee-keeping for pollination.
- Horticulture Mechanization.
- Creation of Post Harvest Management and Marketing infrastructure.

(b) Under the MIDH scheme, total production of fruits and vegetables has increased from 256.08 million metric tonnes in 2014-15 to 276.75 million metric tonnes in 2017-18 (3rd advance estimates). Year-wise details of the production of fruits and vegetables along with the % change as compared to previous years is as given below:—

Year	Production ('000 Tonnes)	% Change as compared to previous year
2013-14	251874	
2014-15	256080	1.7
2015-16	259247	1.2
2016-17	271090	4.6
2017-18*	276747	2.1

* 3rd Advance Estimates.

Benefits to farmers under crop insurance schemes

†1781. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the farmers are not getting benefits of the crop insurance in the country, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of the procedure through which insurance companies are giving benefit to farmers; and

(c) the details of the assistance that is given to farmers by the insurance companies keeping in view their input cost and labour?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), introduced from Kharif 2016, is available to all the farmers including sharecroppers and tenant farmers. As per the approved implementation pattern of PMFBY, the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments have the choice to opt for implementation of the scheme in the respective State/UT. In the States/UTs opting for implementation of the scheme, enrolment of those farmers who are availing Seasonal Agricultural Operations (SAO) loans/Kisan Credit Card (KCC) loans, is mandatory in respect of the crops and areas notified by the State/UT Government. For the remaining farmers of these States/UTs, the scheme is voluntary.

The step-wise procedure for providing benefit to farmers under the scheme is given as under:—

- (i) At the beginning of each crop season, the State Government/Union Territory selects the insurance company(s) through competitive bidding process and notifies the crops and areas for insurance coverage during the season under PMFBY.
- (ii) Farmers obtaining loans from rural financial institutions/banks/Kisan Credit Card loans for notified crops in notified areas are compulsorily covered. Scheme is voluntary for non-loanee farmers
- (iii) Non-loanee farmers who desire to join the scheme are required to fill up prescribed proposal form and submit the same along with premium in the village branch of commercial bank or Regional Rural Bank or PACS of Cooperative Bank or through intermediaries/agents of insurance company or through Common Service Centre (CSC) or directly online on National Crop Insurance Portal. It is the responsibility of the branches/PACS/intermediaries to verify various necessary particulars while accepting the proposal.
- (iv) Commercial bank branches provide crop-wise and area-wise details of coverage along with premium directly to the insurance companies and individual farmer's details on National Crop Insurance Portal. In case of cooperative banks/institutions, details are submitted through nodal points as per cut-off dates fixed.
- (v) Receipt of insurance along with folio containing details of scheme are provided to the farmers. They were also informed *via* SMS about their crop insurance.
- (vi) In case of farm level claims due to localized calamities, mid-season adversity and post harvest losses, intimation of loss is required to be made by the farmer within 48 hours of happening of the event.

- (vii) While in case of wide spread calamities/season end claims, no intimation is required, claims are worked out and settled by the insurance companies based on the yield data furnished by the concerned State Government and claim amount is transferred to the account of farmers directly or through concerned banks.
- (viii) Sum insured for each crop has been equated to the Scale of Finance (SoF) declared by the District Level Technical Committee (DLTC) which is normally equal to the cost of production.

Details of claims given to farmers *vis-à-vis* premium paid by farmers is given below:—

Year/Season	Total Premium (₹ in crore)	Farmers Share in Total premium (₹ in crore)	Claims Paid (₹ in crore)
Kharif 2016	16318	2919	10485
Rabi 2016	6028	1297	5663
Total (2016-17)	22346	4216	16148
Kharif 2017	19767	3039	17158

Guidelines in Drought Manual 2016

1782. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the interest that has prompted Government to change guidelines in Drought Manual 2016;

(b) whether the guidelines of Drought Manual 2016 effectively prevents any State Government from declaration of drought without approval of the Central Government;

(c) if so, the response of Government to the States that have raised objection on Drought Manual 2016; and

(d) the reasons as to why Government insist on using satellite based data in deciding drought when the accuracy of satellite based data is less than the earlier process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its judgement pronounced on 11.05.2016 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 857/2015 - Swaraj Abhiyan Vs. Union of India and others directed Union

of India to, *inter alia*, revise the Manual for Drought Management, 2009 published by the Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. While appreciating the efforts of Department in bringing out Drought Manual, the Court felt that sufficient time had elapsed to warrant a revision of the Manual to incorporate new developments. Specific directions were issued in this regard, which *inter alia*, included, (i) weightage to be ascribed to each of the four key indicators; (ii) time-limit to be set for declaring a drought; (iii) delineate any possible factors not already considered; (iv) standardization of the nomenclature; and (v) use of technology etc. In compliance of the Court judgement, the Drought Manual has been revised/updated in December, 2016 through a consultative process involving the concerned Central Ministries, State Governments, scientific, technical and research organizations. The revised Drought Manual provides use of modern technology in monitoring/determination of drought. New scientific indices and parameters have been introduced for a more accurate assessment and monitoring of drought. Revised Manual also contains methodology for computation of various indices/for determination of severity of drought and timelines for Declaration of drought, Assessment and Release of financial assistance.

(b) No, Drought Declaration is a State subject and the States do not have to take the approval of the Central Government for it. However, the States have to follow the procedures defined in the Drought Manual for Drought Declaration.

(c) During 2017, many States like Karnataka, M.P. Chhattisgarh had written to the Government regarding problems faced by them on procedures mentioned in Drought Manual, 2016. The drought declaration procedure was further amended, taking into consideration the issues raised by the States.

(d) Satellite based parameter is just one of the four impact indicators (crop sowing, remote sensing, soil moisture, hydrology), for drought assessment. The States can choose any three of the four parameters for drought assessment. Hence, it is not mandatory to use satellite based data. The States can change the drought severity category based on field data (Ground truthing).

Also, it may be mentioned that, with the increase in resolution and availability of more satellites, the accuracy and availability of satellite based information has increased significantly.

Setting up Embryo Transfer Technology Centres

1783. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up twenty Embryo Transfer Technology Centres (ETTCs) across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 'Kangayam' breed has also been included for 'Embryo Transfer Technology' programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Funds have been released for establishment of 19 Embryo Transfer Technology Centres (ETTs) out of 20 ETTs to be set up in the country upto 2019-20. Out of the 19 ETTs centres 10 have been made operational and in the remaining 9 centres work is under rapid progress. State-wise details of the ETT centres is as under:-

Sl. No.	ETT Lab	State	Embryos Produced	Embryos Transferred	Calves born	Embryos stored	Fund Released (₹ in lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Guntur	Andhra Pradesh	11	10	5	1	239
2.	Bidaj	Gujarat	286	142	37	144	215
3.	Palampur	Himachal Pradesh	0	2	0	0	195
4.	Mattupatty	Kerala	23	11	2	12	248
5.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	136	148	29	14	394.5
6.	BAIF, Pune	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	507.48
7.	Ludhiana	Punjab	44	44	13	0	433
8.	Patiala	Punjab	14	11	0	7	340.5
9.	Barabanki	Uttar Pradesh	72	90	20	0	329.06
10.	Kalsi Dehradun	Uttarakhand	186	106	28	79	463.2
11.	Hossur	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	454.87
12.	National Kamdhenu Breeding Centre Chintaladevi	Andhra Pradesh		Work Under Progress			250
13.	Anjora Durg	Chhattisgarh		Work Under Progress			304

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Motihari	Bihar		Work Under progress			1352
15.	Patna	Bihar		Work Under progress			806
16.	National Kamdhenu Breeding Centre Itarsi	Madhya Pradesh		Work Under progress			250
17.	Nagpur	Maharashtra		Work Under progress			119
18.	Namakkal	Tamil Nadu		Work Under progress			100
19.	Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh		Work Under progress			160
20.		Assam	Proposal to be submitted by the State				
TOTAL			772	564	134	257	7160.61

(c) to (e) All indigenous breeds of Tamil Nadu including Kangayam has been included in the Embryo Transfer Technology Programmes.

**Menace of bacteria blight on pomegranate
crops in Maharashtra**

1784. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that bacteria blight has adversely affected pomegranate quality in Maharashtra resulting in steep fall in its prices, causing huge losses to its growers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Central and State Government has taken to provide relief to the producers and eliminate the menace of bacteria?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the Government of Maharashtra, no severe incidence of bacterial blight has been reported in the State. The incidence of bacterial blight has only been reported in Ahmednagar and Solapur districts of the State.

(c) Timely advisories are being issued by this Department to the State Government disseminating, *inter alia*, management strategies to curb and contain bacterial blight. In addition, awareness and training programmes are being organised to sensitize famers about efficacious and sustainable pest management strategies and approaches.

Decline in enrollment under PMFBY

1785. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total funds allocated under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and the total number of beneficiaries under the scheme, year-wise and State/UT-wise;

(b) whether there has been a decline in the number of new beneficiaries under the scheme in 2017-18 from 2016-17, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure bringing all farmers under the ambit of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) State-wise funds are not allocated and released under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). Details of funds allocated for crop insurance schemes including PMFBY are given as under:—

(₹ in crore)

Year	Funds allocated
2016-17	11054.63 (Actual)
2017-18	9419.79 (Actual)
2018-19	13014.15 (Budget Estimates)

Details of farmers enrolments and to whom claims paid under the scheme since its inception in Kharif 2016 till Kharif 2017 season are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Both loanee and non-loanee farmers are enrolled under the scheme. Loanee farmers are those who avail the Kisan Credit Card/Crop Loan for notified crops and they are mandatorily covered under the scheme. Participation of non-loanee farmers in the scheme is voluntary. After implementation of the PMFBY since April, 2016, enrolment of non-loanee farmers has increased from 27.81 lakh in 2015-16 under erstwhile schemes to 136.66 lakh in 2016-17 and to 138.47 lakh in 2017-18 indicating acceptance of the scheme.

Enrolment of loanee farmers declined in 2017-18 because of the reasons like farmers becoming ineligible for crop insurance due to Debt Waiver Scheme in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, Government of Uttar Pradesh withdrawing the low

risk crops like sugarcane from coverage and introduction of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) by the Government in April, 2017 to weed out ghost/duplicate beneficiaries while helping genuine farmers through Aadhaar based verification, etc.

With a view to ensure better transparency, accountability, timely payment of claims to the farmers and encouraging more and more farmers to adopt the scheme, Government has comprehensively revised the Operational Guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) which have become effective from 01.10.2018. Specific cut-off dates/timelines for various activities including timelines for releasing of premium subsidy to insurance companies by States, furnishing of yield data within one month of completion of harvest and payment of claims by insurance companies within 21 days of receipt of clear yield data from the concerned State Government have been provided in the revised Operational Guidelines to ensure early settlement of claims to farmers. Revised Operational Guidelines also provide for target for incremental 10% coverage to insurance companies for coverage of non-loanee farmers.

The following provisions, *inter alia*, have also been made in the revised Operational Guidelines to facilitate early settlement of claims:—

- (i) Provision of 12% interest rate per annum to be paid by the insurance company to farmers for delay in settlement claims beyond 10 days of prescribed cut off date for payment of claims.
- (ii) State Government have to pay 12% interest rate for delay in release of State share of Subsidy beyond three months of prescribed cut off date/submission of requisition by insurance companies.
- (iii) Auto approval of yield data and calculation of claims on portal.

Statement

*Details of Enrollments and farmers benefitted during 2016-17
and Kharif 2017 under PMFBY*

State/UT	Farmer Enrollments (in lakhs)		No. of Farmers Benefitted (in lakhs)	
	2016-17	Kharif 2017	2016-17	Kharif 2017
1	2	3	4	5
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.003	-	0.003	-
Andhra Pradesh	17.75	15.97	8.82	6.04
Assam	0.60	0.52	0.23	0.01

1	2	3	4	5
Bihar	27.14	11.60	2.21	1.09
Chhattisgarh	15.49	13.04	1.37	5.67
Goa	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	19.75	14.91	6.79	4.07
Haryana	13.36	6.39	2.19	2.21
Himachal Pradesh	3.80	1.25	1.13	0.24
Jammu and Kashmir	-	0.86	-	0.14
Jharkhand	8.79	11.50	0.45	1.18
Karnataka	27.38	15.81	15.49	6.73
Kerala	0.77	0.28	0.57	0.19
Madhya Pradesh	71.81	35.85	13.27	18.88
Maharashtra	120.06	87.68	29.08	49.96
Manipur	0.08	-	0.08	-
Meghalaya	0.0009	0.0295	0.0005	0.0001
Odisha	18.20	18.28	1.68	7.40
Puducherry	0.09	-	0.04	-
Rajasthan	91.70	54.18	191.02	25.17
Sikkim	0.006	0.008	0.002	-
Tamil Nadu	14.11	1.46	12.05	0.38
Telangana	9.73	8.19	2.21	3.54
Tripura	0.13	0.02	0.01	0.01
Uttar Pradesh	68.43	25.00	11.55	4.04
Uttarakhand	2.62	1.42	0.62	0.50
West Bengal	41.33	23.50	5.56	4.34
GRAND TOTAL	573.16	347.76	306.42	141.79

Increase in the duty discharge allowance of Krishak Mitras

†1786. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state the current status of the sanction/implementation of the proposals regarding increase in the duty discharge allowance of the Krishak Mitra, amendment in the cost norms of Pico Project, ravines reclamation and mechanisation and modernisation of the farms, which were sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to the Central Government during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): The current status of the contingency amount of the Farmer Friend identified by States and amendments in the cost norms of Pico-Projector under Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Support to State Extension Programs for Extension Reforms” (ATMA) is given below:—

- (i) Farmer Friend-contingency amount has been increased from ₹ 6,000 to ₹ 12,000/- per person per annum.
- (ii) Pico-Projector cost norm has been increased from ₹ 30,000 to ₹ 40,000/-.

Above cost norms have been approved by the CCEA of Sub-Mission on Agricultural Extension (SMAE) under umbrella Scheme “Krishonnati Yojana” during 2018-19 and the same have been communicated to the States on 18th October, 2018 for implementation. At present, 24,300 Farmer Friends have been identified by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.

A World Bank Aided Project earlier titled “Ravines Reclamation, Mechanization and Modernization of the Farms” and now re-named as “Agriculture Productivity and Diversification Project in Ravine Affected Districts” was submitted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, on 3rd August, 2018. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, communicated its no objection subject to certain observations, to the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance on 14th December, 2018. DEA has subsequently posed the proposal to World Bank for their consideration.

Compulsory enrollment under PMFBY

1787. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) total collection of premiums and disbursal of insurance pay-outs carried out under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) in Punjab;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether farmers who avail of any loan facility, especially through Kisan Credit Cards, are compulsory enrolled into the PMFBY;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and details of such compulsory enrollments of farmers in the State of Punjab;

(d) whether bank or any such lending organisation have the first claim on compensation amount/insurance pay-out, in the event of crop failure, in the case of farmers who have availed loan facilities; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (e) As per the approved implementation pattern of PMFBY, the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments have the choice to opt for implementation of the scheme in the respective State/UT. State Government of Punjab has not opted for the scheme.

In the States/UTs opting for implementation of the scheme, enrolment of those farmers who are availing Seasonal Agricultural Operations (SAO) loans/Kisan Credit Card (KCC) loans, is mandatory in respect of the crops and areas notified by the State/UT Government. For the remaining farmers of these States/UTs, the scheme is voluntary.

The claims amount is paid to the loanee farmers in to their accounts directly or through financial institutions. Element of compulsory coverage of loanee farmers and payment of claims in to their accounts has been made so that the insured farmer gets the claim in the event of shortfall in the yield due to the insured perils which would offset the loan to the extent of the claims and he would be eligible to obtain fresh loan for the next season. In the event of the crop not having been insured, the loan remains outstanding in the books of the bank and farmers would be deprived of fresh loan/insurance which they would have otherwise got. It also encourages the financial institutions to increase the credit flow for crop production purposes to the farmers as the insurance provides collateral security.

Assessment of drought in Karnataka

1788. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimates of amount of fund assessed by the Central Government team that visited drought hit areas of Karnataka in November, 2018; and

(b) the demands, estimates and the amount of fund released by the Central Government towards drought relief measures to Karnataka at present and in the past five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) visited Karnataka from 16th to 19th November, 2018, for assessing the drought situation in the State and submitted its report for consideration by Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC). The recommendations of the IMCT are not final and subject to consideration by the SC-NEC and the High Level Committee (HLC), headed by Home Minister to approve quantum of financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). Details of NDRF assistance provided to Karnataka during the last five years is as under:—

(₹ in crore)		
Year	Assistance sought	Amount approved
2013-14	778.06	226.57
2014-15	779.20	200.85
2015-16	5247.98	2263.43
2016-17	8013.37	2577.98
2017-18	—	—

**Implementation of recommendation of Expert Committee
on use of pesticides**

1789. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to implement the recommendation of the Expert Committee constituted to review the use of pesticides which are hazardous for both human beings and animals;

(b) if so, the number of pesticides reviewed by the Expert Committee and the number of pesticides recommended for ban on their use; and

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to implement the recommendations of the Expert Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) The Registration Committee, constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers pesticides

after considering their efficacy and safety to human beings, animals and environment. In additions, technical reviews are carried out from time to time to assess the safety of pesticides for their continued use. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) had constituted an expert committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Anupam Verma in July, 2013, to review 66 nos. of pesticides that are banned, restricted, withdrawn in one or more countries but continued to be registered in India.

The committee, *inter alia*, recommended to completely ban 13 pesticides and to phase out 6 pesticides by 2020. Considering the recommendation of Expert Committee, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare through a draft notification had invited objections and suggestions from the public/stakeholders on banning/phasing out of 18 pesticides. The DDT pesticide was not considered in the above mentioned notification as, its usage was already withdrawn from agriculture and is only being used for the domestic Public Health Programme. In response to the notification, the Ministry received various objections and suggestions. A committee was constituted to review the received objections and suggestions. Based on the recommendations of this committee, this Department *vide* Notification No. S.O. 3951(E) dated 8th August, 2018:

- (i) has banned 11 pesticides (from the date of publication of this notification);
- (ii) restricted the use of 1 pesticide (from the date of publication of this notification); and
- (iii) decided to phase out 6 pesticides by 2020.

Diversification from tobacco farming

1790. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has made allocations of certain amount of funds in the budgets from 2015-16 onwards as Central share to diversify tobacco farming in the tobacco-producing States;

(b) if so, the details of funds allocated in each budget since then;

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that tobacco growing farmers shift to alternative farming options and how many farmers/hectares of land in each State have been shifted from tobacco to other crops; and

(d) the alternative crops identified and adopted for farming in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) had made budgetary allocations from 2015-16 onwards as Central share under Crop Diversification Programme (CDP), an ongoing sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to encourage tobacco growing farmers to shift to alternative crops/cropping system in tobacco growing States. Year-wise budgetary allocations made under CDP to diversify tobacco farming in the tobacco-producing States is as under:-

(₹ in lakh)

Year	Budgetary Allocation (Central share)
2015-16	2500.00
2016-17	3000.00
2017-18	667.00
2018-19	667.00

(c) Under CDP, tobacco growing States have given flexibility to take suitable activities/interventions for replacing the tobacco to alternative crops/cropping system as per the cost norms approved under any Centrally Sponsored Scheme/State Scheme. Under CDP for motivating the farmers, State may also organize study tours/exposure visits and campaigns etc. for highlighting harmful effects of tobacco and long term benefits of alternative crops. In order to encourage tobacco growing farmers to shift to other crops, a National Seminar on Crop Diversification sponsored by DAC&FW was organized by the ICAR-Central Tobacco Research Institute (CTRI) at Rajahmundry to exchange information and experiences of various stakeholders on various issues relating to tobacco diversification. In addition to above, DAC&FW is also supplementing the efforts of the States through implementation of various Crop Development Programmes on Agriculture/Horticulture crops.

As per the reports of the State Governments, tobacco area shifted to other crops are; 1,16,635 hectares in Andhra Pradesh, 446 hectares in Bihar, 13,858 hectares in Gujarat, 1500 hectares in Karnataka, 636 hectares in Tamil Nadu, 120 hectares in Telangana, 2072 hectares in Uttar Pradesh and 2928 hectares in West Bengal from 2015-16. Besides, the State Government of Odisha has also reported diversion of tobacco area to alternate crops in an area of 5370 hectares from 2001-02 to 2017-18.

(d) The research work carried out by ICAR- CTRI, Rajahmundry revealed that a remunerative cropping system rather than a sole crop can be a viable alternative to sole tobacco crop. Alternative crops/cropping systems like maize, wheat, ragi,

cotton, soybean, mustard, castor, groundnut, black gram, red gram, green gram, chilly, chickpea, potato, ginger, sugarcane, turmeric, moringa, oil palm etc. have been identified for the tobacco growing areas in different States. The most preferred diversified suitable crops adopted for farming reported by the States are as under:—

Sl. No	State	Diversified preferred crops adopted for farming
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Bengal gram, Black gram, Green gram, Jowar, Maize, Oilseeds crops and Hybrid Vegetables.
2.	Bihar	Vegetables like Carrot, Raddish, Cauliflower/Cabbage, Okra, Tomato, Chili, Brinjal, Pumpkin/Sponge Gourd/Bitter Gourd/Cucumber/Ridge Gourd, Pea and Onion.
3.	Gujarat	Wheat, Pulses, Nutri Cereals (Jowar, Bajra), Paddy and Cotton.
4.	Karnataka	Cereals/Milletts, Pulses, Sugarcane, Oilseeds, Horticultural crops (Mango, Banana, Papaya) Flowers, Plantation crop and Vegetables.
5.	Odisha	Hybrid Maize, Milletts, Vegetables, Oil seeds (Groundnut and Mustard), Cropping system like Vegetable-Maize/Milletts, Vegetables-Groundnut/Mustard, Vegetables-Urd/Bengal gram, Vegetables-Vegetables.
6.	Tamil Nadu	Hybrid Maize, Chilli, Brinjal and Tomato.
7.	Telangana	Rainfed Black soils: Soybean + Pigeon pea and Cotton + Pigeon pea, Rainfed Red soils: Groundnut under irrigation, Alluvial soils inundated up to September: Chickpea and Chillies.
8.	Uttar Pradesh	Lentil, Gram, Mustard and Wheat.
9.	West Bengal	Mustard, Winter Vegetables, Potato, Wheat and Hybrid Maize.

Implementation of new MSP scheme

†1791. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted any agency or a committee to ensure that the farmers could get Minimum Support Price (MSP) for their crops as fixed by the Government, for their welfare;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard and by when it is aimed to give MSP worth one and half times of the cost of the crop production of the farmers by Government; and

(c) the extent of financial burden which is likely to increase after the implementation of the new MSP Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) As per the extant institutional mechanism, Government fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) of 22 mandated agricultural crops and Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for sugarcane on the basis of recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), after considering the views of State Governments and Central Ministries/ Departments concerned and other relevant factors. CACP is an expert body tasked to recommend MSPs after a broad consultative process taking into consideration a host of factors.

As per the existing arrangements, procurement is made of the crops for which MSPs are announced through Central and State agencies. In so far as cereals/nutri cereals are concerned, they are procured through Food Corporation of India (FCI) and decentralized procurement system mainly for distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS), for welfare schemes and buffer stocking for food security. Government implements Price Support Scheme (PSS) for procurement of oilseeds, pulses and cotton through Central Nodal Agencies at MSP declared by the Government.

An Umbrella Scheme Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanraks Han Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) launched in September, 2018 provides for a holistic arrangement for assurance of a remunerative and stable price environment for growers/farmers to increase agriculture productivity and production. This Umbrella Scheme comprises Price Support Scheme (PSS) for pulses and oilseeds, Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) and Pilot of Private Procurement and Stockist Scheme (PPSS) for oilseeds to ensure MSP to the farmers.

(b) During Rabi season 2017-18, only Safflower had less than 50 per cent return over cost of production. However, out of 14 kharif crops, 11 crops had return lower than 50 per cent over its cost of production in 2017-18. The Union Budget for 2018-19 had announced the pre-determined principle to keep MSP at levels of one and half times the cost of production. Accordingly, Government has increased the MSPs for all notified Kharif, Rabi and other commercial crops with a return of atleast 50 per cent of cost of production for the agricultural year 2018-19. This decision of the Government was a historic one as it fulfills the commitment to the

farmers to provide 50 per cent return over cost of production for the first time for all mandated crops. Under PM-AASHA procurement of kharif crops of 2018-19 has begun and is proceeding apace.

(c) During kharif season, paddy/rice is the main crop which is procured for distribution under PDS. The difference between the economic cost of the cereals procured and their central issue prices under PDS is the subsidy outgo which is borne on the Budget. The additional financial implication on account of higher MSP for paddy for 2018-19 is estimated to be ₹ 12167 crore as estimated by Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD).

Besides, Government procures pulses, oilseeds and cotton under the Price Support Scheme. Apart from this Jute Corporation of India and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) procure jute and copra, respectively based on assessed requirements. Government provides guarantee based on which the procurement agencies conduct their operations and the losses incurred by them in the process is borne on the Budget.

**Relief package for the drought affected farmers of
Marathwada in Maharashtra**

1792. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether scanty rainfall during the last two years has made the life of farmers miserable in Marathwada region of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the special relief package Government has given to the farmers of the region during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) to (c) No Such information is available. Besides, during the last two years, the Government of Maharashtra had neither declared drought in the State nor submitted any Memorandum in this regard. However, during current year Government of Maharashtra has submitted Memorandum seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) in the wake of Drought Kharif 2018. In response, Government of India has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Central Team to assess the drought situation in the State, which has visited the State from 4th to 7th December, 2018. As per existing procedure, the report of IMCT is placed before the Sub-Committee of National

Executive Committee (SC-NEC). Thereafter, the recommendations of the SC-NEC are considered by the High Level Committee (HLC), headed by Home Minister to approve quantum of financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF).

Distress sale of onion by farmers

1793. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE and FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that farmers in Madhya Pradesh are compelled to sell their onions at the rate of 30 to 40 paise per kg. which is far less than their cost of production, due to non-availability of marketing facilities and agrarian policies of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for ignoring the plight of suicide-committing farmers of the country; and

(d) the immediate remedial measures proposed by the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per information provided by Madhya Pradesh Mandi Board, the maximum quantity of onion sold by the farmers in Mandis is in the price range between ₹ 400 to ₹ 600 per quintal and there are proper marketing facilities available in the State.

In Madhya Pradesh, 293 major regulated wholesale Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) mandies are networked and reporting data on mandi arrivals and prices of various agricultural commodities including that of onion on daily basis on Agmarknet portal. As per the reported data of APMCs in Madhya Pradesh on the portal, the prevailing weightage average modal prices of onion ranges from ₹483-₹1236 per quintal in the current season since 1.11.2018.

(c) and (d) The Government is very responsive to the needs and aspirations of the farmers in the country and has been continuously taking several measures for upliftment and welfare of the farmers. The Government has reoriented the agriculture

sector by focusing on an income-centric approach which goes beyond achieving merely the targeted enhanced production. The income approach focuses on achieving high productivity, reduced cost of cultivation and remunerative price on the produce with a view to earn higher profits from farming. In this regard, the Government is implementing various schemes *viz.* Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, Neem Coated Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Oilseed and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology (NMAET) for enhancing production and productivity and development of the sector as a whole.

In order to reduce the dependence of farmers on private money lenders for meeting their credit needs and providing relief to the indebted farmers, the Government has taken several measures to increase institutional credit flow and to bring down the rate of interest on farm loans. Under the Interest Subvention Scheme, the Government is providing short-term crop loan upto ₹ 3 lakh for a period of one year to farmers at a subvented interest rate of 4% per annum in case of prompt repayment of the loan against the normal lending rate of 9%. Thus on prompt repayment, the farmers get Interest Subvention of 5% per annum.

Further, with a view to provide better insurance coverage to crops for all stages including post harvest risks for risk mitigation, Government has launched a crop insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) from Kharif 2016 season.

In order to provide better marketing facilities to the farmers, the Government has released a new model Act “The Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017” in April, 2017 for its adoption by States/ Union Territories (UTs). The Model Act provides for alternative marketing channels to facilitate farmers in marketing their produce at competitive and remunerative prices.

In order to optimise the use of scarce resources and mitigate the uncertainty in price and marketing, the Government has formulated and released a progressive and facilitative Model Act “The ---State/ UT Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2018” in May, 2018 for its adoption by the States/Union Territories (UTs). The aforesaid Model Contract Farming Act covers the entire value and supply chain from pre-production to post harvest marketing including services contract for the agricultural produce and livestock.

In order to facilitate development of integrated value chain and primary processing of agri-produce for better price realization by farmers, the Government is

providing assistance for marketing infrastructure including storage and cold storage infrastructure under various schemes such as Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana-Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) and Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) sub scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM).

The Government has implemented National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme for transparent price discovery for remunerative prices for the farmers for their produce through competitive online bidding system. So far, 585 wholesale regulated markets of 16 States and 02 UTs have been integrated with e-NAM platform.

Giving a major boost to the pro-farmer initiatives of the Government and in keeping with its commitment and dedication for the Annadata for ensuring remunerative prices to them, the Government has approved a new umbrella scheme Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan' (PM-AASHA). Procurement of agricultural produce is done by the designated procuring agencies, at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) under the Price Support Scheme (PSS). MSP is notified by the Government for certain crops. Giving a major boost for the farmers' income, the Government has approved the increase in the MSPs for all Kharif and Rabi crops for 2018-19 season at a level of at least 150 per cent of the cost of production.

Implementation of Swaminathan Commission report

1794. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has implemented the Swaminathan Commission report and 1.5 times the costs of production are being paid to farmers as MSP;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the cost of production, crop-wise; and

(c) the reasons why more than one lakh farmers have protested/demonstrated against the Central Government in Delhi recently demanding MSP for crops as per the Swaminathan Commission report when Government has already implemented it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) National Commission on Farmers (NCF) headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan has recommended that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) should be at least 50 per cent

more than the weighted average cost of production. However, when the National Policy for Farmers, 2007 was finalized by the then Government, this recommendation of providing 50 per cent returns over cost of production was not included. Dr. M. S. Swaminathan in his Report on NCF had discussed different dimensions of fixing MSPs, but while finalizing National Policy on Farmers, the then Government had accepted the current established methods.

Cost of production is one of the important factors in the determination of MSPs. While recommending its price policy, the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) considers all costs in a comprehensive manner. The costs include all paid out costs such as those incurred on account of hired human labour, bullock labour/machine labour, rent paid for leased in land, expenses incurred in cash and kind on the use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers, manures, irrigation charges, depreciation on implements and farm buildings, interest on working capital, diesel/electricity for operation of pump sets etc, miscellaneous expenses and imputed value of family labour.

Government has increased the MSPs for all mandated crops with a return of at least 50 per cent over cost of production for the season 2018-19. This decision of the Government was a historic one as it fulfills the commitment to the farmers to provide at least 50 per cent return over cost of production for the first time for all mandated crops.

The details of cost of production, MSP and per cent return over cost for major crops for the year 2017-18 and 2018-19 are given in the Statement (*See below*) .

(c) From time-to-time, some farmers and farmers' organizations have been agitating and making certain demands like increase in MSPs for agricultural crops and other agricultural policies. Farmers and representatives of All India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee (AIKSCC) reportedly demonstrated in Delhi on 29th and 30th November, 2018 raising various issues including waiver of farm loans and increasing MSP. While MSPs fixed at all India basis provides adequate return over cost, there may be some exceptions in some parts in a diverse country like India due to different agro-climatic conditions. These are being addressed by other schemes of the Government like Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, National Food Security Mission etc.

Statement*Details of cost* Minimum Support Price MSP and per cent return over cost*

		(₹/quintal)					
Sl. No.	Commodity	2017-18			2018-19		
		Cost	MSP	% Return over cost	Cost	MSP	% Return over cost
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Kharif Crops							
1.	Paddy (Common) (Grade A)^	1117	1550	38.8	1166	1750	50.1
			1590			1770	
2.	Jowar (Hybrid) (Maldandi)^	1556	1700	9.3	1619	2430	50.1
			1725			2450	
3.	Bajra	949	1425	50.2	990	1950	97.0
4.	Maize	1044	1425	36.5	1131	1700	50.3
5.	Ragi	1861	1900	2.1	1931	2897	50.0
6.	Arhar (Tur)	3318	5450	64.3	3432	5675	65.4
7.	Moong	4286	5575	30.1	4650	6975	50.0
8.	Urad	3265	5400	65.4	3438	5600	62.9
9.	Cotton (Medium Staple) (Long Staple)^	3276	4020	22.7	3433	5150	50.0
			4320			5450	
10.	Groundnut in Shell	3159	4450	40.9	3260	4890	50.0
11.	Sunflower Seed	3481	4100	17.8	3592	5388	50.0
12.	Soyabean	2121	3050	43.8	2266	3399	50.0
13.	Sesamum	4067	5300	30.3	4166	6249	50.0
14.	Nigerseed	3912	4050	3.5	3918	5877	50.0
Rabi Crops							
1.	Wheat	817	1735	112.4	866	1840	112.5
2.	Barley	845	1410	66.9	860	1440	67.4
3.	Gram	2461	4400	78.8	2637	4620	75.2
4.	Masur (Lentil)	2366	4250	79.6	2532	4475	76.7
5.	Rapeseed/Mustard	2123	4000	88.4	2212	4200	89.9
6.	Safflower	3125	4100	31.2	3294	4945	50.1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Toria [^]		3900				
	Other Crops						
1.	Copra (Milling)	4758	6500	36.6	5007	7511	50.0
	(Ball) [^]		6785	42.6		7750	
2.	De-Husked Coconut [^]		1760			2030	
3.	Jute	2160	3500	62.0	2267	3700	63.2
4.	Sugarcane	152	255	67.8	155	275	77.4

* Includes all paid out costs such as those incurred on account of hired human labour, bullock labour/machine labour, rent paid for leased in land, expenses incurred on use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers, manures, irrigation charges, depreciation on implements and farm buildings, interest on working capital, diesel/electricity for operation of pump sets etc., miscellaneous expenses and imputed value of family labour.

[^] Cost data are not separately compiled for Paddy (Grade A), Jowar (Maldandi), Cotton (Long staple), Toria, Copra (ball) and De-husked coconut.

Source: Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices.

Sustainable farming

1795. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the per centage of farmers who produce enough to sustain themselves;

(b) whether Government has schemes to help farmers who are below that level, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether various steps taken by Government in the past have made agriculture and industry more unequal; and

(d) whether Government intends to take corrective measures in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducts 'Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households' from time-to-time to provide a comprehensive assessment of the situation of agricultural households in the country. As per the results of the latest Survey conducted in 2013, a majority of the agricultural households, which possessed land holdings of more than 0.40 hectare, have reported cultivation as their

principal source of income. However, the specific data on per centage of farmers who produce enough to sustain themselves is not available in the Survey.

(b) Agriculture being a State subject, State Governments take appropriate steps for development of agriculture in the State Government of India, however, supplements their efforts through implementation of various schemes/programmes. Support is being provided to various categories of agricultural households through Schemes, like Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Soil Health Card, National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET), etc. Government is also promoting horticulture, floriculture, adoption of modern technologies and practices, like multiple cropping and integrated farming systems to supplement agricultural households' income from traditional crops. Besides, Government has adopted the principle of fixing Minimum Support Prices (MSP) at a level of 50 per cent over the all-India weighted average cost of production of crops.

In addition, the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and other Schemes to benefit rural people, including farm workers through creation of employment and livelihood opportunities. These are devised to benefit agricultural households to supplement their income.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has been focusing on making agriculture more profitable and thereby increasing its attractiveness among farmers. Various measures taken by the Government are aimed at improving net returns to the farmers by enabling them to realize higher yields at lower cost and benefit from better market prices. However, the Gross Value Added (GVA) in agriculture and allied sector as a proportion of total GVA in the country has declined overtime, which is considered to be a natural concomitant of the economic growth process.

Subsidy on organic fertilizers

1796. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers engaged in organic farming are unable to afford input cost which is expensive; and

(b) if so, the steps Government is taking to reduce the cost of organic fertilizers and encourage them to use microbes and supply them at subsidised rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Organic farming reduces the cost of cultivation/production by eliminating the use of consumption of

chemical fertilizers and pesticides. The on-farm production of organic fertilizer from available natural resources drastically reduces the cost of cultivation.

Government has taken the following effective steps to produce/encourage and reduce the cost of organic fertilizer from organic waste:—

- (i) Under National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) assistance is provided for setting up of mechanized Fruit/Vegetable market waste/Agro waste compost production unit 100% financial assistance to State Government/ Government agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹ 190.00 lakh per unit. Similarly for private agencies/Individuals assistance of 30% of project cost upto ₹ 63 lakhs per unit is provided for establishment of Waste Compost Production Unit (3000 TPA capacity).
- (ii) Under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) financial assistance is provided at the rate of ₹ 50,000 per ha. per farmer for three years, out of which 62% *i.e.*, ₹ 31,000 is provided for organic conversion, organic inputs, on-farm input infrastructure.
- (iii) Under MOVCDNER assistance is provided for on-farm and off-farm inputs production infrastructure @ ₹ 3750/ha. 3 years for each.
- (iv) Moreover, Waste decomposer developed by National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF), Ghaziabad, has been distributed to farmers across the country for on farm production of organic manure from organic waste.
- (v) Government of India is providing Market Development Assistance @ ₹ 1500/- per metric ton (MT) to Fertilizer Companies for sale of City Compost.
- (vi) Indian Council of Agriculture and Research (ICAR) has developed technology so that farmers can prepare various types of organic manures such as phosphocompost, vermicompost, bio-enriched compost etc. using available rural organic wastes. The council also recommends green manuring and *in-situ* crop residue recycling. The ICAR imparts training to educate farmers on all these aspects.

Improvement in system from seeds to market for farmers

†1797. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is proposing to improve the system for the farmers right from seeds to market;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government is going to take any steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when these steps would be undertaken and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) Well established systems are already existing for the farmers right from production and distribution of seeds to marketing under various crop development programmes *viz.* National Food Security Mission for Cereals, Pulses, Nutri-Cereals and Oilpalm and Oilseeds, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER), National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Soil Health Card Scheme etc.

To provide better marketing facilities to the farmers, the Government has released a new Model Act “The Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017” in April, 2017 for its adoption by States/UTs. The model act provides for alternative marketing channels such as setting up of private markets, direct marketing, farmer-consumer markets, special commodity markets, to facilitate farmers in marketing their produce at competitive and remunerative prices.

To mitigate the uncertainty in price and marketing, the Government has formulated and released a progressive and facilitative Model Act “The State/UT Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2018” in May, 2018 for its adoption by the States/Union Territories. The aforesaid Model Contract Farming Act covers the entire value and supply chain from pre-production to post harvest marketing including services contract for the agricultural produce and livestock.

In addition, the Government is implementing National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme for transparent price discovery for remunerative prices for the farmers for their produce through competitive online bidding system. So far, 585 wholesale regulated markets of 16 States and 02 Union Territories have been integrated with e-NAM platform. The e-NAM scheme provides for support for cleaning/sorting/grading equipments, technical support, assaying equipments, electronic weighing scale, computer IT equipments and bio- composting unit.

Challenges of climate change, depleting natural resources, etc.

†1798. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to take some concrete steps to overcome the challenges of climate change, depleting natural resources, shrinking agricultural land and decreasing prices of agricultural produce which agriculture is facing;

(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?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government is implementing number of schemes for promoting climate resilient agriculture to cope with the challenges of climate change. As many as 10 key dimensions for adaptation namely improved crop seeds; livestock and fish culture; water use efficiency; pest management; improved farm practices; improved nutrient management; agricultural insurance; credit support; markets; access to information and livelihood diversification are emphasized. The National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), one of the eight Missions under National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC), is anchored in Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare and includes Soil Health Card (SHC), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCD-NER), Rainfed Area Development (RAD), National Bamboo Mission (NBM) and Sub-mission of Agro Forestry (SMAF). These and other programmes including Prime Minister Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) are ensuring judicious use of natural resources. Cluster based approach is adopted in the programmes for small and marginal farmers through support to Farmers Producer Organization (FPO), Farmer Producer Cooperatives (FPC), Self Help Group (SHG) etc.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed 45 models for climate resilient Integrated Farming Systems which are replicated in Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) for demonstration. Climate resilient villages have been developed, one in each 151 districts. Climate Vulnerability Atlas has been prepared under National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA). ICAR has also developed District Agriculture Contingency Plan for 633 districts in order to give

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

real time agro advisories for overcoming climate risks. Due to the steps taken by the Government, despite climate risks, the overall crop production in the country is on the increasing trend.

In order to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers, progressive agri-market reforms have been undertaken, including National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) to enable transparent pricing through competitive online bidding system. The Agricultural Produce and Livestock marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017 and The—State/UT Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2018 are also aimed at improving markets.

The new Umbrella Scheme “Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan” (PM-AASHA), as announced in the Union Budget for 2018, has been launched to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce by way of robust procurement, in coordination with the State Governments, and translate increased Minimum Support Prices (MSP) to farmers’ income.

Condition of tobacco growing farmers

1799. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tobacco occupies unique position in Indian agriculture as it provides direct and indirect employment to over 40 million people and earn more than ₹6,000 crore as foreign exchange;

(b) whether Government is aware that due to strict restrictions imposed by Government, coupled with stiff global competition, the socio-economic condition of tobacco growing farmers is going from bad to worse;

(c) the reasons that tobacco growing farmers are not getting remunerative price for their produce due to forming of cartel by traders; and

(d) the manner in which Government is going to break this cartel and protect tobacco growing farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. Tobacco occupies important position in Indian agriculture as tobacco industry provides direct and indirect employment to over 45.7 million people *viz*, farmers, farm labour, traders, manufacturers, distributors, retailers and tendu leaf workers. India earned ₹ 6021.59 crore on exports of tobacco and tobacco products in 2017-18.

(b) to (d) Tobacco Board regulates production and curing of FCV tobacco having regard to the demand for tobacco in India and abroad, marketability of different types of FCV tobacco and other factors so as to ensure fair and remunerative prices to growers. Government is implementing Crop Diversification Programme as a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal to encourage tobacco growing farmers to shift to alternative crops/cropping system since 2015-16.

Suicide by farmers

1800. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of suicide of farmers in the country during the last five years and the reasons therefor, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any scheme of Central Government to grant compensation to the family of the farmers committing suicide for agricultural reason, if not, whether Government would consider such proposal; and

(c) whether it is a fact that pesticide ingestion causes death as reported by Centre for Pesticide Suicide Prevention (CPSP) and it has recommended for ban of several pesticides, if so, whether Government is considering the suggestion of CPSP and whether such bans would affect the agricultural production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides, in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These Reports on suicides are available upto 2015 on its website. The Reports for the year 2016 onwards have not been published as on date. As per the ADSI Reports which were published for the years 2011 to 2015, the total number of suicides by farmers and agricultural labourers in the country, State-wise is given in the Statement (*See* below).

As per Report of 2015, 'Bankruptcy or Indebtedness' and 'Farming Related Issues' are reported as major causes of suicides among farmers/cultivators. Other prominent causes of farmers/cultivators suicides are family problems, illness, etc.

(b) State Governments provide relief to families of farmers who commit suicide. As per information available, some of the States provide relief to the families of

farmers who committed suicide are as follows:-

- (i) *Ex-gratia* relief to the heirs of the deceased farmer.
- (ii) One time settlement to wipe off loans/liabilities towards rehabilitation of the family members.
- (iii) Relief provided to the children of the deceased get free education.

(c) The Registration Committee, constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers pesticides after considering its efficacy and safety to human beings, animals and environment. If the pesticides are not used as per the approved label/leaflets claims, then they are likely to pose a risk to human health. In addition, technical reviews are carried out from time-to-time to assess the safety of pesticides for their continued use. Based on which, the Government, *inter alia*, has banned the use of 40 pesticides for use in the country.

Statement

Details of number of suicides by farmers and agricultural labourers

Sl.No.	State/UT	2011	2012	2013
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2206	2572	2014
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	11	37
3.	Assam	312	344	305
4.	Bihar	83	68	127
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	4	0
6.	Goa	1	1	1
7.	Gujarat	578	564	582
8.	Haryana	384	276	374
9.	Himachal Pradesh	46	29	33
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	14	10	18
11.	Jharkhand	94	119	142
12.	Karnataka	2100	1875	1403
13.	Kerala	830	1081	972
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1326	1172	1090
15.	Maharashtra	3337	3786	3146
16.	Manipur	0	0	1

Sl.No.	State/UT	2011	2012	2013
17.	Meghalaya	22	10	5
18.	Mizoram	14	10	6
19.	Nagaland	2	9	2
20.	Odisha	144	146	150
21.	Punjab	98	75	83
22.	Rajasthan	268	270	292
23.	Sikkim	12	19	35
24.	Tamil Nadu	623	499	105
25.	Telangana	NA	NA	NA
26.	Tripura	20	18	56
27.	Uttar Pradesh	645	745	750
28.	Uttarakhand	25	14	15
29.	West Bengal	807	NR	0
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	5
31.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13	6	15
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0
34.	Delhi (UT)	10	21	8
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0	0
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		14027	13754	11772

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014			2015		
		Farmers	Labourers	Total	Farmers	Labourers	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	160	472	632	516	400	916
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	3	3	7	3	10
3.	Assam	21	38	59	84	54	138
4.	Bihar	0	10	10	0	7	7
5.	Chhattisgarh	443	312	755	854	100	954
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Gujarat	45	555	600	57	244	301
8.	Haryana	14	105	119	28	134	162
9.	Himachal Pradesh	32	31	63	0	46	46
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	12	25	37	0	21	21
11.	Jharkhand	0	4	4	0	21	21
12.	Karnataka	321	447	768	1197	372	1569
13.	Kerala	107	700	807	3	207	210
14.	Madhya Pradesh	826	372	1198	581	709	1290
15.	Maharashtra	2568	1436	4004	3030	1261	4291
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	1	0	1
17.	Meghalaya	0	2	2	2	1	3
18.	Mizoram	0	5	5	0	1	1
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Odisha	5	97	102	23	27	50
21.	Punjab	24	40	64	100	24	124
22.	Rajasthan	0	373	373	3	73	76
23.	Sikkim	35	0	35	15	3	18
24.	Tamil Nadu	68	827	895	2	604	606
25.	Telangana	898	449	1347	1358	42	1400
26.	Tripura	0	32	32	1	48	49
27.	Uttar Pradesh	63	129	192	145	179	324
28.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	2	2
29.	West Bengal	0	230	230	0	0	0
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8	0	8	0	0	0
31.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Delhi (UT)	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	16	16	0	12	12
TOTAL (UTs)		8	16	24	0	12	12
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		5650	6710	12360	8007	4595	12602

Source: Report on 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' for relevant years, National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs.

Promotion of Organic Fertilizers

1801 SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state?

(a) whether Government has a strategy in place to promote balanced use of fertilizers;

(b) whether the present fertilizer subsidies include subsidies on liquid fertilizers, bio-fertilizers and farm manure; and

(c) whether Government is considering to give subsidy to promote organic fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Yes. (i) The Government has introduced a scheme named "Soil Health Management Scheme" under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). Soil Health Management (SHM) is one of the components under the NMSA that aims at promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through judicious use of chemical fertilizers including secondary and micro nutrients in conjunction with organic manures and bio-fertilizers for improving soil health and its productivity; strengthening of soil and fertilizer testing facilities to provide soil test based recommendations to farmers for improving soil fertility; ensuring quality control requirements of fertilizers, bio-fertilizers and organic fertilizers under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985; up-gradation of skill and knowledge of soil testing laboratory staff, extension staff and farmers through training and demonstrations; promoting organic farming practices etc. SHM also aims at promoting soil health through trainings for fertilizer dealers, foreign nationals, fertilizer inspectors and fertilizer laboratory staff, setting up of new static Soil Testing Laboratories (STLs), setting up of new Mobile STLs, strengthening of existing STLs, setting up of new Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratory (FQCL), strengthening of FQCL apart from trainings and demonstrations on balanced use of fertilizers.

Besides, "Soil Health Card" Scheme is under implementation in the country since February, 2015 to provide Soil Health Card to all farmers in the country. Soil Health Card will provide information to farmers on soil nutrient status of their soil and recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrient to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility thus increase agricultural productivity. Soil Health Card will be issued every 2 years for all land holdings in the country.

(ii) In addition, ICAR is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources (manure, bio-fertilizers etc.) of plant nutrients with 4Rs approach *i.e.* right quantity, right time, right mode and right type of fertilizer to ensure balanced use of chemical fertilizers. The ICAR has developed integrated nutrient management packages for various crops/cropping systems in different agro-ecological regions of the country.

The Council has developed technology so that farmers can prepare various types of organic manures such as phosphocompost, vermicompost, bio-enriched compost etc. using available rural organic wastes. The council also recommends green manuring and *in-situ* crop residue recycling.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research under Network project on Soil Biodiversity-Biofertilizers has developed improved and efficient strains of bio-fertilizers specific to different crops and soil types. Liquid Bio-fertilizer technology with higher shelf-life has also been developed.

The ICAR also imparts training, organizes front-line demonstrations etc. to educate farmers on all these aspects.

(b) and (c) (i) Under National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), 100% financial assistance upto a maximum limit of ₹ 190.00 lakh per unit is provided to State Government/Government agencies for setting up of mechanized Fruit/Vegetable market waste/Agro waste compost production unit. Similarly for private agencies/Individuals, assistance of 30% of project cost upto ₹ 63 lakhs per unit is provided for establishment of Waste Compost Production Unit (3000 TPA capacity).

(ii) Under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), financial assistance is provided at the rate of ₹ 50,000 per ha. per farmer for three years, out of which 62% *i.e.*, ₹ 31,000 is provided for organic conversion, organic inputs, on-farm input infrastructure.

(iii) Under MOVCDNER, assistance is provided for on-farm and off-farm inputs production infrastructure @ ₹ 3750/ha. each for 3 years.

(iv) Waste Decomposer developed by National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF), Ghaziabad, has been distributed to farmers across the country for on farm production of organic manure from organic waste.

(v) The Government of India has also approved the policy on promotion of city compost using city waste which has been notified by the Department of Fertilizers on 10.2.2016 wherein Market Development Assistance (MDA) of ₹ 1500/MT in the form of subsidy has been provided for scaling up production and consumption of city compost.

Functioning of NPPA

1802. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures being taken to make the functioning of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) more transparent;

(b) whether any studies have been undertaken or sponsored with respect to pricing of drugs and pharmaceuticals and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the NPPA is considering to bring in more medicines under its control as a part of measures to provide relief to patients, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) The activities of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) are very transparent. NPPA places a draft version of the Price Calculation Sheets for the proposed revised price notifications, including wherever applicable, the Price to Retailer (PTR) and Moving Annual Turnover (MAT) values adopted for calculations, on the website of NPPA for 10 clear working days to invite comments from the affected pharmaceutical firms. Only after taking into account the comments or any additional data thus received within the given time period, the NPPA finalizes the Ceiling and the Retail Prices. The working sheets of notified Ceiling prices and retail prices are also placed on the website of NPPA. Pricing Notifications are available on the website of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) at www.nppaindia.nic.in. The decisions taken in the authority meetings are placed on the website of the NPPA. The minutes of the Experts Committee Meetings are also placed on the website of NPPA. All important Office Memoranda are uploaded on the website of NPPA from time-to-time.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) NPPA, as an ongoing process, fixes the ceiling prices of the formulations as and when formulations are included in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM).

Subsidy on fertilizers

1803. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the subsidy being given by Government on urea-based and non-urea fertilizers, as on date:

(b) whether Government proposes to slash the subsidy on non-urea fertilizers by twenty per cent, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has made any assessment of the likely impact on the economic condition of farmers due to the reduction of subsidy on non-urea fertilizers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) The subsidy being given by Government on urea-based and non-urea fertilizers as on 24.12.2018 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) to (d) No Sir, at present there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to slash the subsidy on P&K fertilizers for the year 2018-19.

An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) constituted under the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme, recommends the subsidy rates for P&K fertilizers based on the international prices of these commodities, exchange rate variation, MRP of these fertilizers and inventory level. Based on the recommendation of IMC, Government of India announces the NBS rates for P&K Fertilizers for one year.

Statement

*Subsidy given by the Government in current year 2018-19 on
Urea-based and Non-Urea fertilizers as on 24.12.2018*

(₹ in crores)

Fertilizers		Subsidy
Urea-based Fertilizers	Indigenous Urea	29067.12
	Imported Urea	8796.65
Non-Urea Fertilizers	Indigenous P&K	13640.61
	Imported P&K	8775.98
	City Compost	6.92
TOTAL		60287.28

Increase in supply to power sector

1804. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India claims to have increased supplies to the power sector by nine per cent between 1 April to 12 October, 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether increased demand for coal has forced some 11,500 MW generation capacity to remain idle for several days;

(d) whether 3,300 MW generation capacity has been lying idle due to lack of power purchase agreements; and

(e) if so, the steps Ministry is taking to improve the coal supply to the power plants and to conclude power purchase agreements so that plants do not remain idle?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Yes, sir. In 2018-19 (up to 12.10.2018), coal supply of 247.69 Million Tonnes (MT) has been made by Coal India Limited (CIL) to the Power sector, thereby achieving a growth of more than 9.4% over the supply of 226.39 MT in the corresponding period of last year same period.

(c) The programme for coal based power generation in 2018-19 (April-Nov.) was 663.60 BU, against which actual generation was 658 BU. Further, the generation by domestic coal based plants was 605.01 BU, which was 101% of programme

generation. Therefore, sufficient coal was provided to the coal based power plants to generate power as per programme.

(d) and (e) As per Central Electricity Authority (CEA), 2576 MW capacity has been affected due to no Power Purchase Agreement. The steps taken by Government to improve coal supply to the power plants and to conclude power purchase agreement is as under:—

- (i) SHAKTI Scheme: The Government has approved a new coal linkage allocation policy in May, 2017, named SHAKTI (Scheme for harnessing and allocating koyla (coal) transparently in India) for allocation of coal to various categories of power plants. So far, 35,655 MW capacity has been allocated coal linkage under various categories.
- (ii) Pilot project for procurement of 2500 MW: In order to address the problem of lack of Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) in the country, Ministry of Power has notified a scheme for procurement of 2500 MW on competitive basis for a period of 3 years from the generators with commissioned projects having untied capacity.
- (iii) The Power Houses in close vicinity of the coalfields are advised to move coal through road mode.
- (iv) For proper utilization of goods sheds, the power houses are advised to move coal through road-cum-rail mode.
- (v) The captive modes of transport like MGR, Belts, Ropes are fully utilized to their capacity to move coal to the concerned units.

As a result of the steps taken for augmentation of supplies, as per CEA report, coal stocks at Power House end have improved from 12.92 MT on 25.12.2017 to 15.86 MT as on 25.12.2018 thereby registering an increase of 22.75%.

Production of Coal by re-allocated coal mines

1805. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that less than 15 of the 33 coal mines re-allocated in 2014 have started production, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether such a long delay is attributable to bureaucratic lethargy and lengthy clearance processes;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the country had to import 10 per cent the total domestic coal demand in the current fiscal despite having adequate reserves, and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to plug the shortfall and cut-down on import dependency?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Out of 85 coal blocks allocated under Coal Mine (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 (33 are Schedule II mines, 18 Schedule I mines and 34 Schedule III mines), 24 mines are presently operational which includes 17 mines under Schedule II category and balance 7 mines under Schedule I and III. Out of these 24 operational mines, 16 mines are coal producing mines of which 13 are Schedule II mines.

The Milestones are mentioned in the Schedule-E of CMPDA (Coal Mine Production and Development Agreement), where timelines are present for the clearances required. In case of Schedule-II coal mines, all the clearances were in place and it was expected that it would be transferred to new allottee in 3 months but mainly due to the change in Land status/existing Law, it did not happen. The following issues were identified as the major reasons for non- operationalization/delay in operationalization of coal mines:—

- Procedural delay in transfer of clearances existing with Prior allottees like ECs, FCs and Mining Leases.
- Litigation related to land.
- Processes are not standard across States that added to delays.

However, due to close monitoring by the Ministry, the total coal production from these blocks has been 14.71 MT during April-November, 2018 at a growth rate of 34.70 % over the same period last year.

(c) and (d) The all India demand of coal, production, supply and import of coal during last two years and current year *i.e.* 2018 upto November, 2018 is given below:—

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Total demand (Mte) ^	884.87	908.40	991.35
Total domestic Production (Mte)	657.87	676.48	433.90@
Total domestic supply (Mte)	644.56	691.42	471.70@
Total Import (Mte)	190.95	208.27	111.60#

^All India Estimated by Niti Aayog ; @Upto November, 2018; # Upto September, 2018

The imported coal quantity of 2017-18 at 208.27 MT is less than the imported quantity of 2014-15 which stood at 217.79 MT even as power generation and industrial activities grew substantially after 2014-15.

As per the current import policy, coal is kept under Open General License (OGL) and consumers are free to import coal from the source of their choice as per their contractual prices on payment of applicable duty. There has been a consistent effort to increase domestic coal production so as to reduce dependence on coal imports. The all India raw coal production has increased from 565.77 MT in 2013-14 to 676.48 MT in 2017-18. Absolute increase in all India coal production from 2013-14 to 2017-18 (four years) is 110.71 MT as compared to increase of coal production of 33.73 MT from 2009-10 to 2013-14 (four years).

Coal India Limited (CIL) has also increased its production from 462.41 MT in 2013-14 to 567.36 MT in 2017-18 (four years), an absolute increase of 105 MT as compared to increase of coal production of 31.15 MT between 2009-10 and 2013-14 (four years). Further, in the current year during April-November, 2018 all India coal production was 433.90 MT with a growth rate of 9.8% and coal production of CIL was 358.32 MT with a growth rate of 8.8% over the corresponding period of previous year.

To reduce import dependence and facilitate the Power consumers for procuring coal under Special Forward E-Auction, CIL has planned to offer about 41.54 MT of coal in 2018-19. During April-Sep., 2018, around 27.68 MT coal was offered under Special Forward E-Auction by different coal companies against which around 20.38 MT coal was booked by Power consumers.

For Non-regulated sector, CIL is conducting linkage auctions for Sponge Iron, Cement, CPP, 'Other (non-coking)', Steel (coking) and 'Others (coking)' sub sectors under Non-Regulated Sector. In the three tranches of linkage auction which have been concluded, 45.18 MT of annual coal linkages have been booked. In the fourth tranche, upto now, 26.54 MT of annual coal linkages have been booked by CPP, Cement and Sponge Iron Sector consumers. For linkages of coking coal, CIL has offered a total quantity of 6.99 MT in the linkage auctions against which only 0.22 MT has been booked by Steel sector consumers.

However, coking coal will continue to be imported as there is limited availability of coking coal in the country. Further, power plants designed on imported coal will also continue to import coal.

Licensing of coal mines

1806. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of coal mines in the country, at present;
- (b) the number of new coal mines given license since 2014;
- (c) the measures taken by Government to control illegal mining activity; and
- (d) whether Government is spending any amount for coal import, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) At present, the number of coal mines in the country is 454 out of which Coal India Ltd. (CIL) has 369 nos., Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) has 48 nos. and balance 37 nos. coal mines belong to captive and others.

(b) Total 54 number of new coal mines has been given mine opening permission by Coal Controller's office, Kolkata since 2014.

(c) Law and Order is a State subject; hence primarily it is the responsibility of the State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining of coal.

However, the following steps are being taken to prevent illegal mining of coal in the abandoned coal mines:—

- (i) Abandoned mines are being dozed off and filled up with stone and debris wherever possible;
- (ii) Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas;
- (iii) Surprise raids/checks being conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities of the concerned State Government;
- (iv) Fencing is being constructed at the various abandoned mines along with displaying of signboards mentioning "Dangerous and Prohibited Place";
- (v) Dumping of the overburden is being done on the outcrop zones, which are not required to be mined;
- (vi) Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents;

- (vii) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup;
- (viii) The coal companies maintain close liaison with the State authorities.

The Government of India has launched one mobile app namely “Khanan Prahari” and one web app Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System (CMSMS) for reporting unauthorized coal mining activities so that monitoring and taking suitable action on it can be done by Law and Order enforcing authority.

(d) The quantity and amount (in Rupees) spent by Government in coal import during last 4 years and current year are given as under:—

(Qty in Million Tonnes and Values in Million Rupees)

Financial Year	Coking (Qty.)	Coking (Value)	Non-Coking (Qty.)	Non-Coking (Value)	Total (Qty.)	Total (Value)
2014-15	43.72	337,656	174.07	707,411	217.78	1,045,066
2015-16	44.56	282,519	159.39	577,819	203.95	860,338
2016-17	41.64	412,301	149.31	590,013	190.95	1,002,314
2017-18 (P)	47.00	595,226	161.27	789,543	208.27	1,384,770
2018-19 (upto Oct., 18)	29.96	401,874	103.17	580,629	133.13	982,503

P : Provisional.

The imported quantity of 2017-18 at 208.27 MT is less than the imported quantity of 2014-15 which stood at 217.78 MT even as power generation and industrial activity grew substantially after 2014-15.

Production of coal by CIL

1807. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Limited (CIL) has been unable to increase the production and sale of coal;

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

(c) whether less production of coal is directly affecting the power production; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made by Government to increase the production of coal and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Coal India Limited (CIL) has increased its production of coal from 462.41 MT in 2013-14 to 567.36 MT in 2017-18 (four years) resulting in an absolute increase of 105 MT as compared to increase of coal production of 31.15 MT between 2009-10 and 2013-14 (four years).

Further, in the current year during April-November, 2018, all India coal production was 433.90 MT with a growth rate of 9.8% and coal production of CIL was 358.32MT with a growth rate of 8.8% over the corresponding period of previous year.

The Off-take/sale of coal from Coal India Limited Sources during last five years is given below:—

Year	Total Offtake/Sale (in MT)	Growth %
2013-14	471.58	
2014-15	489.38	3.8%
2015-16	534.5	9.2%
2016-17	543.32	1.7%
2017-18	580.29	6.8%

There has been progressive growth in offtake/sale from CIL sources. Coal India Limited (CIL) has increased its coal offtake from 471.58 MT in 2013-14 to 580.28 MT in 2017-18 (four years) resulting in an absolute increase of 109 MT as compared to increase of coal offtake of 55.70 MT between 2009-10 and 2013-14 (four years).

In the year 2018-19 (till Nov.) also, CIL have registered a growth of 6.5% in coal offtake by achieving a dispatch of 391.82 Million tonnes against a dispatch of 367.99 Million tonnes achieved during same period of previous year.

(c) During this fiscal upto November 2018, against the total Coal based Power Generation programme of 663.60 Billion units, actual generation has been about 658 Billion units, thereby achieving 99.2% materialization of programme and registering a growth of 5.5% over last year same period. Further, the generation by domestic coal based power plants was 605.01 BU, which was 101 % of programme generation. This has been possible due to increased supply of coal to the power sector. During April-Nov 2018, Coal India Ltd. (CIL) has supplied 315.94 MT of coal to power sector at a growth of more than 8% compared to the supply of 291.78 MT in the corresponding period of last year.

As per CEA report coal stock at Power House end as on 25.12.2018 is 15.86 MT as against the stock of 12.92 MT on 25.12.2017 thereby registering an increase of 22.75%.

(d) In order to enhance coal production, the focus of the Government is on increasing domestic production of coal which includes efforts to expedite Environment and Forest clearances expeditiously, pursuing with State Government for assistance in land acquisition and coordinated efforts with Railways for movement of coal.

Efficient transportation of coal

1808. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the MINISTER OF COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the new technologies being used by the Ministry to transport coal from one place to another which are more efficient than the usual ways of transport; and

(b) whether the new technologies used are cost efficient and reliable, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) In order to ensure faster evacuation of coal, Rapid Loading System (RLS) is being introduced in coal companies (like CIL, SCCL) at different loading points, where coal loading is more than 1 million tonne (MT) to minimize the loading time and enhance dispatch with a view to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the operation.

It has been decided by Ministry of Power that all Power Plants located within 20 km. from Pithead shall construct elevated closed belt conveyors within next 2 years (upto 1st April, 2020). Further, it was also decided that power plants located within 20 to 40 km. from pithead should construct MGR (Merry-Go-Round) system within 3 years (upto 1st April, 2021) and plants located within 40-100 km. from pithead should also consider to construct MGR based on financial viability.

The decision of supply of coal, to the power plants located within 20 km. through elevated closed belt conveyor, was taken in order to free up railway rake to supply coal to far-away power plants more efficiently and in an effective manner.

Normally, the supply of coal from CIL to its customers is done through the Road or Rail mode or a combination of both. For faster evacuation of coal from Pit Head, Coal Handling Plants (CHP) with Rapid Loading Systems (RLS) are in place in 19 mines of CIL. As per need, construction of CHP and SILO in further 9 mines is in process. To implement modern technology like Belt Pipe Conveyors, CIL has taken initiative to construct the same in two mines of MCL in the State

of Odisha for transportation of coal from its coal stock yard to their new under construction CHP and SILO.

Coal companies are taking following steps for efficient transport of coal:-

- (i) In-pit Crushing and conveying technology is being used for transportation of coal and Overburden.
- (ii) CHPs are planned near to the mines.
- (iii) Rail mode is cheaper, safer and more eco-friendly compared to road mode. The coal companies are taking steps to convert road mode to rail wherever possible.
- (iv) Coal supply to nearby Thermal Power Plants is being planned by belt conveyor system directly from the new and upcoming mines nearby.

Due to developments in the loading and transport systems in CIL and SCCL, in the year 2018-19 (upto 30.11.2018), there has been a growth of 9.4% in coal loading through railways as the average daily loading has been 303.6 rakes in this year in comparison to the average daily loading of 277.5 rakes in the corresponding period of last year (2017-18).

Standardization of skills and training

1809. SHRIMATI ROOPA GANGULY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry or any of its subsidiaries have taken any steps with National Skill Development Fund (NSDF) and National Skill Development Centre (NSDC) under Skill India Mission of Central Government for standardization of skills and training and assessment of their employees as well as of contractual workers, Project Affected Persons (PAP), youth and women in its command area to bring them in line with NSDC qualifications;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of funds allocated for the project and targeted number of beneficiaries to be trained and current status of the same?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Coal India Limited (CIL) has signed a tri-partite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Skill Development Fund (NSDF) and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in May, 2015. As per the MoU, CIL is committed to provide funds to

skill 2.7 lakh persons as per National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) in its operational areas and neighbouring regions. The project comprises the following broad areas of activity:—

- (i) Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), Skill Training and Certification for employees and contractors' workers;
- (ii) Fresh Skilling of youth and women in operational areas;
- (iii) National Vocational Educational Qualification Framework in schools; and
- (iv) Infrastructure Augmentation relating to skill development.

(c) The CIL board has approved an amount of ₹ 15 crore to start a pilot project. The achievement of the pilot project is summarised below:—

Sl.No.	Activity	Training imparted
1.	Recognition of Prior learning of employees	39,953
2.	Training and Certification for Contract workers	4,700
3.	Fresh Skilling of PAPs	1,968 (706 placed)

Import of coking coal

1810. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country currently imports about 85 per cent of its coking coal demand;

(b) the present demand of coking coal in the country and the extent to which it would grow by 2022;

(c) whether National Steel Policy forecasts coking coal demand of 161 mtpa by 2030-31;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) whether the country has to heavily depend on imported coking coal for its plan to produce crude steel?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Against a total demand of 59.73 MT of coking coal during 2017-18, import of coking coal was 47.00 MT which is about of 78.6% of demand for coking coal. The demand estimates by NITI Aayog for coking coal is available only upto 2018-19 wherein the total demand for coking coal has been estimated at 58.37 MT.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The National Steel Policy, 2017 projects a requirement of 161 MT of coking coal by 2030-31.

(e) The entire demand of coking coal is not met from domestic production as the supply of high quality coal/coking coal (low-ash-coal) in the country is limited and thus no option is left but to resort to import of coking coal. As per the current import policy, coal is kept under Open General License (OGL) and consumers are free to import coal from the source of their choice as per their contractual prices on payment of applicable duty.

In order to increase the production of indigenous coking coal, Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) has been issued under Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 for allocation of 6 Coking Coal blocks (Total extractable reserve – 282 MT) with overall peak production capacity of 12.63 MT per annum. Further, CIL has a plan to augment supply of Coking Coal through washed coking coal.

Furthermore, CIL is also continuously searching for coking coal assets coming up for sale in the global market and identifying suitable assets for acquisition.

Disruption on cellular networks

1811. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to stop disruption during talking on cellular phone while travelling; and

(b) whether cellular network providers have taken any steps towards solving this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has been interacting with Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and reviewing the progress of their action-plans for addressing call drops in their mobile networks on a continuous basis.

In order to address call drops on mobile networks, following steps have been taken:—

- (i) DoT has taken several policy initiatives to facilitate infrastructure growth for delivery of quality services. These include permitting trading/sharing/liberalisation of spectrum, permitting passive and active infrastructure sharing, notification of Right of Way Rules 2016, making available government land/buildings for installations of towers etc.

- (ii) About 9.74 lakh additional Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) for 2G/3G/4G-LTE services have been added by TSPs since July 2015 taking the total BTS count in the country to about 20.07 lakh in November 2018. Moreover, about 9.59 lakh 2G/3G Cells have been rectified/optimised by TSPs during July, 2016 to October, 2018.
- (iii) In order to obtain direct feedback from subscribers, DoT has launched an Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) wherein, around 2.15 Crore subscribers have been individually contacted since December 2016, of which 30.1 lakh subscribers have participated in the survey. The feedback is shared with the TSPs every week for taking corrective actions in a time bound manner. As a result, about 85,000 individual cases of call drops have been resolved so far.

As a result of continuous efforts, significant improvement has been observed in terms of TSPs' compliance to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Quality of Services benchmark(s) on Drop Call Rate (DCR) in spite of rapid-increase in traffic volume and more stringent TRAI benchmark(s) effective from 1st October 2017. All TSPs except M/s BSNL in one LSA *i.e.* West Bengal and M/s Idea in four LSAs *i.e.* Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and North East, are compliant to TRAI's benchmark(s) on DCR as per the latest report of quarter ending September 2018.

Losses in telecom sector

1812. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the telecom sector is likely to experience three more quarters of losses, hurt by high levies and unsustainable tariffs;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that 2018-19 would certainly be a tough year in terms of financial performance of the industry, as the high incidence of levies like licence fee and spectrum usage charges, compounded by upfront payment for radio waves, have added to the operators' woes; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) As per IMG Report on Stressed Assets dated 31.08.2017, the Telecom sector has been witness to a fast pace of technology innovation and new entrants have ushered in competition and new paradigms. The increased

competition in the sector and the entry of a new operator led to free promotional offers leading to a downward trend of tariffs and consequent decline in revenues. IMG was informed that a shakeout is taking place, with weaker players looking to sell, merge or even shut down. After witnessing rapid growth and expansion, the telecom sector in India is now in the midst of consolidation. The competitive context of the industry has led to.

- Accumulation of debt
- Decline in EBIDTA
- Requirement of periodic infusion of additional equity.

The IMG noted that the financial stress for some operators has been caused because of

- Low operating cash flows over a number of years
- Inadequate equity infusion and
- Debt which does not appear sustainable.

There are pockets of financial stress in the sector. However each TSP has varying levels of debt exposure, different capital structures, varying cash flows and hence varying levels of repayment capacity. Hence, as per the IMG Report, the entire sector cannot be said to be in financial stress.

In view of this, the primary solutions to the current problems in the sector will come internally from the TSPs and they remain liable to service the debt taken by them. Any proposed government intervention needs to be carefully calibrated to ensure that the short term pain points are somewhat eased, giving the sector time to rework its investment and business strategy.

Further, TSPs have ushered in bundled voice and data integrated plans and price cuts have ranged between 67%-45% for data recharge. This has also resulted in an exponential growth in data traffic. 4G rollout has quickened pace and internet penetration is likely to pick up speed. Presently, this has not translated into revenue accruals to TSPs or Government.

The following table shows the quarterly Gross Revenue of Major TSPs for the FY 2016-17 and 2017-18:–

	2016-17				2017-18			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Gross Revenue (In ₹ crores)	62627.51	59785.82	55303.43	52126.49	53906.43	57260.27	52408.04	53209.44

ill-effect of GM food

1813. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of production and usage of GM seeds in the country;
- (b) whether studies were carried out by the Agricultural Universities and Research Institutes about the ill-effects of GM food on human beings;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the response of Government thereto; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to protect citizens from the ill-effects of GM food?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Bt cotton is the only transgenic crop approved for commercialization in India since 2002 after extensive evaluation and regulatory process, primarily for bollworm control. Cotton area and production in India during 2017-18 was estimated to be 124.29 lakh hectares with production of 370 lakh bales, each of 170 Kg (Cotton Advisory Board, 2018). Presently, more than 88% of the cotton crop grown in India is estimated to be under Bt (GM) cotton. About 119.5 lakh tonnes of Bt cotton seed (Binola) is being produced in our country. The Bt cotton seeds is utilised for animal feed and oil for human consumption.

(b) to (d) All GM crops have to undergo elaborate food, feed and environmental safety assessment following regulatory guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures under Rules for the Manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells, 1989 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for approval of commercial cultivation in the country. As of now, Bt. cotton is the only GM crop approved in 2002 by Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) for commercial cultivation in the country after extensive evaluation and satisfying all regulatory requirements. There is no scientific evidence to prove that GM crops are unsafe. The GM foods are regulated under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 which consolidates laws for manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption.

So far, no Living Modified Organisms relating to food has been approved by the GEAC of MoEF&CC. To ensure safety for human health and environmental release in the country, the bio-safety assessment is done for each GM crop on a case by case

basis as per applicable guidelines, manuals and protocols prescribed from time to time by relevant agencies under Rules, 1989 under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

The biosafety studies conducted by the ICAR Institutes indicates that there was no effect of GM cotton seed feed on animals, poultry, fishes and goats after feeding them on cotton seed cake or green leaves.

Civil works in BSNL Exchanges of Nellore

1814. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any proposal from Nellore SSA for allocation of funds for some capital civil works in some of the BSNL Exchanges in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the action taken by Ministry so far on the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Proposal to the tune of ₹ 19,18,000/- (Rupees Nineteen lakh Eighteen thousand only) for civil works in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) Exchanges in Nellore Secondary Switching Area (SSA) has been received in Corporate office of BSNL from Andhra Pradesh Circle.

BSNL corporate office releases payments to various circles including Andhra Pradesh circle after assessing requirements and availability of funds.

BharatNet project to provide e-health and e-governance services

1815. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the BharatNet project to extend high-speed broadband connectivity infrastructure to the remaining 1.25 lakh Gram Panchayats, out of the total 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats, would be completed in time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the broadband connectivity would offer e-health and e- governance services to the people; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) BharatNet project is being implemented in

a phased manner to provide high speed broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country. Phase-I of the project was completed in December, 2017 and over 1 lakh GPs were made Service Ready.

For expediting the project implementation, a modified strategy for implementing BharatNet has been approved by the Union Cabinet on 19.07.2017. Under this strategy, the remaining 1,50,000 (approx.) Gram Panchayats (GPs) are to be provided with broadband connectivity by connecting GPs through an optimal mix of media (*i.e.* OFC, radio and satellite) and by the three models of implementation; *i.e.* State-led model, Private Sector, CPSU model. New OFC is to be laid from Block to GPs.

As on 23.12.2018, a total of 1,16,590 GPs have been made Service Ready, and for the remaining GPs, the implementation is underway. BharatNet project is targeted to be completed by March 2019.

(c) and (d) The infrastructure created by BharatNet will be a national asset, available for use by Service Providers on a non-discriminatory basis. Under the project model, service delivery is proposed through Service Providers and States. The broadband connectivity can be used to offer e-services such as e-health and e-governance.

Blocking of websites

1816. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has ordered Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to block several websites and web links and URLs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has issued any specific guidelines to ISPs to restrict websites and web-links featuring inappropriate content?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (c) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) orders Internet Service Providers (ISPs) through Department of Telecommunication (DoT) for blocking of Websites/URLs under section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000. Section 69A of the IT Act, 2000 empowers Government to block information from public access under specific conditions of:— (i) interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, (ii) defence of India, (iii) security of the State, (iv) friendly relations with foreign States or (v) public order or (vi) for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable

offence relating to above. The number of URLs blocked/removed during the year 2017 and 2018 under section 69A through the Committee constituted under the rules therein is 1385 and 2799, respectively. This includes blocking/removal of URLs by social media platforms.

Government orders for blocking specific websites/webpages in compliance with the directions of Courts orders as and when any such orders are received. From January 2016 to date, blocking instructions have been issued by DoT to ISPs for compliance of the court orders for about 8440 URLs/websites.

Government periodically blocks the websites containing extreme Child sexual abuse material (CSAM) based on INTERPOL's "Worst of List" and received through Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). CBI is the national nodal agency for Interpol in India. DoT has instructed ISPs to block the list of 5771 URLs/websites of such content as provided by CBI.

Further, Government has issued an order in April 2017 under the IT Act, 2000 to select ISPs managing gateway traffic in India to disable/remove access to child pornography sites by adopting Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), U.K. list.

Quality of services provided by BSNL and MTNL

1817. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the services of BSNL and MTNL have deteriorated badly in the last few years, with the quality of services, voice calls, internet connection performance, process of disconnection and connection of telephones, both mobile and landline, are at an all-time low as compared to the private sector companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by Government to improve the performance of BSNL and MTNL;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the performance of service providers including Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), against

the benchmark for various Quality of Service (QoS) parameters laid down by TRAI by way of Quality of Service regulations issued from time to time, through Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs) submitted by service providers.

As per PMR for the quarter ending September 2018, for Basic Wireline Services, BSNL is meeting the benchmarks for all the parameters in the service areas. Whereas, MTNL is meeting the benchmarks for all the parameters in all the service areas except "Fault repaired within 5 days (for urban areas)" (benchmark 100% within 5 days) in Delhi and Mumbai Service area. In respect of private service providers M/s Airtel is not meeting in 11 LSAs and M/s Tata in 9 LSAs.

As per PMR for the quarter ending September 2018, for Cellular Mobile Telephone Services BSNL is meeting the benchmarks for all the parameters in all the service areas, except the parameters for assessing call drop *viz.* "Network QoS DCR Spatial distribution measure or DCR Network_Q_{SD} (90,90) (benchmark 2%)", and "Network QoS DCR temporal distribution measure or DCR Network_Q_{TD}(97,90) (benchmark $\leq 3\%$)", in West Bengal Service area and "Point of Interconnection (POI) Congestion (No. of POIs is not meeting the benchmark) (Average over a period of quarter) (benchmark $\leq 0.5\%$)" in Rajasthan Service area only. Whereas, M/s MTNL is meeting the benchmarks for all the parameters in all its service areas *i.e.* Delhi and Mumbai. In respect of private service providers M/s Tata is not meeting in 18 LSAs, M/s Idea in 15 LSAs, M/s Vodafone in 5 LSAs, M/s Airtel in 3 LSAs and M/s RJio in 1 LSA.

(c) to (e) Steps taken by Government, BSNL and MTNL to improve the performance of BSNL and MTNL are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

Steps taken by TRAI for improving the quality of service of all Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) including BSNL and MTNL are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Steps taken to improve the performance of BSNL:

Department of Telecom (DoT) is utilising the strength and competence of BSNL to implement a number of important projects such as providing mobile connectivity in 2199 identified locations in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, implementation of comprehensive telecom development plan for Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands through augmentation of satellite connectivity/bandwidth, Optical Fibre Cable based Network for Defence Services (NFS Project), execution of BharatNet Project,

comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern Region for provision of mobile services in uncovered villages in Arunachal Pradesh and two districts of Assam, implementation of transmission media plan for North Eastern Region, Submarine Optical Fibre Project for providing connectivity to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, setting up of 25000 Wi-Fi Hotspots at Rural Telephone Exchanges of BSNL and setting up of Satellite Gateway.

This improves the capacity utilisation of the organisation, enhances and diversifies the revenue generating avenues while at the same time facilitating the fulfilment of Government objectives.

BSNL has also been encouraged to take measures such as:-

1. Augmentation of mobile equipment capacity/upgradation of mobile network in its areas under Phase-VIII.4 project.
2. To improve quality of wireline telephone network BSNL is replace in Legacy Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) switches to Next Generation Network (NGN) which support different kind of services *i.e.* voice, video and data. With migration to NGN, customer will get enhanced Value Added Services on wire line like Personalized Ring Back Tone, Multi Media Video Conferencing, IP Centrex, Limited Fixed Mobile Telephony (LFMT) and Fixed Mobile convergence (FMC), etc. This will provide better facilities to customers and at lower maintenance cost to BSNL.
3. Since the Fixed land line faults mainly occur due to damage of UG cable during road works, all circles/field units have been asked for close coordination with the Local bodies, PWD, Water Authority and NHAI authorities. In addition, regular patrolling of important cable routes is done to prevent cable thefts/cable damages.
4. Transport Network with 200 GBPS line capacity connecting 47 state capitals and important cities. Work in 45 cities has already been completed.
5. IP-MPLS network has increased from 106 cities to 205 cities providing connectivity for broadband, NGN 2G/3G requirements.
6. BSNL has set up large number of Wi-Fi Hot spots/Access points on pan-India basis (except Delhi and Mumbai) including rural areas for increasing its reach of broadband service. Till 30.11.2018 BSNL has installed approximately 27500 Wi-Fi Hotspots across 10333 locations in the country.

Steps taken to improve the performance of MTNL:—

1. MTNL has undertaken the task of improving the Wireless Network in Delhi and Mumbai so as to improve the downlink speed of 21.1 Mbps and uplink speed of 5.76 Mbps which is presently of 3.6 Mbps & 384 Kbps respectively.
2. Redeployment of Digital Subscribers Line Access Modules (DSLAMs) of existing wireline broadband network near to the subscriber premises thereby reducing copper length and enhancing the quality of broadband service. A total of 220 DSLAMs have been redeployed in Delhi and 174 in Mumbai. In the year 2017-18, 47 DSLAMs in Delhi and 23 in Mumbai have been redeployed. In current year also 13 more DSLAMs have been redeployed.
3. Last year, MTNL finalized and made operational its new policy to engage partners on revenue share basis to extend its FTTx services. 20 Partners in Mumbai and 15 partners in Delhi have already started to provide BB over FTTH at speeds upto 100 Mbps. Net FTTH customers added by revenue share partners during the current year in Delhi are 1347, while in Mumbai it is 1234.
4. MTNL has signed an MoU with New Delhi Municipal Corporation Smart City Limited (NDMCSCCL) on 18.08.2017, with the objective to provide various services like FTTH, Public Wi-Fi for making NDMC area as a SMART City. The project involves around 2000 FTTH connections in Connaught Place area and approx.150 access points for Wi-Fi enabling.
5. Customer centric Strategies:—
 - To give boost to customer experience, Download Speed of Broadband subscribers is being upgraded to 8 Mbps progressively without any additional cost depending upon feasibility and line parameters.
 - Training is being given to line staff to improve maintenance and installation practices.
 - Refurbishing of 20% Pillars and DPs every year, is planned in phased manner. 1113 Pillar and 4,697 DP in Delhi and 1677 Pillar and 3563 DPs in Mumbai have been refurbished by MTNL in 2017-18. In current year also, total DPs refurbished in Delhi and Mumbai are 19877 and 1860 respectively whereas, 864 and 866 pillars have been refurbished in Delhi and Mumbai respectively.
 - To improve copper pair quality, existing drop wires have been replaced with twisted drop wires and thermo sleeves have been put at open joints at DPs.
 - Proactive Monitoring of Broadband Faults.

Statement-II

Steps taken by TRAI to improve the quality of service:–

1. Close monitoring of performance of service providers, against the benchmarks for various Quality of Service parameters laid down by TRAI, through periodic reports from service providers.
2. Follow up action with service providers for improving quality of service.
3. Audit and Assessment of Quality of Service through independent agencies. Operator assisted drive tests of mobile networks are also conducted throughout the country to assess coverage and quality.
4. Publication of results of Audit and Assessment of Quality of Service, including for Call Drop parameters on TRAI website namely *www.trai.gov.in* for information of stakeholders.
5. Review of performance against the Quality of Service benchmarks and imposition of financial disincentives for non-compliance with the benchmarks for Quality of Service parameters.
6. For addressing Call Drop, TRAI regularly undertakes the drive tests of mobile networks in select cities, highways and railway routes. The results of Drive tests are shared with the service providers for improving Quality of Service and coverage in the areas identified in the Drive Tests.

Curbing pesky calls and messages

1818. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government maintains a list of registered telemarketers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of impact of it on the curbing of pesky calls and messages, so far;
- (d) whether Government plans to bring changes to existing regulations for curbing pesky calls and messages;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (f) whether Government plans to use blockchain technology for curbing pesky calls and subscribers, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The telemarketers were being registered with TRAI under the provisions of the Telecom Commercial Communications Customers Preference Regulations, 2010. The registration was done by telemarketers through online TCCCP Portal *i.e.* <http://www.nccptrai.gov.in/nccpregistry>. Under these regulations 8455 telemarketers were registered. TRAI has recently laid down new regulations 'Telecom Commercial Communications Customers Preference Regulations, 2018' which came into force on 19.07.2018. As per the new regulations, the telecom service providers have to register the telemarketers.

(c) The registration of telemarketers has helped in curbing unsolicited commercial communication (UCC) by these telemarketers because of the stringent penal provisions for violation of the provisions of the regulations through recovery from the security deposit maintained with service providers while taking telecom resources.

(d) to (f) There had been complaints relating to receipt of UCC, which were mostly against unregistered telemarketers. Further, the menace of fraudulent calls and messages had also emerged in a big way and this issue was red-flagged by other sectoral regulators, like SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) and RBI (Reserve Bank of India), who had sought TRAI's assistance in controlling these activities. Therefore, TRAI had undertaken public consultation on the framework for controlling Unsolicited Commercial Communication (UCC) and after considering the comments of stakeholders during public consultation, a new framework for controlling UCC was released through draft regulations for public consultation. After considering the views of stakeholders received on the draft consultation, TRAI had notified a new framework for controlling UCC through Telecom Commercial Communications Customers Preference Regulations, 2018 dated 19.7.2018.

The salient features of the regulations are:—

- (i) Adoption of Distributed Ledger Technology (or block chain) as the regulatory technology (RegTech) to ensure regulatory compliance while allowing innovation in the market.
- (ii) Co-regulation where Telecom Service Providers/Access Providers establish and arrange the frame work, which is legally backed by regulations.
- (iii) Enabling compliance through innovation in technology solutions that are demonstrated in a regulatory sandbox.
- (iv) Enhanced controls and new options for all entities to perform their functions and to carry on their businesses efficiently.

These regulations would enable development of newer tools based on Artificial Intelligence or other technologies for an easier subscriber experience in setting preferences, governing consent and reporting violations. The measures outlined above would also bring in the necessary flexibility and speed to combat the spammers who continually change their tactics and morph their identities to escape detection.

Focus on service delivery under BharatNet

1819. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the final phase of BharatNet project would be completed as per the scheduled date of March, 2019;

(b) whether it is also a fact that BharatNet has now shifted its focus from network deployment to service delivery, as it has touched nearly 50 per cent of the country's Gram Panchayats or village blocks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) BharatNet is being implemented to provide high speed broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country. Phase-I of the project to provide broadband connectivity to 1 lakh GPs has been completed in December, 2017. As on 23.12.2018, a total of 1,16,590 Gram Panchayats (GPs) have been made Service Ready and the implementation of broadband connectivity to remaining GPs is being done in Phase-II of the project. BharatNet project is targeted to be completed by March, 2019.

BharatNet is the aggregation or middle layer of the communication network, with last mile connectivity to be provided by Service Providers or States.

To ensure better utilization of BharatNet, a Wi-Fi network is being set up under the project. On an average, 5 Wi-Fi Access Points (APs) are being set up at each GP. Of these, 3 will cater to Government institutions such as schools, hospitals and police stations, and 2 will be available for citizens. So far, Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed at 39,379 GPs and of these GPs, services are being provided in 10,943 GPs, catering to more than 11.17 lakh subscribers with a data usage of over 62 TB per month.

Further, a total of 1,00,047 Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections have been provided from BharatNet network.

Hiring of non-government consultants by TRAI

1820. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether TRAI hires non-Government consultants for performing some of their functions, and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether consultants were hired for drafting the TRAI Prohibition of Discriminatory Tariffs for Data Services Regulations, 2016 and if so, the details of each consultant and the fee paid to each; and

(c) the list of other consultants hired and fee paid to them for other projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India carries out all its functions within the Authority. However, TRAI engages agencies for obtaining research inputs etc.

(b) TRAI Prohibition of Discriminatory Tariffs for Data Services Regulations, 2016 was drafted and finalised within TRAI.

(c) The list of other agencies hired and fee paid to them for other projects is given in the Statement.

Statement

Payments made to the organizations engaged by TRAI

Sl. No.	Name of Organisation	Payment made	
		Period	Amount in ₹
1	2	3	4
1	National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP)	June, 2016 to May, 2017	82,18,969
		June, 2017 to May, 2018	121,24,429
		June, 2018 till date	59,67,364
		TOTAL	263,10,762
2	National Institute of Smart Governance (NISG)	2016-17	55,49,918
		2017-18	67,84,116
		2018-19 (till date)	15,19,162
		TOTAL	138,53,196

1	2	3	4
3	IIT Bombay	Jan., 2017, Feb., 2018	4,32,960
4	Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy	8.3.2016	5,00,000
		2017-18	5,58,900
		2018-19	4,34,100
		TOTAL	14,93,000

**Regulatory mechanism for selection of location
of mobile towers**

1821. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of mobile towers are being added every year in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of mobile towers added during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether any regulatory mechanism is in place to keep check on the telecom companies in selecting the locations for their mobile towers so as to minimize the mobile radiations, especially in residential areas; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) During the last three years, aggregate number of mobile towers has increased from about 4.21 lakh to 5.06 lakh, due to the addition of approximately 85,000 mobile towers across the country. It includes different types of tower structures including ground-based towers/poles, roof-top based towers/poles, Cell-On-Wheels (CoW) etc.

As telecom licenses for mobile services are specific to License Service Area (LSA), the number of mobile towers added in each LSA since February, 2017 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has adopted the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) Guidelines, as recommended by World Health Organisation (WHO), to limit electro-magnetic field (EMF) radiations from mobile towers within safety limits. Since 2011, these norms for exposure limits have been made more stringent and reduced to 1/10th of the

existing limits, prescribed by ICNIRP. Keeping the precautionary EMF safe limits at this level eliminates the need for fixing lower limits for specific areas like schools, hospitals, residential premises etc.

As per extant terms and conditions, each licensee is mandated to conduct audit and provide self-certificate in each case, after every two years, for compliance of limits/levels prescribed. This is subject to further technical audit by field units of DoT. Moreover, any person can request for EMF emission measurement at a location by paying a nominal fee of ₹ 4000/- online. DoT field offices carry-out such testing, as requested, and provide the test-report.

Statement

Details of Mobile Towers, License Service Area-wise

Sl. No.	License Service Area	Tower-count February, 2017	Tower-count February, 2018	Tower-count December, 2018	Additions since Feb., 2017
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33,988	35,804	39,680	5,692
2.	Assam	9,984	10,415	11,444	1,460
3.	Bihar	29,399	31,921	36,147	6,748
4.	Delhi	18,559	21,023	24,096	5,537
5.	Gujarat	25,587	26,593	29,275	3,688
6.	Himachal Pradesh	4,955	5,049	6,048	1,093
7.	Haryana	9,685	10,154	11,782	2,097
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	7,559	8,050	9,037	1,478
9.	Karnataka	28,072	28,085	32,503	4,431
10.	Kolkata	8,498	10,030	11,666	3,168
11.	Kerala	15,705	15,913	16,588	883
12.	Mumbai	14,189	14,751	14,944	755
13.	Maharashtra	35,701	36,045	38,242	2,541
14.	Madhya Pradesh	29,622	31,368	36,394	6,772
15.	North-East	6,211	6,635	7,185	974
16.	Odisha	14,854	15,636	16,719	1,865
17.	Punjab	17,334	18,390	19,628	2,294
18.	Rajasthan	23,654	24,668	27,691	4,037

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Tamil Nadu (inc Chennai)	38,843	38,573	40,379	1,536
20.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	29,718	29,910	30,693	975
21.	Uttar Pradesh (W)	22,839	24,107	26,358	3,519
22.	West Bengal	17,224	18,307	20,247	3,023
TOTAL		4,42,180	4,61,427	5,06,746	64,566

Achievements in communication sector

1822. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major achievements of Government in communication sector during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of the targets set in the said sector during the current financial year; and

(c) the details of the action plan formulated by Government for the next two years to strengthen the aforesaid sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The details of major achievement of the Department of Telecommunications are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) The details of major targets set by the Department of Telecommunications during the current financial year are as under:—

- (i) To start work under Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas Phase-II project, wherein 4072 mobile towers would be set up for providing mobile services in locations identified by MHA.
- (ii) To connect the balance Gram Panchayats with high speed broadband connection under BharatNet Phase II.
- (iii) To complete enhancement of satellite bandwidth from 1 Gbps to 2 Gbps in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- (iv) To start work of laying of submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) connectivity between Chennai and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- (v) To lay the balance OFC under the Network for Spectrum (NFS) project.
- (vi) To set up 25,000 Wi-Fi hotspots at existing rural exchanges of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).

- (vii) To provide connectivity to uncovered villages of the North Eastern Region (NER).
- (c) The action plan proposed for the next two years are as under:-
- (i) To complete the ongoing projects such as: LWE Phase II, NFS, Andaman and Nicobar Islands connectivity through submarine OFC, connectivity in the NER.
 - (ii) To work for providing connectivity between Kochi and Lakshadweep Islands.
 - (iii) To start work on the objectives of the National Digital Communications Policy -2018, in areas such as:-
 - (a) Provide Universal broadband connectivity to every citizen.
 - (b) Provide 1 Gbps connectivity to all Gram Panchayats of India by 2020 and 10 Gbps by 2022.
 - (c) Enable 100 Mbps broadband on demand to all key development institutions; including all educational institutions.
 - (d) Achieve 'unique mobile subscriber density' of 55 by 2020 and 65 by 2022.
 - (e) Enable deployment of public Wi-Fi Hotspots; to reach 5 million by 2020 and 10 million by 2022.
 - (f) Provide connectivity to all uncovered areas.

Statement

Major Achievements of the Department of Telecommunications during the last three years

Some of the major achievements are:

1. National Digital Communications Policy-2018

The National Digital Communications Policy-2018 (NDCP-2018) approved by the Union Cabinet was notified in the Gazette of India on 22.10.2018.

The NDCP-2018 envisions supporting India's transition to a digitally empowered economy and society by fulfilling the information and Communications needs of citizens and enterprises by establishment of a ubiquitous, resilient and affordable Digital Communications Infrastructure and Services. The key objectives of the policy are:

- (i) Provisioning of Broadband for all
- (ii) Creating 4 Million additional jobs in the Digital Communications sector
- (iii) Enhancing the contribution of the Digital Communications sector to 8% of India's GDP from ~ 6% in 2017
- (iv) Propelling India to the Top 50 Nations in the ICT Development Index of ITU from 134 in 2017 and
- (v) Enhancing India's contribution to Global Value Chains; and ensuring Digital Sovereignty

These objectives are to be achieved by 2022.

2. Most Transparent Spectrum Auctions

- (i) Cumulative 1,736 MHz of Spectrum was auctioned between 2014 and 2016 in the 700, 800, 900, 1800, 2100, 2300 and 2500 MHz bands
- (ii) Spectrum auction fetched highest ever upfront payment of nearly ₹ 65,000 crores in 2015 and 2016
- (iii) DoT received an Excellence Award from CVC in November, 2017 for "Transparency in e-auction of spectrum in 2016"

3. Key Reforms in the Telecom Sector

- (i) Spectrum trading and sharing allowed to boost competition
- (ii) Spectrum harmonization undertaken that resulted in freeing up of 197 MHz spectrum
- (iii) Sharing of Passive (e.g. fibre, towers) and Active (e.g. BTSs) infrastructure allowed
- (iv) Deferred payment of liabilities allowed for Telecom Service Providers to reduce financial stress in sector
- (v) Easing of Right of Way (RoW) Rules and charges through notification
- (vi) Full Mobile Number Portability enabled
- (vii) Virtual Network Operators (VNOs) license introduced for effective infrastructure utilization and to boost services in under-served areas

4. Telecom Infrastructure

- (i) No. of mobile BTS increased almost three times from 7.9 Lakh in 2014 to 20.07 Lakh as on date
- (ii) More than 3 Lakh KM OFC (optical fibre cable) laid by Department
- (iii) Average of more than 200 KM of OFC laid per day

- (iv) 1 lakh Gram Panchayats connected through High Speed OFC network under Phase-I of BharatNet programme. Phase-II of the project in under implementation. As on date, a total of 1,22,512 GPs have been connected by laying 3,04,846 Km of OFC. Of this, 1,16,590 GPs are now service ready
- (v) Significant boost to Make-in-India; Telecom equipment deployed in BharatNet has been fully designed, developed and manufactured in India
- (vi) Triggered ITI turnaround; turned Profitable for first time in 16 years

5. Improved Coverage of Telecom Services

- (i) Overall Tele-density in the country increased to from 79.36% in March 2015 to 91.18% in October, 2018
- (ii) Mobile Internet subscriptions rose sharply from 283.29 million in March 2015 to 538.76 Million in September, 2018
- (iii) Broadband connections increased by almost five times, from 99 million in 2015 to over 481.70 million in September, 2018
- (iv) Monthly data usage recorded a quantum jump, from 0.26 GB per person at the end of 2014, to over 3.2GB at the end of June 2018
- (v) Internet traffic also witnessed phenomenal growth, touching highest ever data usage of 22.43 million terabytes in December, 2017
- (vi) Cheapest tariff globally – ₹ 19 per GB

6. Economic Impact

- (i) Huge jump in FDI inflows in Telecom Sector – from \$1.3 Bn in 2015-16 to \$6.1 Bn in 2017-18. FDI inflows during April-June, 2018 stood at \$1.6 billion
- (ii) Total spend on Telecom sector, both by government and private entities, in the last three years exceeded INR 3 Lakh crores. This is ~ 30% of the entire spend on Telecom sector till date of ~ INR 10 Lakh crores

7. Other Projects being undertaken

(A) Network for Spectrum

- (i) Almost 92% of the targeted OFC has been laid in the past three years
- (ii) Project being implemented with revised estimate of ~ INR 24,664 crores

- (iii) On completion of this project, Defence Forces will have a fully dedicated and secure network with in-built redundancy
- (B) Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas
 - (i) 2,335 Towers installed in Phase I, with a total outlay of ₹ 4,781 crore
 - (ii) 4,072 Towers approved for installation in Phase II by 2020, with total outlay of ₹ 7,330 crore
- (C) North East Region
 - (i) Biggest ever Telecom spend in North East Region of ₹ 10,834 crores (ongoing and planned projects)
 - (ii) 7,000 telecom towers to be installed for connectivity to over 8,600 villages
 - (iii) 3,200 KM of OFC network to be laid
- (D) Submarine Cable Connectivity
 - (i) Submarine cable connectivity to mainland Andaman and Nicobar islands
 - (ii) Intra island connectivity for Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands
 - (iii) Total outlay of ₹ 2,250 crores
- (E) Provisioning of Wi-Fi Services
 - (i) 25,000 hot spots by BSNL in rural exchanges
 - (ii) 7,000 hot spots (e-Choupals) by Common Service Centers

Provision for last mile connectivity under BharatNet

1823. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a provision has been made for last mile connectivity under BharatNet in all 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats through viability gap funding;

(b) whether it is also a fact that every Gram Panchayat would have, on an average, five Wi-Fi access points, including three meant for public institutions;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a tender for provisioning of Wi-Fi services has been floated by BBNL, after consultation with telecom service providers and Internet Service Providers, for wider participation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) BharatNet is being implemented to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2,50,000) in the country, with funding from Universal Service Obligation Fund. In this project, last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology, is also being provided in all the GPs in the country. Under Wi-Fi network 5 Access Points (APs) are to be setup at each Gram Panchayat (GP), of which 3 APs are to be installed at Government Institutions, such as Police Stations, Post Offices, Schools and Health Centres and 2 APs at public places. The project is modelled on Viability Gap Funding (VGF) model in which the agency selected is to provide service for 5 years.

Internet shutdowns across the country

1824. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the list of internet shutdowns in the past five years, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by Government to engage with the States where cases of internet shutdowns are comparatively high; and

(c) whether Government made any arrangement for alternative means of communication and transaction for the people in the region or not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Central Government has not issued any order of internet shutdown under the provisions of Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017.

Police and public order are State subjects as per the Constitution and States are responsible for prevention, detection and investigation of crimes through their law enforcement machinery. Concerned State Governments are empowered to issue orders for temporary suspension of internet services to maintain law and order in the State or part thereof under the provisions contained in the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017. Records related to internet shutdowns ordered by State Governments are not maintained by Department of Telecommunications (DoT).

(b) DoT had received a joint representation dated 08.08.2018 from telecom service

providers, wherein, it was intimated that frequent suspension of internet services were being ordered by various State Governments. Accordingly, on 28.09.2018, all State Governments have been advised to sensitize the concerned officials/agencies against precipitate actions leading to shut down of Internet services, and to ensure that the provisions of “Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017” are adhered to.

(c) In temporary shutdown of internet services in a region, internet/data services are suspended temporarily only and other communicating means/services like voice calling and Short Message Service (SMS), remain available during the suspension period of internet services, through which people in the region can communicate.

Seeking of inputs by TRAI

1825. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman, TRAI meets the CEOs of telecom firms to seek inputs for the priorities for the next financial year;

(b) if so, whether such inputs are also sought from the consumer groups, civil society and the general public;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of all the stakeholders that have provided input to TRAI for the next financial year, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has informed that for the past three years, the Authority has been holding Interactive Meeting with the CEOs of the Telecom Service Providers during month of December/January to elicit ideas/suggestions for formulation of areas/topics on which public consultation may be carried out or the studies/surveys may be undertaken during the forthcoming calendar year.

(b) and (c) TRAI has further informed that the inputs of consumer groups, civil society and general public are sought during open house discussions that are held on specific issues.

(d) Topic/inputs were provided by M/s MTNL, BSNL, Reliance Jio Infocom Limited, Vodafone Idea Limited.

Low tele-density of mobile network in Odisha

1826. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any specific plan for the State like Odisha to improve the connectivity, which is having low tele-density, if so the details thereof;

(b) the number of villages not covered by any mobile network in the State of Odisha, and the steps being taken by Central Government to provide mobile connectivity in such villages; and

(c) whether the Ministry is having any plan to improve the quality of data connectivity in the mobile network in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Government has approved the project to provide the mobile connectivity in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected Areas including in Odisha to improve rural telephone density:

- (i) LWE Phase-I project has been implemented by providing mobile connectivity through 2341 mobile towers including 261 mobile towers in Odisha.
- (ii) LWE Phase-II project has been approved by the Government for providing mobile connectivity at 4072 locations including 483 locations in Odisha.

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has planned to install 772 numbers of new Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) in Odisha under phase VIII.4 GSM (Global System for Mobile) expansion project, based on techno-commercial viability, out of which 362 numbers of BTSs have been made operational.

(b) There are 9940 villages in Odisha which are not covered by mobile services. Mobile coverage in the uncovered villages is being provided in a phased manner, subject to availability of financial resources.

(c) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to create network to connect all the Gram Panchayats (approx 2.5 lakh) by broadband in the country. The infrastructure created will be a national asset, accessible on a non-discriminatory basis to the Service Providers. As on 16.12.2018, by laying 3,03,560 Km Optical Fibre Cable (OFC), OFC laying and equipment installation has been completed at 1,16,543 Gram Panchayats, which are service ready.

Problem of call drop

1827. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the main reasons for problem of call drop in the country;
- (b) whether Government proposes to impose any penalty on telecom companies for increasing number of call drops and if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any scheme to resolve the problem of call drop and if so, details thereof;
- (d) whether Government proposes to install additional mobile towers in the country and if so, details thereof;
- (e) whether said problem is common in hilly States like Himachal Pradesh; and
- (f) if so, details thereof and reasons therefor, along with corrective measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The call drop in a mobile network can happen due to many reasons including characteristics of radio propagation for wireless communications, non-availability of sites due to acquisition problems, sealing of sites by local authorities due to fear of Electro-Magnetic Fields (EMF) from mobile radiations etc. Therefore, the occurrence of call drops is found to be common in mobile networks across the world with varying degree of occurrences. Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) in India are required to ensure that the call drop rate in their mobile networks remain within the benchmarks laid down by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

(b) Significant improvement has been observed in terms of TSPs' compliance to TRAI's Quality of Services benchmarks on Drop Call Rate (DCR) in spite of rapid-increase in traffic volume and more stringent TRAI benchmarks effective 1st October, 2017. TSPs are mostly complying to these benchmarks.

Since 1st October, 2017, TRAI has also introduced a revised graded Financial Disincentives (FD) structure based on the extent to which a TSP's performance deviates from the specified DCR benchmark(s). Accordingly, the financial disincentives imposed on non-compliant TSPs are given given in the Statement-I (*See below*)

- (c) In order to address call drops, following steps have been taken:—

- (i) DoT has taken several policy initiatives to facilitate infrastructure growth for delivery of quality services. These include permitting trading/sharing/liberalisation of spectrum, permitting passive and active infrastructure sharing, notification of Right of Way Rules 2016, making available Government land/buildings for installations of towers etc.
- (ii) About 9.74 lakh additional Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) for 2G/3G/4G-LTE services have been added by TSPs since July, 2015 taking the total BTS count in the country to about 20.07 lakh in November, 2018.
- (iii) In order to obtain direct feedback from subscribers, DoT has launched an Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) wherein, around 2.15 crore subscribers have been individually contacted since December 2016, of which 30.1 lakh subscribers have participated in the survey. The feedback is shared with the TSPs every week for taking corrective actions in a time bound manner. As a result, about 85,000 individual cases of call drops have been resolved so far.

(d) As telecom licenses for mobile services are granted at the level of License Service Area (LSA), the number of mobile towers added by TSPs/Infrastructure Providers (IP) in each LSA since February, 2017 are mentioned in the Statement-II (*See below*). TSPs have been continuously strengthening the mobile networks across the country to keep pace with increasing usage of mobile networks both for voice and data services.

Regional connectivity programs, through Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) in North Eastern Region (NER), Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas of the country, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands are under implementation to boost tele-connectivity.

(e) and (f) All TSPs except M/s Idea comply to TRAI's DCR benchmarks in Himachal Pradesh. M/s Idea has been consistently improving its network performance since December, 2017 and is close to the benchmark value at 2.24% against the benchmark of 2% for the quarter ending September, 2018. In Himachal Pradesh LSA, about 11,700 BTS in total have been added by TSPs since July, 2015 taking the total BTS count to about 20,000 in November, 2018.

Statement-I

Financial disincentives imposed by TRAI on non-compliant TSPs against benchmarks for Drop Call Rate (DCR)

Quarter ending	Name of TSP	Financial disincentive imposed as per notified benchmarks (in ₹)			
		Network QoS DCR Spatial Distribution		Network QoS DCR Temporal Distribution	
June, 2018	M/s BSNL	Two lakh for one License Service Area (LSA)		Two lakh for one LSA	
	M/s Idea	Eight lakh for four LSAs		Four lakh for two LSAs	
March, 2018	M/s BSNL	One lakh fifty thousand for one LSA		One lakh fifty thousand for one LSA	
	M/s Idea	Seven lakh fifty thousand for five LSAs		Three lakh for two LSAs	
	M/s Tata	Seven lakh fifty thousand for five LSAs		Fifteen lakh for seven LSAs	
	M/s Telenor	Three lakh for two LSAs		Three lakh for two LSAs	

Statement-II

Mobile towers, license service area-wise

Sl. No.	License Service Area	Tower-count December, 2018	Additions since February, 2017
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	39,680	5,692
2.	Assam	11,444	1,460
3.	Bihar	36,147	6,748
4.	Delhi	24,096	5,537
5.	Gujarat	29,275	3,688
6.	Himachal Pradesh	6,048	1,093
7.	Haryana	11,782	2,097
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	9,037	1,478
9.	Karnataka	32,503	4,431
10.	Kolkata	11,666	3,168

1	2	3	4
11.	Kerala	16,588	883
12.	Mumbai	14,944	755
13.	Maharashtra	38,242	2,541
14.	Madhya Pradesh	36,394	6,772
15.	North-East	7,185	974
16.	Odisha	16,719	1,865
17.	Punjab	19,628	2,294
18.	Rajasthan	27,691	4,037
19.	Tamil Nadu (inc Chennai)	40,379	1,536
20.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	30,693	975
21.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	26,358	3,519
22.	West Bengal	20,247	3,023
TOTAL		5,06,746	64,566

Procurement of foodgrains

1828. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total procurement of foodgrains by Government agencies like FCI etc., during the Rabi season and Kharif season in 2018, season-wise, foodgrain-wise and State-wise;

(b) the rate at which foodgrains have been procured under MSP, grain-wise; and

(c) the details of the per centage of procurement *vis-a-vis* total production, State-wise; and grain-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The State-wise details of production and procurement made by Government Agencies at Minimum Support Price (MSP) as well as per centage procurement of wheat, paddy in terms of rice and coarse grains during the Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2018-19 and ongoing Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2018-19 as on 26.12.2018

are given in the Statement-I and II (See below). The State-wise details of pulses procured as on 21.12.2018 at Minimum Support Price (MSP) under Price Support Scheme (PSS) as reported by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is given in the Statement-III (See below) The details of Minimum Support Price (MSP) announced by the Government of India for procurement of foodgrains are given in the Statement-IV.

Statement-I

Per centage procurment vis-a-vis total production details of Rice and Wheat

(Figures in LMT)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Production*	Procurement#	% Procurement
Rice (KMS 2018-19)				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	50.69	10.42	20.56%
2.	Telangana	34.90	22.46	64.37%
3.	Assam	39.26	0.00	0.01%
4.	Bihar	67.88	0.02	0.03%
5.	Chhattisgarh	62.99	20.60	32.70%
6.	Gujarat	19.38	0.08	0.39%
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1.17	0.00	0.00%
8.	Haryana	42.99	39.09	90.94%
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	5.77	0.09	1.56%
10.	Jharkhand	40.47	0.04	0.09%
11.	Karnataka	26.66	0.00	0.00%
12.	Kerala	1.40	0.57	40.89%
13.	Madhya Pradesh	53.62	1.96	3.66%
14.	Maharashtra	31.27	1.30	4.15%
15.	Odisha	68.55	5.66	8.26%
16.	Punjab	133.64	113.30	84.78%
17.	Rajasthan	4.52	0.00	0.00%
18.	Tamil Nadu	19.60	1.31	6.69%
19.	Uttar Pradesh	144.83	12.38	8.55%
20.	Uttarakhand	6.00	3.65	60.82%
21.	West Bengal	116.79	0.20	0.17%

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Production*	Procurement#	% Procurement
22.	Others	20.01	0.13	0.65%
	TOTAL	992.39	233.27	23.51%

Wheat (RMS 2018-19)

1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.06	0.00	0.00%
2.	Telangana	0.00	0.00	0.00%
3.	Assam	0.29	0.00	0.00%
4.	Bihar	57.41	0.18	0.31%
5.	Chhattisgarh	1.31	0.00	0.00%
6.	Gujarat	31.02	0.37	1.19%
7.	Himachal Pradesh	5.87	0.01	0.17%
8.	Haryana	111.62	87.84	78.70%
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.79	0.00	0.00%
10.	Jharkhand	4.70	0.00	0.00%
11.	Karnataka	1.99	0.00	0.00%
12.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00%
13.	Madhya Pradesh	159.11	73.13	45.96%
14.	Maharashtra	16.19	0.00	0.00%
15.	Odisha	0.00	0.00	0.00%
16.	Punjab	178.50	126.92	71.10%
17.	Rajasthan	91.89	15.32	16.67%
18.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00%
19.	Uttar Pradesh	318.79	52.94	16.61%
20.	Uttarakhand	9.08	1.10	12.11%
21.	West Bengal	3.12	0.00	0.00%
22.	Others	1.26	0.14	11.11%
	TOTAL	997.00	357.95	35.90%

* As per 1st Advance Estimates of Ministry of Agriculture.

As on 26.12.2018

** As per 4th Advance Estimates of Ministry of Agriculture.

Statement-II

*Per centage procurement vis-a-vis production details of
Kharif coarse grains for KMs 2018-19*

(Figure in Tonnes)

State	Production#	Procurement*	% Procurement
Jowar			
Gujarat	57700	0	0.00%
Haryana	93100	0	0.00%
Madhya Pradesh	340900	135	0.04%
Maharashtra	365900	1875	0.51%
Punjab	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	1882700	2010	0.11%
Bajra			
Gujarat	247700	395	0.16%
Haryana	776800	180744	23.27%
Madhya Pradesh	629200	4099	0.65%
Maharashtra	392800	0	0.00%
Punjab	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	7767700	185238	2.38%
Ragi			
Gujarat	14000	1385	9.89%
Haryana	0	0	0.00%
Madhya Pradesh	15800	0	0.00%
Maharashtra	84600	4595	5.43%
Punjab	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	1678200	5980	0.36%

As per 1st Advance Estimates of Ministry of Agriculture.

* Data as on 26.12.2018.

Statement-III*Tentative details of pulses procured at MSP under PSS during year 2018-19*

(Figures in MTs)

Commodity	State	Quantity procured (as on 21.12.2018)
1	2	3
Gram	Telangana	50000.00
Gram	Karnataka	135422.10
Gram	Andhra Pradesh	91982.65
Gram	Maharashtra	194726.89
Gram	Rajasthan	579972.38
Gram	Madhya Pradesh	1611972.09
Gram	Gujarat	91000.00
Gram	Uttar Pradesh	14354.05
Urad	Andhra Pradesh	79163.00
Urad	Telangana	2000.00
Urad	Tamil Nadu	1547.86
Urad	Odisha	4216.77
Masoor	Madhya Pradesh	233245.61
Masoor	Uttar Pradesh	13698.24
Moong	Odisha	2675.11
Moong	Andhra Pradesh	1604.05
Moong	Karnataka	28950.00
Moong	Tamil Nadu	364.90
Moong	Telangana	13375.31
Moong	Maharashtra	15870.77
Moong	Rajasthan	148467.52
Moong	Madhya Pradesh	579.19
Moong	Haryana	224.90
Moong	Uttar Pradesh	2.00
Moong	Gujarat	18.40

1	2	3
Urad	Telangana	578.39
Urad	Maharashtra	8664.02
Urad	Rajasthan	52236.27
Urad	Madhya Pradesh	87777.25
Urad	Uttar Pradesh	12654.10
Urad	Karnataka	189.85
Urad	Andhra Pradesh	54.00
Urad	Gujarat	504.00
Toor	Telangana	2943.75
TOTAL		3481035.42

Statement-IV

Details of Minimum Support Price (MSPs) announced by the Government for procurement of foodgrains (according to crop year)

Sl.No.	Commodity	Variety	(₹ per quintal)	
			2017-18	2018-19
Kharif Crops				
1.	Paddy	Common	1550	1750
		Grade 'A'	1590	1770
2.	Jowar	Hybrid	1700	2430
		Maldandi	1725	2450
3.	Bajra		1425	1950
4.	Maize		1425	1700
5.	Ragi		1900	2897
6.	Arhar (Tur)		5450	5675
7.	Moong		5575	6975
8.	Urad		5400	5600
9.	Cotton	Medium Staple	4020	5150
		Long Staple	4320	5450
10.	Groundnut in Shell		4450	4890
11.	Sunflower Seed		4100	5388

Sl.No.	Commodity	Variety	2017-18	2018-19
12.	Soyabean		3050	3399
13.	Sesamum		5300	6249
14.	Nigerseed		4050	5877
Rabi Crops				
15.	Wheat		1735	1840
16.	Barley		1410	1440
17.	Gram		4400	4620
18.	Masur (Lentil)		4250	4475
19.	Rapeseed/Mustard		4000	4200
20.	Safflower		4100	4945
21.	Toria		3900	4190
Other Crops				
22.	Copra	Milling	6500	7511
	(Calender Year)	Ball	6785	7750
23.	De-Husked Coconut		1760	2030
	(Calender Year)			
24.	Jute		3500	3700
25.	Sugarcane \$		255	275

\$ Fair and remunerative price.

Procurement of green gram in Karnataka

1829. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Karnataka has requested to procure 23,000 tonnes of green gram from its farmers at MSP under Price Support Scheme;

(b) if so, the quantity of green gram procured from farmers of Karnataka so far; and

(c) by when the entire green gram would be procured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) During the current

Kharif season 2018-19, a proposal was received from Government of Karnataka for procurement of green gram from its farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) under Price Support Scheme (PSS). Accordingly, a quantity of 23,250 MT of green gram was sanctioned for procurement under PSS which was subsequently enhanced to 28,950 MT. During the Kharif 2018-19 season, a quantity of 28,950 MT of green gram has already been procured under PSS in the State of Karnataka.

Benefit of Aadhaar seeding with PDS

1830. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that seeding of Aadhaar with ration cards have revealed more than three crore fake ration cards in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Aadhaar seeding is really helpful to the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) With the aim of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Public Distribution System (PDS) and to address the challenges such as leakages and diversion of foodgrains, elimination of fake and bogus ration cards etc., Government is implementing a scheme on 'End-to-End Computerization of PDS Operations' in association with all States/UTs. Under the scheme, apart from digitisation of ration cards/beneficiary records, the seeding of Aadhaar numbers is also being done to identify the duplicate/bogus ration cards/beneficiaries from the system, and to enable rightful targeting of food subsidies. As a result, States/UTs have been able to delete/cancel a total of about 2.75 crore duplicate/bogus ration cards during the years 2013 to 2017 and are issuing new ration cards to rightfully eligible persons/households.

Further, the seeding of Aadhaar numbers has enabled the biometric authentication of beneficiaries at the time of lifting of foodgrains from FPSs, thereby ensuring the delivery of subsidised foodgrains to the right ration card holder/beneficiary.

Procurement of paddy in Andhra Pradesh

1831. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the problems being faced by paddy growing

farmers in Andhra Pradesh in the current Kharif season as public procurement centres, millers and middlemen in the State are fleecing the farmers;

(b) whether Government is also aware that millers and middlemen are not adhering to the limits of moisture and other specifications and reducing the price of paddy even below MSP after taking paddy to mills; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to intervene in the matter, and procure paddy from farmers of Andhra Pradesh and other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) No such incidence has come to the notice of the Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India.

Andhra Pradesh being a Decentralized Procurement (DCP) State, the State Government itself undertakes procurement operations from farmers.

However, following steps are taken to ensure adequate procurement facilities, so that farmers are able to get minimum support price for their produce:—

- (i) Before the onset of each marketing season, Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India (GOI) holds a consultative meeting with the officials of Food Corporation of India (FCI), State Governments and others to make an assessment of availability of wheat and paddy/rice for procurement at MSP based on the prospects of production and market situation.
- (ii) Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations are given wide publicity through pamphlets, banners, sign boards, radio, TV and advertisements through print and electronic media, so that farmers are made aware of the quality specifications and purchase system etc.
- (iii) Procurement centres are opened by respective State Government Agencies/ Food Corporation of India (FCI), taking into account the production, marketable surplus, convenience of farmers and availability of other logistics/infrastructure such as storage and transportation etc. Large number of temporary purchase centres, in addition to the existing Mandis and depots/godowns are also established at key points for the convenience of the farmers.
- (iv) FCI and many of the States including Andhra Pradesh, have developed online procurement systems.

Impact of ABBA on PDS

1832. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted or is aware of any study on the impact of Aadhaar Based Biometric Authentication (ABBA) on Public Distribution System, if so, details thereof;

(b) whether Government has recognized that ABBA has often led to increased hassles for poor, such as repeated trips, longer queues and even deaths, if so, steps Government plans to provide relief to the beneficiaries;

(c) the reasons for insisting on ABBA despite large social costs associated with it;

(d) whether Government has considered the technology of Smart Cards for disbursal of ration, like in Tamil Nadu, if so, details thereof; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) So far no study has been conducted on the impact of Aadhaar Based Biometric Authentication (ABBA) on Public Distribution System (PDS). The National Food Security Act 2013 (NFSA) *inter alia* provides for undertaking reforms by application of information and communication technology tools including end-to-end computerization in order to ensure transparent recording of transactions at all levels, and to prevent diversion and leverage of "Aadhaar" for unique identification with biometric information of entitled beneficiaries for proper targeting of benefits under the Act.

With an aim to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Public Distribution System (PDS) and to address the challenges such as leakages and diversion of foodgrains, elimination of fake and bogus ration cards etc., this Department in collaboration with all States/UTs is implementing a scheme on 'End-to-End Computerization of PDS Operations' including automation of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) for biometric authentication of beneficiaries.

During the last one year, the number of monthly biometric/Aadhaar authenticated transactions in PDS has increased from nearly 4 crore in October, 2017 to about 8 crore in October, 2018. Presently, only about 33% ration card holders (about 8 crore out of nearly 23 Crore ration cards under NFSA) are getting the foodgrains after Aadhaar Based Biometric Authentication Distribution.

Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 26/09/2018 has held that – “it becomes compulsory for those who seeks to receive any subsidy, benefit or service under the welfare scheme of the Government expenditure whereof is to be met from the Consolidated Fund of India. It follows that authentication under Section 7 would be required as a condition for receipt of a subsidy, benefit or service only when such a subsidy, benefit or service is taken care of by Consolidated Fund of India. An added requirement is that such individual would undergo authentication at the time of receiving such benefits etc”. However, the Hon'ble Court has also held that – “no genuine beneficiary would be denied of any subsidy due to failure of authentication”. Also, this Department has directed all State/UT Governments to ensure, that owing to failure of biometric/Aadhaar authentication, no genuine beneficiary shall be denied the foodgrains entitled under the PDS, and to ensure this, exception mechanisms have also been provided for.

The Government had earlier piloted a Smart Cards scheme for delivery of essential commodities under TPDS in Union Territory of Chandigarh and Haryana State during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10. The pilot scheme was later subsumed under the scheme on End-to-End Computerization of TPDS operations.

Storage capacity of foodgrains

†1833. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether new godowns have been constructed to augment the foodgrain storage capacity in the country during the past four years; and

(b) if so, the current foodgrain capacity augmentation in the country, as against the capacity that existed, before 2014, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Depending on requirement in specific areas and for modernization of storage facilities, Government has been implementing the following schemes for construction of godowns and silos in the country for Central Pool Stock of foodgrains:—

- (i) Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme: Under this scheme, which was formulated in 2008, storage capacity is created by private parties, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Government Agencies for guaranteed hiring by Food Corporation of India (FCI). A capacity of 142.02 Lakh MT (LMT) has been created as on 30.11.2018. Under this scheme,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

no funds are allocated by Government for construction of godowns and full investment is done by the private parties/CWC/State Agencies by arranging their own funds and land. After a godown is constructed and taken over by FCI, storage charges are paid to the investor for the guaranteed period of 9/10 years irrespective of the quantum of foodgrains stored.

- (ii) Central Sector Scheme (earlier Plan Scheme): This scheme is implemented in the North Eastern States along with few other States. Funds are released by the Government to FCI and also directly to the State Governments for construction of godowns.
- (iii) Construction of Steel Silos: In addition to conventional godowns, construction of steel silos has been undertaken in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode for modernizing storage infrastructure and improving shelf life of stored foodgrains.

The State-wise details of capacity augmentation as against the capacity that existed before 2014 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

Statement
State-wise capacities created under various schemes

Sl. No.	State	Capacity created under PEG Scheme		Capacity of silos created		Capacity created under Central Sector Scheme (earlier Plan Scheme) since Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-13 to 2016-17) and onwards		(Figures in MT)	
		Capacity created (as on 31.12.2013)	Capacity created (as on 30.11.2018)	Capacity created (as on 31.12.2013)	Capacity created (as on 30.11.2018)	Capacity created till 31.03.2014	Capacity created (from 01.04.2014 to 30.11.2018)	Capacity created till 31.03.2014	Capacity created (from 01.04.2014 to 30.11.2018)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,99,800	87,800	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.	Telangana		2,69,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Bihar	67,000	3,29,787	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Chhattisgarh	2,71,350	5,37,230	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Gujarat	49,800	49,800	-	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Haryana	19,92,878	34,37,059	2,00,000	2,00,000	-	-	-	-
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2,500	24,170	-	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	45,000	1,62,190	-	-	-	-	-	-
9.	Jharkhand	45,000	2,33,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	Karnataka	2,88,370	2,41,440	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	-	-
11.	Kerala	5,000	5,000	-	-	-	10,000	-	6,680

12.	Madhya Pradesh	3,51,190	13,03,160	-	4,50,000	-	-
13.	Maharashtra	4,55,707	5,62,811	50,000	50,000	-	-
14.	Odisha	2,09,000	3,52,500	-	-	10,000	-
15.	Punjab	35,39,728	44,68,836	2,00,000	3,75,000	-	-
16.	Rajasthan	1,63,000	2,35,000	-	-	-	-
17.	Tamil Nadu	90,000	2,55,000	50,000	50,000	-	-
18.	Uttar Pradesh	7,84,034	14,64,467	-	-	-	-
19.	Uttarakhand	-	10,000	-	-	-	-
20.	West Bengal	27,280	1,49,090	25,000	25,000	-	-
21.	Assam	-	25,000	-	-	2,000	89,000
22.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	2,000	2,500
23.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	2,910	-
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	15,040
26.	Tripura	-	-	-	-	8,000	26,000
27.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	10,500
28.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	375
TOTAL		85,86,637	1,42,02,340	5,50,000	11,75,000	39,330	1,65,360

Opening of procurement centres

1834. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had followed the definition of Minimum Support Price as recommended by Swaminathan Commission Report while procuring crops in the last four years;

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

(c) the details of procurement centres opened and the details of the crops collected by Government in the last four years, State-wise; and

(d) whether Government has any mechanism to control the market forces which rig prices and force the farmers for distress sale, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) National Commission on Farmers (NCF) headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan has recommended that the MSP should be at least 50 per cent more than the weighted average cost of production. However, when the National Policy for Farmers, 2007 was finalized by the then Government, this recommendation of providing 50 per cent returns over cost of production was not included. Dr. M. S. Swaminathan in his Report on NCF had discussed different dimensions of fixing MSPs, but while finalizing National Policy on Farmers, the then Government had accepted the current established methods.

The Union Budget for 2018-19 had announced the pre-determined principle to keep MSP at levels of one and half times the cost of production. Accordingly, Government has increased the MSPs for all notified Kharif, Rabi and other commercial crops with a return of atleast 50 per cent of cost of production for the season 2018-19.

(c) Details of procurement of major crops are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

State-wise purchase centres operated for procurement of Rice, Wheat, Pulses, Oilseeds and other crops from 2015-16 to 2018-19 are given in the Statement-II and III (*See below*).

(d) Government is implementing National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme for transparent price discovery for remunerative prices for the farmers for their produce through competitive online bidding system. So far, 585 wholesale regulated markets of

16 States and 02 UTs have been integrated with e-NAM platform. Under the scheme, apart from providing technical support, financial assistance upto ₹ 75 lakh per mandi for electronic weighing scale, computer IT equipments, assaying equipments, cleaning/sorting/grading equipments and bio-composting unit is also provided to States/Union Territories (UTs).

Further, In order to provide better marketing facilities to the farmers, the Government has formulated a new model “The Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017” in April, 2017 for its adoption by States/UTs. The model act provides for alternative marketing channels such as setting up of private markets, direct marketing, farmer-consumer markets, special commodity markets, to facilitate farmers in marketing their produce at competitive and remunerative prices.

In addition, in order to optimize the use of scarce resources and mitigate the uncertainty in price and marketing, the Government has also formulated and released a progressive and facilitative Model Act “The ----State/ UT Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2018” in May, 2018 for its adoption by the States/Union Territories (UTs). The aforesaid Model Contract Farming Act covers the entire value and supply chain from pre-production to post harvest marketing stages including services contract for the agricultural produce and livestock.

Statement-I

*Procurement of cereals, pulses, oilseeds and other crops
from 2015-16 to 2018-19*

Commodity	('000 tonnes)			
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Rice	34218	38106	38184	22560.0*
Wheat	28088	22930	30824	35522.0**
Coarse Cereals	260	72.3	86.2	189
Tur	45.5	1361.9	873.8	-
Moong	-	219.4	407.3	155.6***
Urad	4.9	88.5	292.4	169.5***
Gram	-	60.5	60.3	2769.4***
Masur	-	8.6	27.1	246.9***
Groundnut		210.7	1050.1	129.9***

Commodity	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Sunflower seed	4.2	4.9	6.5	2.8***
Soyabean	-	0.2	72.3	15.1***
Sesamum	-	-	3.4	-
Mustard	-	-	36.9	873.6***
Cotton	143.6	-	66.1	-
Copra	-	6.3	-	-
Jute	0	40.7	60.8	-

* As on 21.12.2018.

** As on 06.07.2018.

*** As on 06.12.2018 .

Source: Cooperation Division (DAC&FW), Department of Consumer Affairs, Food Corporation of India and Cotton Corporation of India.

Statement-II

Details of procurement centres for procurement of paddy and wheat from 2015-16 to 2018-19

Sl. No.	State	Kharif Marketing Season 2015-16	Kharif Marketing Season 2016-17	Kharif Marketing Season 2017-18	Kharif Marketing Season 2018-19*
1	2	3	4	5	6
Paddy					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2692	2360	2691	1500
2.	Telangana	3007	5218	6028	3000
3.	Assam	69	112	101	33
4.	Bihar	7557	6598	6688	5132
5.	Chhattisgarh	1975	1989	1998	1998
6.	Delhi	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	64	59	59	82
8.	Haryana	192	211	196	211
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	0	0	0
10.	Jharkhand	457	507	592	30
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	15	15	26	21
12.	Karnataka	89	98	102	75

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Kerela	749	770	637	322
14.	Maharashtra	744	985	1019	706
15.	Madhya Pradesh	884	916	1122	1500
16.	Odisha	3299	3431	3581	0
17.	Punjab	1792	1828	1835	1833
18.	Rajasthan	0	23	0	0
19.	Tamil Nadu	1808	2000	1447	1236
20.	Tripura	0	0	0	8
21.	Uttar Pradesh	2696	2659	3420	2919
22.	Uttarakhand	78	158	178	178
23.	West Bangal	28859	18613	19238	20080
TOTAL		57027	48550	50958	40864

*As on 24.12.2018

Wheat

Sl. No.	State	Rabi Marketing Season 2015-16	Rabi Marketing Season 2016-17	Rabi Marketing Season 2017-18	Rabi Marketing Season 2018-19
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Punjab	1753	1822	1834	1836
2.	Haryana	377	378	382	383
3.	Uttar Pradesh	5163	4885	5105	6299
4.	Rajasthan	271	303	208	229
5.	Madhya Pradesh	2967	2843	2974	2988
6.	Delhi	2	0	0	0
7.	Bihar	9035	7457	6598	7000
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4	4	5	4
9.	Gujarat	197	189	203	203
10.	Jharkhand	10	0	0	0
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	9	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Maharashtra	113	113	132	160
13.	Uttarakhand	187	187	155	178
14.	West Bengal		0	0	0
	TOTAL	20,088	18181	17596	19280

Statement-II

Details of procurement centres for procurement of pulses, oilseeds and copra from 2015-16 to 2018-19

Year	PSS Operation	State	Total Procurement Centers Opened*
1	2	3	4
2015-16	Sunflower Seed Rabi-2015	Odisha	2
		Haryana	2
	TOTAL		4
2016-17	Milling Copra-2016	Andhra Pradesh	5
		Tamil Nadu	33
		TOTAL	38
	Ball Copra-2016	Karnataka	10
		Tamil Nadu	1
TOTAL		11	
	Sunflower Seed Rabi-2016	Haryana	4
		Odisha	2
	TOTAL		6
	Soyabean Kharif-2016	Maharashtra	42
	Groundnut Pods Kharif-2016	Gujarat	109
	Moong Kharif-2016	Maharashtra	36
		Karnataka	9
	TOTAL		45
	SUB TOTAL		251
2017-18	Mustard Seed Rabi-2017	Haryana	12
	Sunflower Seed	Haryana	2

1	2	3	4
		Telangana	1
		Odisha	2
	TOTAL		5
	Sesamum Seed Rabi-2017	West Bengal	23
	Urad Summer-2017	Madhya Pradesh	53
	Toor	Maharashtra	146
		Gujarat	52
		Karnataka	75
	TOTAL		273
	Moong	Odisha	10
		Madhya Pradesh	70
	TOTAL		80
	Groundnut Pods Rabi-2017	Odisha	6
	Moong Kharif-2017	Telangana	21
		Andhra Pradesh	17
		Karnataka	99
		Rajasthan	148
		Maharashtra	171
	TOTAL		456
2017-18	Urad Kharif-2017	Telangana	21
		Andhra Pradesh	17
		Karnataka	99
		Rajasthan	148
		Maharashtra	171
		Gujarat	12
		Uttar Pradesh	35
		West Bengal	39
	TOTAL		542
	Toor Kharif-2017	Telangana	107
		Andhra Pradesh	90

1	2	3	4
		Karnataka	399
		Maharashtra	193
		Gujarat	50
	TOTAL		839
	Soyabean Kharif-2017	Telangana	27
		Rajasthan	32
		Maharashtra	171
	TOTAL		230
2017-18	Groundnut Pods Kharif-2017	Andhra Pradesh	24
		Karnataka	45
		Rajasthan	52
		Gujarat	242
	TOTAL		363
	Gram Rabi-2018	Andhra Pradesh	61
		Karnataka	273
		Telangana	35
		Maharashtra	40
		Rajasthan	191
	TOTAL		600
	Mustard Seed Rabi-2018	Haryana	44
		Rajasthan	223
	TOTAL		267
	Groundnut Pods Rabi-2018	Telangana	1
	SUB TOTAL		3750
2018-19	Urad Kharif-2017	West Bengal	39
	Toor Kharif-2017	Maharashtra	193
		Gujarat	50
	TOTAL		243
	Gram Rabi-2018	Andhra Pradesh	61
		Karnataka	273

1	2	3	4
		Telangana	35
		Maharashtra	202
		Rajasthan	191
		Madhya Pradesh	600
		Uttar Pradesh	55
		Gujarat	56
	TOTAL		1473
	Urad Rabi-2018	Andhra Pradesh	32
		Telangana	3
		Tamil Nadu	19
		Odisha	22
	TOTAL		76
	Masoor Rabi-2018	Madhya Pradesh	495
		Uttar Pradesh	48
	TOTAL		543
	Mustard Seed Rabi-2018	Haryana	44
		Rajasthan	223
		Madhya Pradesh	476
		Uttar Pradesh	13
		Gujarat	28
		West Bengal	11
	TOTAL		795
	Groundnut Pods Rabi-2018	Telangana	35
		Odisha	18
	TOTAL		53
	Sunflower Seed Rabi-2018	Odisha	2
		Haryana	2
		Telangana	1
	TOTAL		5

1	2	3	4
	Moong Rabi-2018	Odisha	27
		Andhra Pradesh	5
	TOTAL		32
	SUB TOTAL		3259
2018-19	Moong Kharif-2018	Karnataka	124
		Tamil Nadu	6
		Telangana	8
		Maharashtra	119
		Madhya Pradesh	102
		Rajasthan	137
		Uttar Pradesh	4
		Gujarat	34
		Haryana	2
	TOTAL		536
	Urad Kharif-2018	Telangana	3
		Maharashtra	122
		Madhya Pradesh	21
		Rajasthan	58
		Uttar Pradesh	21
		Karnataka	4
		Gujarat	58
	TOTAL		287
	Soyabean Kharif-2018	Telangana	43
		Maharashtra	30
		Rajasthan	37
	TOTAL		110
	Groundnut Pods Kharif-2018	Madhya Pradesh	71
		Rajasthan	68
		Gujarat	161
		Uttar Pradesh	5
	TOTAL		305

1	2	3	4
	Toor Kharif 2018	Telangana	5
	TOTAL		5
	Nigerseed Kharif 2018	Madhya Pradesh	1
	SUB TOTAL		4503
	GRAND TOTAL		8508

*As on 22.12.2018.

Procurement of crops

1835. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government declares Minimum Support Price (MSP) for 23 crops every year; and

(b) if so, whether Government has made effort to procure each of the 23 crops on MSP, if so, the quantity of crops procured in the last five years, crop-wise and the per centage of the crops procured on MSP, out of the total crops procured in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of 22 mandated Kharif and Rabi crops for every season and Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for sugarcane on the basis of recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), after considering the views of State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments concerned and other relevant factors. In addition, MSP for Toria and De-Husked coconut is also fixed on the basis of MSPs of Rapeseed/Mustard and Copra respectively.

(b) Government's price policy is to ensure remunerative prices to farmers by offering to procure their produce at MSP. However, farmers are free to sell their produce to the Government procurement agencies at MSP or in the open market whichever is advantageous to them.

As per the existing arrangements, procurement is made of the crops for which MSPs are announced through Central and State agencies. In so far as cereals/nutri cereals are concerned, they are procured through Food Corporation of India (FCI) and decentralized procurement system mainly for distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS), for welfare schemes and buffer stocking for food security. Government

implements Price Support Scheme (PSS) for procurement of oilseeds, pulses and cotton through Central Nodal Agencies at MSP declared by the Government. This scheme is implemented at the request of the State Government concerned which agrees to exempt the procured commodities from levy of mandi tax and other State duties. The basic objectives of PSS are to provide remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production and to safeguard the interest of the consumers by making available supplies at reasonable price with low cost of intermediation.

The recently launched Umbrella Scheme “Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan” (PM-AASHA) provides for a holistic arrangement for assurance of a remunerative and stable price environment for growers/farmers to increase agriculture production and productivity. This umbrella Scheme comprises Price Support Scheme (PSS) for pulses and oilseeds, Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) and Pilot of Private Procurement and Stockist Scheme (PPSS) for oilseeds to ensure MSP to the farmers.

Details of procurement of major crops from 2014-15 to 2018-19 are given in the Statement [*Reffer to the Statement-I appended to the answer to USQ No. 1834 (Part C)*].

Package for sugar sector

1836. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the fourth time in the last five months, Government has approved incentives to help the cash starved sugar mills to clear thousands of crore in arrears of payment to cane-growing farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has cleared ₹5538 crore package which includes higher production assistance to farmers as well as transport subsidies for mills trying to export sugar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Depressed sugar price due to excess sugar production during previous sugar season 2017-18 has adversely affected the financial health of sugar mills resulting accumulation of cane price arrears of farmers which peaked at ₹ 14538 crore on the basis of Fair

and Remunerative Price (FRP) and ₹ 23232 crore on State Advised Price (SAP) basis in the last week of May, 2018 on all India basis. With a view to improve the liquidity position of sugar mills enabling them to clear cane price arrears of farmers, the Government has taken the following measures during last few months:-

- (i) In order to prevent cash loss and to facilitate sugar mills to clear cane dues of farmers in time, the Government has fixed a minimum selling price of sugar at ₹ 29/kg. for sale at factory gate in domestic market, below which no sugar mill can sell sugar.
- (ii) Extending Assistance to sugar mills @ ₹ 5.50/quintal of cane crushed for sugar season 2017-18 to offset the cost of cane amounting to about ₹ 1540 crore.
- (iii) Created buffer stock of 30 LMT in sugar season 2017-18 for which Government will reimburse carrying cost of ₹ 1175 crore towards maintenance of buffer stock.
- (iv) Extending soft loans of ₹ 6139 crore through banks to the mills for setting up new distilleries and installation of incineration boilers to augment ethanol production capacity for which Government will bear interest subvention of ₹ 1332 crore.
- (v) Extending Assistance to sugar mills @ ₹ 13.88/quintal of cane crushed for sugar season 2018-19 to offset the cost of cane amounting to about ₹ 4163 crore.
- (vi) Extending Assistance to sugar mills for defraying expenditure towards internal transport, freight, handling and other charges to facilitate export of sugar from the country in sugar season 2018-19 amounting to about ₹ 1375 crore.
- (vii) Government has also notified new National Policy on Bio-Fuels, 2018 under which sugarcane juice has been allowed for production of ethanol. Further, the Government has fixed remunerative price of ethanol produced from C-Heavy molasses and B-Heavy molasses/sugarcane juice separately for supply under Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme during ethanol season 2018-19.

As a result of these measures, the cane price arrears for the sugar season 2017-18 have come down to ₹ 1165 crore and ₹ 3601 crore on FRP and SAP basis respectively.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has also announced a scheme to provide assistance to sugar mills involving total financial assistance of over ₹ 5538 crore to support the sugar industry by offsetting cost of cane and to facilitate export

of sugar from the country thereby improving liquidity of the sugar mills enabling them to clear cane price arrears of farmers. The details of the measures taken are enumerated at point No. (v) and (vi) in reply to part (a) and (b) of the question.

**Procurement of agricultural commodities
by private players**

1837. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to allow private agencies into procurement of agricultural commodities, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the basic features of new procurement policy of Government and how it would protect the interest of farmers; and

(c) the role of States in the new policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) In order to ensure remunerative prices to farmers for their produce, the Government of India has launched an umbrella scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan' (PM-AASHA). The umbrella scheme, *inter alia*, provides for the Private Procurement and Stockist Scheme (PPSS) for oilseeds to be implemented on pilot basis and States have the option of implementing PPSS in district/selected Agriculture Produce Management Committees (APMCs) of the district with the participation of a private stockist.

Under PPSS, the States are required to send a proposal for procurement of oilseeds to the Government of India. Such procurement will be made from pre-registered farmers on a pilot basis in the district/selected APMCs of the district. The private stockist shall be empanelled by State/UT Government as per extant guidelines. Such a private stockist will not be allowed to sell the procured quantities during the procurement period notified under Price Deficit Payment Scheme (PDPS)/Price Support Scheme (PSS) for that particular commodity in that State. The private stockist shall be totally responsible for all forms of handling including storage and transportation, as well as disposal. The maximum eligible service charge shall be 15% of the MSP notified for the year and crop commodity under consideration. The private stockist shall procure the selected oilseeds maximum of 25% of production in the District/ Agriculture Produce Management Committees (APMCs) at MSP conforming to the prescribed Fair Average Quality (FAQ) norms.

Online filing of complaints in consumer forums

1838. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps for computerisation and networking of all consumer forums;

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

(c) whether Government has taken any steps for online filing of e-complaints before consumer forums; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Department of Consumer Affairs operates a scheme for computerization and networking of the Consumer Fora in the country to enable online access of information. 637 Consumer Fora have been computerized and networked.

(c) and (d) The Consumer Protection Bill, 2018, Introduced by the Government in the Lok Sabha on 5th January, 2018 and passed by Lok Sabha on 20.12.2018, has provisions for online filing of complaints in the consumer fora.

Storage of foodgrains by FCI

1839. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Corporation of India (FCI) faces immense problems regarding its storage capacity, espacially in Punjab State;

(b) whether it is also a fact that because of lack of storage, large amount of crops are wasted in Punjab and also in other States; and

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to undertake major reforms in the functioning of FCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) On the basis of peak stock requirement during normal procurement season, the overall storage capacity required for central pool foodgrains in the country is about 650 Lakh Metric Tonnes (LMT). Against this, the total storage capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and

State Agencies (both owned and hired capacity), is 877.37 LMT (as on 31.10.2018) comprising 749.90 LMT in covered godowns and 127.47 LMT in Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage. Thus, on the overall, there is sufficient capacity for storage of foodgrains in the country.

Adequate storage capacity of 234.04 LMT (as on 31.10.2018) is available with FCI and State Agencies in Punjab for Central Pool Stock foodgrains, against a stock of 154.85 LMT.

FCI primarily deals with storage of paddy, wheat, rice and pulses. No damage of foodgrains can be directly attributed to lack of proper storage of foodgrains. The foodgrains are stored scientifically with various preservation measures like fumigation and treatment with pesticides. In spite of taking necessary care and precautions, small quantities of foodgrains may become non-issuable due to various reasons like natural calamities, damages in transit, negligence of officials etc.

Accrual of damaged foodgrains in FCI during the last 3 years is given below:—

Year	Offtake quantity/Quantity handled (excluding De-Centralized Procuring States) (LMT)	Quantity of Damage Accrued (LMT)	% of Damaged Food grain against Offtake Quantity
2015-16	490.15	0.03	0.01%
2016-17	473.31	0.09	0.02%
2017-18	452.16	0.027	0.01%

Depending on requirement in specific areas and for modernization of storage facilities, Government has been implementing the following schemes for construction of godowns and silos in the country:—

- (i) **Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme:** Under this Scheme, which was formulated in 2008, storage capacity is created by private parties, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Government Agencies for guaranteed hiring by FCI. A capacity of 142.02 LMT has been created as on 30.11.2018. Under this scheme, no funds are allocated by Government for construction of godowns and full investment is done by the private parties/CWC/State Agencies by arranging their own funds and land. After a godown is constructed and taken over by FCI, storage charges are paid to the investor for the guaranteed period of 9/10 years irrespective of the quantum of foodgrains stored.

- (ii) **Central Sector Scheme:** This scheme is implemented in the North Eastern States along with Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Kerala. Funds are released by the Government to FCI and also directly to the State Governments for construction of godowns. A total capacity of 1,97,860 MT has been completed by FCI and State Governments during last 5 years from 01.04.2013 upto 30.11.2018
- (iii) **Construction of Steel Silos:** In addition to conventional godowns, construction of steel silos has been undertaken in Public Private Partnership (PPP) for modernizing storage infrastructure and improving shelf life of stored foodgrains. As on 30.11.2018, a capacity of 11.75 LMT silos has been created.

Payment of arrears by mills to farmers

1840. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that currently the sugar mills owe farmers more than ₹ 13,000 crore in arrears, down from a peak of more than ₹ 22,000 crore in May, 2018;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that none of the previous subsidy announced in May, 2018 has been claimed by mills or paid to farmers;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that of the ₹ 1,500 crore announced in May, 2018, nothing has been spent yet; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Depressed sugar prices due to excess sugar production during previous sugar season 2017-18 adversely affected the financial health of sugar mills resulting in accumulation of cane price arrears which peaked at ₹ 14538 crore on the basis of Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) and ₹ 23232 crore on State Advised Price (SAP) basis in the last week of May, 2018. However, as a result of various measures taken by the Government, the cane price arrears for the sugar season 2017-18 have come down to ₹ 1165 crore and ₹ 3601 crore on FRP and SAP basis respectively as on 24.12.2018.

(b) to (d) So far, 155 sugar mills have submitted their claims for assistance under the Scheme "Assistance to Sugar mills" notified *vide* notification dated 09.05.2018. Budgetary allocation for release of funds towards their claims shall be available through supplementary grants.

Damage of rice, wheat and cereals due to flood in Kerala

1841. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of godowns containing rice, wheat and other cereals washed away during recent floods in the State of Kerala;

(b) the estimated quantum of rice and wheat washed away in the floods;

(c) whether fresh stock of rice has been released to the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) During the recent floods in the State of Kerala, no foodgrains stored in godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI), were washed away.

(b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In pursuance of a proposal received from State Government of Kerala an allocation of 89540 MT of rice has been made to the State in addition to the normal monthly allocation of foodgrains under National Food Security Act (NFSA).

Portabilities of PDS

1842. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to introduce portability of Public Distribution System (PDS), if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that all the ration cards are seeded with Aadhaar cards; and

(c) if so, the details of ration cards seeded with Aadhaar and the number of bogus cards found, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Department has launched a new scheme namely "Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)" for implementation during 2018-19 and 2019-20. The key objectives of the scheme are to integrate the existing PDS systems/portals of States/UTs with the Central Systems/portals, introduction of National Portability of

ration card holders, and national level de-duplication of ration cards/beneficiary. The new scheme intends to enhance the efficiency in the distribution of foodgrains through Public Distribution System (PDS) as it will provide option to the beneficiaries to lift their entitled quota of foodgrains from the FPS of their choice across the country. Presently, under own initiatives, intra-State level portability has been introduced in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh (partially) and Tripura.

At present against a total of nearly 23 crore ration cards under NFSA, the seeding of Aadhaar numbers has been completed for about 85.68% of the ration cards across the country. As an outcome of digitization of Ration Cards/Beneficiary records, de-duplication due to Aadhaar seeding, transfer/migration/deaths, change in economic status of beneficiaries, and during implementation of NFSA, a total of 2.75 crore ration cards have been deleted/cancelled across 29 States/UTs during the years 2013-2017. The State/UT-wise list is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details showing State/UT-wise total number of deleted/cancelled ration cards during the years 2013 to 2017

States/UTs	No. of Deleted Ration Cards during 2013-2017
Andhra Pradesh	11,55,661
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	37
Arunachal Pradesh	19,561
Assam	1,29,243
Bihar	41,369
Chandigarh	-
Chhattisgarh	12,38,000
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	549
Daman and Diu	631
Delhi	64,090
Goa	1,57,461
Gujarat	1,60,685
Haryana	1,88,425
Himachal Pradesh	3,260
Jammu and Kashmir	55,344

States/UTs	No. of Deleted Ration Cards during 2013-2017
Jharkhand	4,53,958
Karnataka	27,49,532
Kerala	-
Lakshadweep	1,390
Madhya Pradesh	4,18,509
Maharashtra	21,62,391
Manipur	336
Meghalaya	-
Mizoram	1,503
Nagaland	3,247
Odisha	6,86,211
Puducherry	95,393
Punjab	1,01,249
Rajasthan	14,66,629
Sikkim	12,840
Tamil Nadu	4,22,746
Telangana	20,97,564
Tripura	1,76,986
Uttar Pradesh	68,80,999
Uttarakhand	-
West Bengal	66,13,961
TOTAL	2,75,59,760

Supply of fake products by e-tailers

1843. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that one in five products sold by e-tailers is fake;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a survey conducted in this regard found that the e-tailers are selling fake products;

(c) if so, whether Government is considering to take action against these e-tailers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) In a survey conducted by a private social network, 19% per cent of only 8518 persons contacted have admitted having received fake products from e-commerce sites.

(c) and (d) Under Section 14 of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, if after the proceeding conducted, the District Forum is satisfied that the goods complained against, suffer from any of the defects specified in the complaint or that any of allegations contained in the complaint about the services are proved, it shall issue an order to the opposite party directing him to do one or more of the following: (i) to remove the defect pointed out (ii) to replace the goods (iii) to return to the complainant the price (iv) to pay such amount as may be awarded by it as compensation to the consumer. The District Forum has also power to grant punitive damages in such circumstances as it deems fit.

Procurement of maize under MSP

1844. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka requested for procuring maize under MSP without linking it to its distribution under PDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Central Government has considered the matter and given its approval for the same; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The State Government of Karnataka has requested for procuring maize under MSP without linking it to its distribution under PDS. The request of State Government could not be agreed to because it was not in accordance with the extant Guidelines for allocation, distribution and disposal of coarse grains procured by State agencies/FCI.

Non-receipt of entitled ration

1845. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of eligible beneficiaries who did not receive entitled quantities of foodgrains under National Food Security Act and the number of people denied foodgrains due to failure of Aadhaar authentication since 2014, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the number of cases in which food security allowance was given since 2014, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the number of cases in which starvation deaths have occurred since 2014, State-wise and year-wise; and

(d) the number of families which received compensation in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries/families, issuance of ration cards to them, distribution of foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries under TPDS and supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs), etc. rest with the concerned State/UT Government.

All States/UTs have been requested to ensure that no entitled beneficiaries should be denied benefits under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/National Food Security Act (NFSA) for not getting the Aadhaar Number/Aadhaar Authentication or any other technical reasons.

There is no report from the State Governments/UT Administration regarding eligible beneficiaries not receiving entitled quantity of foodgrains under NFSA or eligible beneficiaries being denied foodgrains due to failure of Aadhaar Authentication.

(c) and (d) No State Government/Union Territory Administration has reported any incident of death due to starvation in the country. There have been media reports of starvation deaths in some States/UTs, but these have not been substantiated by the State Governments.

Setting up of Aadhaar Seva Kendras

1846. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to set up Aadhaar Seva Kendras, covering 53 cities across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that as many as four lakh people update their Aadhaar details every day, while enrolment stands at about one lakh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) Yes, Sir. There are over 30,000 Aadhaar enrolment and Update Centers across the country in designated bank branches, post offices and Government premises. In addition, UIDAI is in process to provide appointment based Aadhaar Enrolment, Update and Other miscellaneous Aadhaar Services in 53 cities of the country.

(b) to (d) Presently, on an average 30,000 Aadhaar are being generated per day and 1.64 lakh updates per day.

Consultations on Personal Data Protection Bill

1847 SHRI P. L. PUNIA:

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI:

DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Personal Data Protection Bill, 2018.

(b) the details of submissions received by Ministry on the public consultation carried out on Personal Data Protection Bill, 2018;

(c) whether comments received through consultations have been made publicly available yet, if not the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government intends to make these comments publically available now, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether other than public consultations, any external consultants/advisers were hired to aid the drafting of personal Data Protection Bill, 2018; and

(f) if so, the details of such consultants including the fee payable to such consultants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (d) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), on 31st July, 2017, *vide* OM No.3(6)/2017-CLES, constituted a Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Justice B. N. Srikrishna, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India. The said Committee submitted its final report along with the draft Personal Data Protection Bill on 27th July, 2018. The said report analyzes various aspects pertaining to data protection such as storage of data, cross-border transfer of data. The report was put in the public domain and feedback was sought from the general public from 16th August till 10th October, 2018. In response feedback has been received from a large number of stakeholders. The feedback received is presently being analyzed and thereafter draft Personal Data Protection Bill is intended to be placed in Parliament.

(e) and (f) M/s Vidhi Legal policy was engaged to provide manpower support for the functioning of the committee at the rate of ₹ 8.8 lakhs plus taxes.

Action on complaints against service providers

1848. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints against the service providers for leaking personal information of customer for the business promoters, campaigners and BPOs;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action against this offensive trade practice; and

(c) whether Government has formulated any code for the protection of personal information by service providers and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), on 31st July, 2017, *vide* OM No.3(6)/2017-CLES, constituted a Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Justice B. N. Srikrishna, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India. A White Paper outlining key data protection issues and international best practices was

released by the said Committee to solicit public comments. Inputs were received. The Committee deliberated on various inputs and has submitted its report along with draft Bill to MeitY.

The Draft Personal Data Protection Bill-2018 was published on MeitY website and comments were solicited from General Public, Central Ministries, State Governments and UTs. Responses have been received from a wide spectrum of stakeholders, which are presently under analysis. After appropriate modifications, said PDP Bill-2018 is intended to be laid in the parliament.

Authentication by Aadhaar e-KYC

1849. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Aadhaar e-KYC can be used to authenticate beneficiaries of Government subsidies and welfare schemes while for other customers, physical Aadhaar card can be used for verification;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Unique Identification Authority of India wrote to the banks clarifying the instances and modes in which Aadhaar can be used; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 26.09.2018 in the matter of W.P. (Civil) No. 494 of 2012 and connected matter has upheld Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016, the provisions of which authorizes the Central Government or a State Government to, *inter alia*, require an individual to undergo authentication or furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar number or apply for an Aadhaar number, as a prerequisite for receiving any subsidy, benefit or service for which expenditure is incurred from the Consolidated Fund of India. In this regard, the Hon'ble Court has recorded the following conclusion in para 446(b) of the judgement:—

“(b) Insofar as subsidies, benefits or services to be given by the Central Government or the State Government, as the case may be, is concerned, these Governments can mandate that receipt of these subsidies, benefits and services would be given only on furnishing proof of possession of Aadhaar number (or proof of making an application for enrolment, where Aadhaar

number is not assigned). An added requirement is that such individual would undergo authentication at the time of receiving such benefits etc. A particular institution/body from which the aforesaid subsidy, benefit or service is to be claimed by such an individual, the intended recipient would submit his Aadhaar number and is also required to give her biometric information to that agency. On receiving this information and for the purpose of its authentication, the said agency, known as Requesting Entity (RE), would send the request to the Authority which shall perform the job of authentication of Aadhaar number. On confirming the identity of a person, the individual is entitled to receive subsidy, benefit or service. Aadhaar number is permitted to be used by the holder for other purposes as well.

The use of physical Aadhaar Card, without authentication, in order to establish the identity of the Aadhaar number holder, purely on a voluntary basis, is not prohibited by the aforesaid judgement of the Hon'ble Court. On the other hand, certain observations in the judgement expressly contemplate and permit such voluntary use of the Aadhaar number/card by the holder. In this regard, paragraph 367 of the said judgement reads as:-

“367) The respondents may be right in their explanation that it is only an enabling provision which entitles Aadhaar number holder to take the help of Aadhaar for the purpose of establishing his/her identity. If such a person voluntary wants to offer Aadhaar card as a proof of his/her identity, there may not be a problem.”

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) issued a circular dated 23/10/2018 regarding use of Aadhaar for opening bank accounts and withdrawal of money through Aadhaar enabled Payment System (AePS). The circular, *inter alia*, provided clarification on voluntary use of physical Aadhaar and Aadhaar based authentication by banks of beneficiaries who are availing subsidies, benefits, services covered by Section 7 of Aadhaar Act.

Hacking of social media accounts

1850. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has asked a social media portal to provide an update on the impact of the recent hacking incident on Indian users where about 50 million accounts on the social media portal were affected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that hackers had exploited a vulnerability in the systems of the social media portal, impacting upto 50 million accounts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per information made available, the impact on some of the affected user accounts was access of user information such as name, phone number, email, username, gender, locale/language, relationship status, religion, home town, self-reported current city, birth date, device types used to access the affected social media portal, education, work, the last 10 places users checked into or were tagged in, website, people or pages users follow, and the 15 most recent searches.

(c) and (d) As per information made available, external actors exploited vulnerability in the form of software bugs impacting a feature provided for users on a Social Media Platform. This allowed unauthorized access to users' account and information.

The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issued advisories to users regarding best practices to be followed for protection of account information while using Social Media.

E-Governance initiatives

1851. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the different e-Governance initiatives launched by Government in the last four years; and

(b) the impact of these initiatives in the context of ease of life in general?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India has initiated the 'Digital India' programme with the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. The "Governance and Services on Demand" is one of three vision areas of Digital India. In line with this vision area, several e-Governance schemes/projects are being implemented by Central Ministries/Departments and State/UT Governments to deliver various e-Services. Some of the key e-Governance initiatives launched by Government in the last four years are as follows:—

- Common Services Centres (CSC) to provide government services at the doorstep of citizens while increasing transparency, efficiency and reliability.
- MyGov portal to enhance digital empowerment and enhance citizens' partnership in the governance ecosystem.
- National Scholarships Portal for all Government scholarships on a single website.
- e-Hospital to eliminate long queues in the hospital and easy maintenance of health records.
- Jeevan Pramaan to provide biometric enabled digital services for pensioners.
- Digital Locker for online storage and sharing of Government documents and certificates.
- eSign for hassle free online electronic signature with Aadhaar authentication.
- Unified Mobile Application for New-Age Governance (UMANG) to provide government services to the people through mobile phones and tablets.
- Open Government Data Platform aims to increase transparency in the functioning of Government and also open avenues for innovative usages of Government Data to give different perspective.
- GI Cloud (Meghraj) to utilize and harness the benefits of Cloud Computing
- National Centre of Geo-Informatics (NCoG) for sharing, collaboration, location based analytics and decision support system.
- Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) App allows real time fund transfer for sending, collecting the money and to pay for various utility bills.

(b) The impact of e-governance initiatives in the context of ease of life in general is as follows:—

- **Fast, Convenient and Cost Effective Service Delivery:** With the advent of e-Service delivery, citizen can obtain information and services at lesser costs, in reduced time and with greater convenience.
- **Transparency, Accountability and Reduced Corruption:** Dissemination of information through ICT increases transparency, ensures accountability and prevents corruption. An increased use of ICT based services improves the awareness levels of citizens about their rights and powers.

- Increased Participation by People: With easy access to the government services, the faith of the citizens in the government increases and they come forward to share their views and feedback. Increased accessibility to information has empowered the citizens and has enhanced their participation by giving them the opportunity to share information and contribution in implementation of initiatives.

IT for masses

1852. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of budgetary allocation and expenditure under the scheme 'IT for Masses' for 2015-17 State-wise;

(b) whether Government has any targeted scheme for IT literacy among marginal and low income groups of society;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether Government has any proposal in this regard; and

(d) the details of rural population trained and certified under the scheme 'IT for Masses' for the period of 2015-17?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) IT for Masses is a programme under the budget head—Manpower Development Scheme of Government of India and has the objective of gender empowerment and development of SCs and STs using ICT and Electronics. The projects funded are in the area of IT training, creation of Infrastructure and Entrepreneurship creation. Manpower Development Scheme is a Central Sector Scheme, hence, funds are not allocated to States and UTs. The State-wise expenditure made under the IT for Masses programme based on cost per beneficiaries is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The Government of India has implemented the following schemes to impart digital literacy among the masses:—

- (i) **IT Mass Literacy (National Digital Literacy Mission) and 'Digital Saksharta Abhiyan' (DISHA)**: To realize the objective of attaining digital literacy, two schemes namely 'National Digital Literacy Mission' (NDLM) and 'Digital Saksharta Abhiyan' (DISHA) with a cumulative target of training 52.5 lakh persons (Age Group: 14-60 Years, one person per household) were implemented by the Government of India

from 2014 till 2016. The major aim of the schemes was to cover one person from every eligible family to be made digitally literate so as to enable them to use IT and related applications and participate effectively in the democratic process and enhance their livelihood. Both these schemes were implemented concurrently across the country under which a total of 53.67 lakh beneficiaries were trained and duly certified. These two Schemes were not limited to urban areas, however, around 42% beneficiaries were from rural India. Also almost 50% beneficiaries were women. These two Schemes are closed during 2016 as the set target has been successfully achieved, which includes 6.71 lakhs SCs and 6.31 lakhs STs candidates.

(ii) “Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan” (PMGDISHA):

The Government has approved a scheme titled “Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)” to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 crore rural households (one person per household) by 31.03.2019. This is in line with the announcement made by Hon’ble Finance Minister in the Union Budget 2016-17. To ensure equitable geographical reach, each of the 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats are expected to register an average of 200-300 candidates.

The course curriculum used in NDLM and DISHA Scheme has been modified to include Top 10 citizen centric services. In addition, keeping in view the thrust of the Government on promoting cashless transactions through mobile phones, it has been decided to include the content on digital wallets, mobile banking, Unified Payments Interface (UPI), Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD), Aadhar Enabled Payment System (AEPS), and PoS.

As on 20th December, 2018, a total of 1.66 crore candidates have been trained under PMGDISHA scheme, out of which more than 89.52 lakh candidates have been certified which includes 17.28 lakh SCs and 6.89 lakh STs candidates.

(d) The total rural population trained and certified under the IT for Masses programme during the period of 2015-17 is as under:—

SC Candidates (Male and Female): 16,600

ST Candidates (Male and Female): 22,880

Women Candidates (General): 14,065

Statement*Expenditure of IT for Masses programme during 2015-17*

(₹ in lakh)

Sl.No.	State	Amount
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	68.07
2.	Andhra Pradesh	5.33
3.	Assam	7.11
4.	Bihar	17.13
5.	Chhattisgarh	17.56
6.	Delhi	93.33
7.	Haryana	50.16
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	9.72
10.	Jharkhand	28.64
11.	Kerala	45.93
12.	Lakshadweep	30.99
13.	Madhya Pradesh	62.64
14.	Maharashtra	141.34
15.	Meghalaya	3.65
16.	Mizoram	0.79
17.	Nagaland	91.84
18.	Odisha	38.97
19.	Punjab	136.41
20.	Telangana	4.47
21.	Uttar Pradesh	67.27
22.	West Bengal	147.44

Access of digital services through Common Service Centres

†1853 SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether, the Common Service Centres have been established under the Digital India Programme, which are access centres for providing various digital services to

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the villages and in the rural areas across the country, and which are contributing significantly in fulfilling the Government's commitment to ensure an inclusive society from financial point of view;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether operating Common Service Centres are working successfully in various States as per target; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Common Services Centres (CSC) are being set-up by M/s CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, which is a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) floated by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), for the purpose, under Digital India Programme. It fulfils the objective under pillar-3; *i.e.* "public internet access programme", of Digital India Programme, which aims to provide digital services through internet to the villages and in the rural areas across the country through the Digital Seva (DS) portal.

It is a self-sustainable digital service delivery model with an effort towards optimum utilisation of available infrastructure. On Digital Seva (DS) portal, total 354 digital services are available which includes Banking and Business Correspondents (BCs), Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS), Insurance and Pension services, etc. As on 30th November, 2018, the total number of functional CSCs in India are 3,08,782, out of which, 2,11,639 CSCs are functional at GP level.

(c) and (d) State/UT-wise details of functional CSCs as on 30th November, 2018 are given in the Statement.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of functional CSCs as on 30th November, 2018

Name of States/UTs	Total No. of Functional CSCs including GP Level (As on 30 Nov., 2018)
1	2
Uttar Pradesh	66409
Maharashtra	42137
Bihar	27846

1	2
Madhya Pradesh	20712
Rajasthan	15216
West Bengal	14494
Chhattisgarh	13939
Jharkhand	12872
Odisha	11792
Haryana	11229
Gujarat	10837
Tamil Nadu	9603
Andhra Pradesh	8063
Punjab	7669
Karnataka	6735
Telangana	5369
Uttarakhand	5184
Assam	4780
Himachal Pradesh	3606
Kerala	3676
Jammu and Kashmir	2320
Manipur	648
Tripura	613
Meghalaya	520
Nagaland	312
Mizoram	165
Arunachal Pradesh	151
Goa	83
Sikkim	46
STATE TOTAL (A)	307026
NCT of Delhi	1393
Puducherry	194

1	2
Chandigarh	61
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	58
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	28
Daman and Diu	14
Lakshadweep	8
UT TOTAL (B)	1756
GRAND TOTAL (A+B)	308782

Restoration of Aadhaar enrolment and updation services

1854. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether village level entrepreneurs are demanding Government to allow them to restart Aadhaar enrolment and updation services;

(b) if so, the response of Government;

(c) whether banks and BSNL units have been entrusted to offer Aadhaar enrolment and updation facilities;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the number of counters working for Aadhaar services in the country, at present; and

(e) the expenditure incurred by Government on behalf of these units offering Aadhaar services, in the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) Government of India has decided to shift Aadhaar enrolment and updation centers to designated Banks branches, Post offices and Government premises across the country.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Banks have been mandated to open Aadhaar enrolment centers in 10% of their bank branches. BSNL has been recently provided financial assistance to procure Aadhaar enrolment kits for opening Aadhaar Enrolment centers in its 3000 designated Customer Service Centers.

There are over 30,000 Aadhaar Enrolment and Update Centres across country in designated Bank branches, Post Offices and Government premises.

(e) Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) provides assistance to its Registrars for carrying out successful enrolment and mandatory biometric updation of children on attaining the age of 5/15 years @ ₹ 50/- per successful enrolment and ₹ 25/- per successful Biometric update. The year-wise assistance released during last 3 years as follows:—

- (i) 2015-16 – ₹ 702.37 crore
- (ii) 2016-17 – ₹ 473.57 crore
- (iii) 2017-18 – ₹ 363.73 crore

Setting UP of NBFC

1855. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to set up a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) dedicated for funding companies engaged in the food processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the proposed NBFC would be a private company, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (c) In pursuance to the Budget announcement for financial year 2018-19, this Ministry has drafted a new Central Sector Scheme to promote establishment of “Specialized Agro Processing Financial Institutions” as a Non-Banking Finance Company (NBFC) with 20 % equity of Government of India subject to a maximum of ₹ 400 crore. The approval process for the same is under way.

Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana

1856. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY);

(b) the details of funds allocated, released and utilized under the scheme, so far, year-wise and State/UT-wise; and

(c) the details of selected projects and projects under implementation as part of PMKSY, so far, year-wise and State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) The Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY) is a Central Sector Scheme implemented by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) with an allocation of ₹ 6000 crore for the period 2016-20 coterminous with the 14th Finance Commission cycle. PMKSY is a comprehensive package designed to result in creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management along the entire value chain from farm gate to retail outlet. The various component schemes of PMKSY are (i) Mega Food Parks (MFP), (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure (Cold Chain), (iii) Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities (Unit Scheme), (iv) Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters (APC), (v) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages (BFL), (vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure (FTL) and (vii) Human Resources and Institutions. Financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid for capital subsidy under component schemes of PMKSY are provided to the individuals, farmers, farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), entrepreneurs, cooperatives, societies, self Help Groups (SHGs), Private Companies and central/ State PSUs etc. against the Expression of Interest issued by the MoFPI from time to time. The rate of subsidy ranges from 35% to 75% depending on the component scheme and location of the project.

(b) State/UT-wise funds are not allocated or released under the scheme as the scheme is demand driven. Funds are released to projects approved by MoFPI based on the expression of interest. The year-wise funds allocated and released under the scheme is as under:—

Year	Allocation (₹ in crore)	Release (₹ in crore)
2016-17	600.00*	677.16
2017-18	725.00	605.58
2018-19	870.33	341.66
		(Up to 30.11.2018)

* Revised to ₹ 688.56 crore.

(c) The details of selected projects and projects under implementation under PMKSY, are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of All Approved Projects under Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana during 2016-17 to 2018-19

Sl. No.	State/UT	Cold Chain	Mega Food Park	FTL	Unit Scheme	APC	BFL
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2016-17							
1..	Assam	—	—	1	—	—	—
2..	Gujarat	—	—	1	—	—	—
3.	Haryana	—	—	5	—	—	—
4..	Himachal Pradesh	1	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	1	—	—	—
6.	Maharashtra	1	—	1	—	—	—
7.	Punjab	—	—	1	—	—	—
8.	Rajasthan	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	1	—	—	—
10.	Telangana	—	—	1	—	—	—
11.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	Uttarkhand	1	—	—	—	—	—
13.	West Bengal	—	—	2	—	—	—
2017-18							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	—	—	—	—
4.	Assam	—	—	2	—	—	—
5.	Bihar	1	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	9	—	1	—	—	—
7.	Haryana	4	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	—	1	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Karnataka	4	—	1	—	—	—
11.	Kerala	2	—	—	—	—	—
12.	Maharashtra	21	—	1	—	—	—
13.	Manipur	1	—	—	—	—	—
14.	Nagaland	2	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Odisha	1	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Punjab	7	—	1	—	—	—
17.	Rajasthan	6	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Sikkim	—	—	1	—	—	—
19.	Tamil Nadu	5	—	2	—	—	—
20.	Telangana	3	—	—	—	—	—
21.	Uttar Pradesh	10	3	1	—	—	—
22.	Uttarakhand	5	—	—	—	—	—
23.	West Bengal	1	—	1	—	—	—
2018-19							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	—	—	—	—	3
2.	Assam	—	—	—	1	1	—
3.	Bihar	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	2	—	—
5.	Gujarat	3	—	1	10	1	7
6.	Haryana	—	—	1	8	4	1
7.	Himachal Pradesh	3	—	1	6	1	2
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	—	—	7	1	3
9.	Karnataka	4	—	1	8	2	3
10.	Kerala	2	—	—	2	—	2
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1	—	1	4	2	1
12.	Maharashtra	10	—	—	15	8	12
13.	Manipur	—	—	—	1	1	—
14.	Mizoram	—	—	—	1	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	1	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16.	Nagaland	1	—	—	4	—	
17.	Odisha	—	—	—	1	—	2
18.	Punjab	2	—	—	4	2	4
19.	Rajasthan	—	—	—	8	3	5
20.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	
21.	Tamil Nadu	3	—	1	18	—	9
22.	Telangana	3	—	—	—	—	1
23.	Tripura	—	—	—	1	—	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4	—	—	21	3	6
25.	Uttarkhand	3	—	1	5	1	2
26.	West Bengal	3	—	—	1	—	1

Wastage of foodgrains

1857. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is reportedly a wastage of foodgrains worth ₹ 92,000 crore every year due to lack of proper food processing and storage facilities;

(b) if so, measures Government is contemplating to address the same;

(c) the status of Operation Greens project, including the measures taken/to be taken, cost sharing among others;

(d) the details of subsidies that have been disbursed so far for transportation of TOP (Tomato, Onion, Potato) crops from production site to storage; and

(e) the details of storage facilities that have been hired along with the rent paid, cost sharing of the same, during last three years State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) As per a study, "Assessment of Quantitative Harvest and Post-Harvest Losses of Major Crops and Commodities in India" by Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana, the estimated annual value of harvest and post-harvest losses of major agricultural produces at national level was ₹ 92,651 crores. The study was based on production data of 2012-13 and wholesale prices of 2014.

(b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) with an allocation of ₹ 6,000 crore for period 2016-20 co-terminus with the 14th Finance Commission cycle for development of Food Processing Industry in the country. PMKSY has seven component schemes *viz.*; (i) Mega Food Parks, (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure, (iii) Infrastructure for Agro-Processing Clusters, (iv) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages, (v) Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities, (vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure and (vii) Human Resources and Institutions. The PMKSY is designed to create robust modern infrastructure along the entire value chain in food processing with a view to, *inter alia*, reduce wastage and improve the supply position of quality food products to various locations. The individuals, Farmer Producer Organizations, entrepreneurs, cooperatives, Self Help Groups, Private Companies and State PSUs etc. are eligible to avail financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid under these schemes for setting up food processing projects in the country. Also, MoFPI is implementing a new Central Sector Scheme “Operation Greens” exclusively for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops value chain, with an outlay of ₹ 500 crore to promote Farmers Producers Organizations, agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management in addition to short term price stabilisation component to prevent crashing of prices of the TOP crops during the time of glut.

(c) to (e) The scheme guidelines under ‘Operation Greens’ was uploaded on the website of the Ministry on 05/11/2018. Proposals under the scheme have been invited *vide* Expression of Interest dated 10/11/2018. No proposals have been received under the scheme so far.

“Operation Greens’ is a Central Sector scheme. As per scheme guidelines, the Pattern of Assistance provided by Government for the implementation of this scheme is as under:—

- (i) For Price Stabilisation Measures, 50% of cost of transportation and 50% of cost of hiring appropriate storage facilities will be provided as subsidy at the time of harvest. NAFED will be nodal agency for disbursement of subsidy under this component to the eligible organisation.
- (ii) For Integrated value chain development projects, the grant-in-aid will be at the rate of 50% of the eligible project cost in all areas, subject to maximum ₹ 50 crore per project. However, in case where project implementing agency (PIA) is/are FPO(s), the grant-in-aid will be at the rate of 70% of the eligible project cost in all areas, subject to maximum ₹ 50 crore per project.

Agro-processing in rural areas

1858. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether considering that 57 per cent of farmers' income comes from sources not directly related to cultivation, especially in drought periods, the steps Government has taken to augment the sources of farmers' income;

(b) whether Government has an action plan on building agro-processing units in rural areas;

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

(d) whether this action plan considers the PepsiCo Model in incentivising long-term contract farming for agro-processing;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) As per the results of 'Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households' conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) during January-December 2013, about 63.5 per cent of the agricultural households in the country reported cultivation as their principal source of income. Other sources of income of agricultural households are wage/salaried employment, livestock, non-agricultural enterprises, other agricultural activities, etc.

With a view to diversify the income base of agricultural households, Government is promoting integrated farming with focus on horticulture, floriculture, bee-keeping, fisheries, agro-forestry, etc. Towards this end, various Missions and Schemes are being implemented in a focused manner, viz., Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Rashtriya Gokul Mission, National Livestock Mission, Blue Revolution, National Agro-Forestry and Bamboo Mission (NABM), etc. In addition, Government is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and other Schemes to benefit rural people, including agricultural workers through creation of employment and livelihood opportunities. These are devised to benefit rural people, including agricultural households to supplement their income.

(b) to (f) Government is implementing a Central Sector Scheme, namely 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojna (PMKSY)' for providing capital subsidy in the form of

grants-in-aid for setting up of Food Processing Industries by the individuals, farmers, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), entrepreneurs, cooperatives, societies, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Private Companies and Central/State PSUs etc., in the country. The rate of subsidy ranges from 35% to 75% depending on the type and location of the projects. Food Processing Units, including in Punjab have been approved under this Scheme.

The Government has also formulated and released a progressive and facilitative Model Act "The --- State/ UT Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2018" in May, 2018 for its adoption by the States/Union Territories. The Act has been finalized after consultations with various stakeholders, including farmers, trade and industry, economists, policy makers, etc., and examining national and international best practices, including Pepsi Co Model. The Model Act covers the entire value and supply chain from pre-production to post harvest marketing stages, including services contract for the agricultural produce and livestock. The contract farming under this Model Act will help in mitigating the price risk and market uncertainties through advance agreements and would encourage entry of private players into the farm sector.

Setting up of educational institutes for food industry

1859. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian-processed food industry accounts for 32 per cent of the country's total food market, 13 per cent of exports and will increase to over 40 per cent of overall intake by 2025-30;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that despite all above, presently there is very limited educational and research programme in management-oriented institutes on food industry; and

(c) if so, proposal of Government to set-up more viable industries, educational institutes and observation with compliance of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) standards with regard to safe and wholesome food for human consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) As per the latest data released by National Accounts Division, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the estimated value of output from Food Processing Industries in India is ₹ 9,27,844 crore in 2016-17

at 2011-12 prices and value of export of processed food during 2017-18 accounted for 11.69 per cent of India's total exports respectively.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has two institutes viz. Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT) and National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) offering academic programmes on food processing/technology and also undertaking research activities pertaining to food processing. At present, there is no proposal under consideration of Ministry of Food Processing Industries for setting up of additional educational institutes.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) does not set up any food processing industries/units/projects on its own. It provides financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid under component schemes of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) to the individuals, farmers, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), entrepreneurs, cooperatives, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Private Companies and central/State PSUs etc. for setting up of food processing industries/units/projects.

The food safety and standards regulations are laid down under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 administered by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). Standards are harmonized as per the international practices by FSSAI from time to time. FSSAI under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is mandated for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import, to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Poor infrastructure for agri-produce

1860. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export-related infrastructure for agri-produce is grossly inadequate, especially at sea ports and airports and more than 30 per cent of the produce from the fields gets spoilt due to poor post-harvesting facilities and lack of adequate storage infrastructure; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) The Agricultural and Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) has funded 115 common

infrastructure projects having pack houses, cold storages and Centre for Perishable cargos (CPC) at different ports to facilitate agri-exports in different location in the country.

As per a study, "Assessment of Quantitative Harvest and Post-Harvest Losses of Major Crops and Commodities in India" by Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana, the cumulative per centage of wastage of different agricultural produces in 2015 are as follows:-

Name of the Agri-produce	Cumulative Per centage of Wastage
Cereals	4.65 - 5.99
Pulses	6.36 - 8.41
Oil seeds	3.08 - 9.96
Fruits and Vegetables	4.58 - 15.88
Milk	0.92
Fisheries (Inland)	5.23
Fisheries (Marine)	10.52
Meat	2.71
Poultry	6.74

As per a Study, 'All India Cold-chain Infrastructure Capacity (Assessment of Status and Gap), commissioned by National Centre for Cold-chain Development (NCCD) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and conducted by NABARD Consultancy Services Private Limited (NABCONS) in 2015 there has been infrastructural gaps ranging from 10% in the case of cold storages (bulk and hub) to 99.6% in the case of pack houses as compared to the requirement of the level of production of perishable produces like fruits and vegetables. Insufficient private investment in such infrastructure and logistics is one of the principal reasons for such gaps.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is implementing a Central Sector Scheme, 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY)' with an allocation of ₹ 6000 crore for the period 2016-20 coterminous with the 14th Finance Commission cycle. PMKSY is a comprehensive package designed to result in creation of robust modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management along the entire value chain from farm gate to retail outlet. The various component schemes of PMKSY are (i) Mega Food Parks (MFP), (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure (Cold Chain), (iii) Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities (Unit Scheme), (iv) Infrastructure for Agro-processing

Clusters (APC), (v) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages (BFL), (vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure (FTL) and (vii) Human Resources and Institutions. Financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid for capital subsidy under component schemes of PMKSY are provided to the individuals, farmers, farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), entrepreneurs, cooperatives, societies, self Help Groups (SHGs), Private Companies and central/State PSUs etc. against the Expression of Interest issued by the MoFPI from time to time. The rate of subsidy ranges from 35% to 75% depending on the component scheme and location of the project.

Also, MoFPI is implementing a new Central Sector Scheme "Operation Greens" exclusively for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops value chain, with an outlay of ₹ 500 crore to promote Farmers Producers Organizations, agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management in addition to short term price stabilisation component to prevent crashing of prices of the TOP crops during the time of glut.

Implementation of NMFP

1861. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the States where National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) has been implemented; and

(b) by when it would be implemented in all States of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) The details regarding States where Centrally Sponsored Scheme – National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) were implemented in 2012-13 to 2014-15 (upto 31.03.2015) are as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
		Allocation	GOI share released	Allocation	GOI share released	Allocation	GOI share released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
(a) States							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14.24	10.68	11.58	0.00	14.60	14.60
2.	Bihar	11.42	8.565	9.07	2.29	6.608294	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Chhattisgarh	7.88	5.91	5.91	0.00	5.94	5.226
4.	Goa	3.66	2.745	2.15	0.00	1.55617	0.00
5.	Gujarat	11.15	8.3625	8.83	0.62	8.89	8.51
6.	Haryana	5.92	4.44	4.16	4.16	12.00	12.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	5.09	3.8175	3.42	0.00	3.43	1.69
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	9.00	6.75	6.91	0.00	5.03041	0.7474
9.	Jharkhand	7.09	5.3175	5.20	0.00	3.785474	1.5318
10.	Karnataka	11.11	8.3325	8.79	8.225	8.84	8.84
11.	Kerala	6.23	4.6725	4.44	2.22	3.228148	0.3613
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14.27	10.7025	11.61	0.00	11.69	7.89
13.	Maharashtra	16.51	12.3825	13.61	3.53	13.71	13.71
14.	Odisha	9.24	6.93	7.12	0.00	7.16	5.8
15.	Punjab	6.16	4.62	4.37	0.00	4.39	1.94
16.	Rajasthan	14.77	11.0775	12.06	0	12.15	11.82
17.	Tamil Nadu	10.40	7.80	8.16	0.00	5.942398	0.4405
18.	Telangana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.88	2.39
19.	Uttar Pradesh	20.03	15.0225	16.75	0.00	12.21051	5.51
20.	Uttarakhand	5.23	3.9225	3.54	0.00	2.56949	0.994
21.	West Bengal	10.60	10.82	8.33	3.945	8.39	5.58
TOTAL		200.00	152.87	156.00	24.99	157.00089	109.611

(b) North Eastern States

1.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.20	3.15	2.70	1.35	2.35	0.5150
2.	Assam	5.47	4.1025	3.97	0.00	2.98	2.35
3.	Manipur	3.79	2.8425	2.29	0.00	2.14	3.8406
4.	Meghalaya	3.80	2.85	2.30	1.15	2.15	0.8208
5.	Mizoram	3.71	2.7825	2.21	1.105	2.11	0.00
6.	Nagaland	3.71	2.7825	2.21	0.00	2.11	6.11
7.	Sikkim	3.58	3.06	2.08	0.00	2.04	0.62
8.	Tripura	3.74	2.805	2.24	1.12	2.12	0.7392
TOTAL		32.00	24.375	20.00	4.725	18.00	14.9956

(b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) had launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme – National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) implemented through States/UTs in 12th Plan (w.e.f. 01.04.2012). The Mission was implemented in the ratio of 75:25 by Government of India and States; in North Eastern States the ratio was @ 90:10 and 100% grant for UTs.

In the Union Budget (2015-16) presented on 28.02.2015, Government of India (GOI) has announced de-linking of Centrally Sponsored Scheme – National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) from Central Government support. The State Governments may decide to continue (or not) NMFP scheme *w.e.f.* 01.04.2015 and onwards, out of their increased resources resulting from the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission. Accordingly, State Governments were requested to ensure the release of funds to all the projects approved by State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) including that of the committed liabilities from States resources.

National Judicial Data Grid

†1862. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as per the figures of National Judicial Data Grid, a total of 2,75,07,972 cases are pending in district and subordinate courts in the country, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the common man of the country is being deprived of justice due to shortage of Judges in courts, if so, who is responsible for the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) As per the information/data available on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), 2,92,58,826 cases are pending in various District and Subordinate Courts of the country as on 24.12.2018. The pendency of cases in various Courts in the country is dependant on several factors which, *inter alia*, include availability of adequate number of judges, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders vic. Bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. No time frame has been prescribed for disposal of various kinds of cases by the respective courts.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) As per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of State Governments and the High Courts concerned. In so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, respective High Courts do it in certain States, whereas the High Courts do it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions in other States.

Filling up of vacancies in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is a continuous and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. Initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India, while initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies in High Courts keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges (to the Supreme Court) and also due to increase in the strength of Judges.

From 01.01.2014 to 26.12.2018, 27 Judges were appointed in Supreme Court. 446 new Judges were appointed and 379 Additional Judges were made permanent in the High Courts. Sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has been increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1079 currently. Sanctioned and working strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts has been increased as follows:—

As on	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength
31.12.2013	19,518	15,115
30.09.2018	22,644	17,509

Minister of Law and Justice *vide* letter dated 14th August, 2018 has written to the Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers of States to monitor the status of vacancies in the district and subordinate courts regularly and to ensure proper coordination with the State Public Service Commission so that the examination and the interviews are conducted in accordance with the time schedule prescribed by the Supreme Court in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case.

Representation of SC/ST Judges

1863. DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of SC/ST lawyers appointed in Attorney-General panels along with the details thereof;

(b) after the Collegium system came into force, how many Collegiums had representation of SC/ST Judges along with the details thereof; and

(c) the number of appointments made excluding SCs/STs on Collegium along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) There is no panel by the name "Attorney General panels". There is only one post of Attorney General for India under Article 76 of the Constitution of India. This article does not provide for reservation for any caste or class of person.

(b) and (c) Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Article 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively. These Articles do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of person. Hence, no caste-wise data is maintained by the Government.

Failure in filling vacancies in lower courts

1864. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for failure to fulfil vacancies of lower courts, which is standing at staggering 5000 plus, inspite of timelimit of 153 days for a two-tier recruitment process and 273 days for a three-tier process prescribed by the Supreme Court; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) As per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of the High Courts and State Governments concerned. In so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, in certain States recruitment is done by the High Courts, whereas in other States, the recruitment is done by High Courts in consultation with State Public Service Commission.

During the Chief Justice's Conference held in 2016 it was, *inter alia*, resolved that the Chief Justices shall take effective steps in coordination with the State Governments to ensure an increase in the cadre strength of the District and Subordinate Courts commensurate with the needs of their States in compliance with the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Brij Mohan Lal *versus* Union of India, as well as to ensure compliance with the time schedule and directions laid down in the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Malik Mazhar Sultan case (2006). It was also

resolved that the Chief Justices shall, in particular, ensure that the Selection and Appointment Committees in the High Courts periodically monitor the process of filling up of vacancies in the District and Subordinate Courts.

In September, 2016, Union Minister of Law and Justice wrote to the Chief Ministers of States and the Chief Justices of High Courts to enhance the cadre strength of the District and Subordinate Courts and provide physical infrastructure to the State judiciary. The same was reiterated in May, 2017. In August, 2018, in the context of increasing pendency of cases, the Union Minister of Law and Justice has written to all Chief Justices of High Courts to monitor the Status of the vacancies regularly and to ensure proper coordination with the state Public Service Commission to fill up vacant posts as per time schedule prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case. The filling up of vacancies is also being monitored by the Supreme Court in a *suo-motu* writ petition (civil) no. 2 of 2018.

A series of meetings were held with Registrars General of all High Courts and Law Secretaries of all State Governments/UTs through Video Conferencing in the month of January, 2018, July, 2018 and November, 2018 to follow up on filling up posts of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts.

The Department of Justice has hosted a web-portal on its website for reporting and monitoring of sanctioned and working strength, and vacancies of Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts on monthly basis.

Legal aid for poor and rural areas

1865. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any efforts for providing legal aid to the poor and the people in rural areas of the country, particularly of Jharkhand and Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has launched or is planning to launch digital and mobile courts in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, particularly for Jharkhand and Gujarat, if any, and the country as a whole?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 has set up legal services institutions at all levels *viz.* Taluk, District and States as well as at High Court and

Supreme Court level to provide free legal services to all the persons including in the rural areas who are in the entitled categories under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act. Free legal services include payment of court fees, providing advocate and preparation of paper book etc. The details of persons benefitted during the year 2018-19 (upto September, 2018) in Gujarat and Jharkhand under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

Also, under Access to Justice programme of the Department of Justice, initiatives like “Tele Law” and “Pro bono legal services” have been undertaken. Tele Law scheme has been launched in 1800 gram panchayats in 11 States namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to provide free legal aid to marginalized persons. As on 24.12.2018, out of 50,431 cases registered under the scheme, legal advice has been provided in 44,017 cases. Under the Pro Bono Legal Service scheme, 341 cases of marginalized persons have been registered and 362 Probono lawyers have been registered as on 24.12.2018.

(c) and (d) The Government has computerized 16845 Courts in the District and Subordinate Judiciary in the country under its e-Courts mission mode project, which includes 1,108 courts in Gujarat State and 351 courts in Jharkhand State.

Statement

Details of persons benefitted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987

Sl. No.	Name of the SLSAs	No. of District Legal Services Authorities	No. of persons benefitted through Legal Aid and Advice	No. of persons benefitted through Legal Services Clinics (other than Jail)	No. of persons benefitted through Jail Legal Services Clinics	No. of persons who attended Legal Literacy/Awareness programmes	No. of persons benefitted through Legal Services Camps adopting newly designed Legal Services Camp Module (April, 18 to August,18)
1.	Gujarat	31	11,253	6,296	2,631	2,84,080	7,448
2.	Jharkhand	24	20,104	58,561	2,750	5,86,932	23,98,438

Appointment and remuneration of panel lawyers

1866. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria and procedure for appointment of panel lawyers by legal services authorities at district and sub-divisional levels; and

(b) whether a standard remuneration is given to legal aid lawyers per case for Magistrate Courts, Sessions Courts and Special Courts; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) "National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)" Free and Competent Legal Services Regulations, 2010" provide for criteria and procedure for empanelment of lawyers. The selection is made by a Committee constituted by the Executive Chairman of State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) or Chairman of the concerned District Legal Services Authority in consultation with the Advocate General (for the High Court), District Attorney or Government Pleader (for District and Taluka level) and Mentoring Committee set up under regulation 10. The Regulation provides for a minimum of three years experience for a legal practitioner to be empanelled.

(b) The fee payable to lawyers is fixed by respective State Legal Services Authorities (SLSAs) through Regulations framed by them. The fee would vary from State to State depending upon the usual fee charged by the lawyers in that State and also, the fee payable to Government Advocates, Special Prosecutor, Amicus Curie, etc. However, a Committee appointed by NALSA has recommended minimum fees for panel lawyers approved by Central Authority of NALSA. The schedule of minimum fee approved by the Central Authority is as under;

Subordinate Courts at all levels including Tribunals

- (i) Drafting of substantive pleading such as Suit, Matrimonial Proceedings such as Divorce, Maintenance, Custody, Restitution etc., Succession, Probate, Memo of Appeal, Revision, Written Statement, Reply, Rejoinder, Replication etc. ₹ 1,200/-.
- (ii) Drafting of Miscellaneous applications such as stay, bail, direction, exemption etc. ₹ 400/- per application subject to maximum of ₹ 800/- for all applications.
- (iii) Appearance ₹ 750/- per effective hearing and ₹ 500/- for non-effective hearing subject to a maximum of ₹ 7,500/- (per case).

High Court

- (i) Drafting of substantive pleading such as Writ Petition, Counter Affidavit, Memo of Appeal, Revision, Reply, Rejoinder, Replication ₹ 1,500/-.
- (ii) Drafting of Miscellaneous applications such as stay, bail, direction, exemption etc. ₹ 500/- per application subject to maximum of ₹ 1,000/- for all applications.

(iii) Appearance ₹ 1,000/- per effective hearing and ₹ 750/- for non-effective hearing subject to maximum of ₹ 10,000/- (per case).

(c) Details giving SLSA-wise information as to whether the fee of Panel Lawyers is equal to/more than/less than the fee prescribed by NALSA in 2016 are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of SLSA-wise information as to whether the fee of Panel Lawyers

Sl. No.	SLSAs	Whether the fee of Panel Lawyers is equal to/more than/less than the fee prescribed by NALSA in 2016.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Equal
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Equal
3.	Assam	Equal
4.	Bihar	Equal
5.	Chhattisgarh	Equal
6.	Goa	Less
7.	Gujarat	More
8.	Haryana	Equal
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Equal
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	Equal
11.	Jharkhand	Equal
12.	Karnataka	Equal
13.	Kerala	More
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Equal
15.	Maharashtra	Equal
16.	Manipur	Equal
17.	Meghalaya	Less
18.	Mizoram	Equal
19.	Nagaland	Equal
20.	Odisha	Equal
21.	Punjab	More

1	2	3
22.	Rajasthan	More
23.	Sikkim	Equal
24.	Tamil Nadu	Equal
25.	Telangana	Equal
26.	Tripura	Equal
27.	Uttar Pradesh	₹ 750-00 per day.
28.	Uttarakhand	More
29.	West Bengal	Equal
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	Equal
31.	Chandigarh	Equal
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Less
33.	Daman and Diu	Equal
34.	Delhi	More
35.	Lakshadweep	Less
36.	Puducherry	Equal

Focus area for reduction in pendency of court cases

1867. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of various initiatives taken by Government, it is unable to reduce the backlog of cases in Supreme Court, High Courts, various district courts and Tribunals in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has zeroed in on any core area(s) which needs much focus/attention to reduce the pendency of cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The pendency of cases in various courts in the country is dependent on several factors which, *inter alia*, include availability of adequate number of judges, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders *viz.*

bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. No time frame has been prescribed for disposal of various kinds of cases by the respective courts.

The Government is, however, fully committed to speedy disposal of cases. The Government has taken several initiatives to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary. The National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms established by the Government has adopted a coordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration through various strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure for courts, leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, and filling up of vacant positions of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court. The major achievements during the last four years under various initiatives to make the functioning of subordinate judiciary more efficient are as follows:-

- (i) **Improving infrastructure for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts:** As on date, ₹ 6,623.87 crores have been released since the inception of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary in 1993-94. Out of this, 3,179.57 crores (which are 48% of the total amount released till date) have been released to the States and UTs since April, 2014. The number of court halls has increased from 15,818 as on 30.06.2014 to 18,731 as on date and number of residential units has increased from 10,211 as on 30.06.2014 to 16,539 as on date under this scheme. In addition, 2,906 court halls and 1,754 residential units are under construction. The Central Government has approved continuation of the Scheme beyond the 12th Five Year Plan period *i.e.* from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020 with an estimated additional outlay of ₹ 3,320 crore.
- (ii) **Leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for improved justice delivery:** Number of computerised District and Subordinate courts has increased from 13,672 to 16,755 registering an increase of 3,083 during 2014 to 2018. National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) provides citizens with online information about case filings, case status and electronic copies of orders and judgments from district and subordinate courts that have already been computerized. Information regarding 10.80 crore cases including more than three crore pending cases and more than 7.91 crore orders/judgments are available on this portal. eCourts services such as details of case registration, cause list, case status, daily orders and final judgments are available to litigants and advocates through eCourts web portal, Judicial Service Centres

(JSC) in all computerised courts, eCourts Mobile App, email service, SMS push and pull services. eCourts Project has been consistently amongst the top 5 Mission Mode Projects of country.

- (iii) **Filling up of vacant positions in Supreme Court, High Courts and judicial officers in District and Subordinate Courts:** As per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of State Governments and the High Courts concerned. In so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, respective High Courts do it in certain States, whereas the High Courts do it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions in other States.

Filling up of vacancies in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is a continuous and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. Initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India, while initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies in High Courts keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges (to the Supreme Court) and also due to increase in the strength of Judges.

From 01.01.2014 to 26.12.2018, 27 Judges were appointed in Supreme Court. 446 new Judges were appointed and 379 Additional Judges were made permanent in the High Courts. Sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has been increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1079 currently. Sanctioned and working strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts has been increased as follows:—

As on	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength
31.12.2013	19,518	15,115
30.09.2018	22,644	17,509

Minister of Law and Justice *vide* letter dated 14th August, 2018 has written to the Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers of States to monitor the status of vacancies in the district and subordinate courts regularly and to ensure proper coordination with the State Public Service Commission so that the examination and the interviews are conducted in accordance with the time schedule prescribed by the Supreme Court in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case.

- (iv) **Reduction in Pendency through/follow up by Arrears Committees:** Further, in pursuance of resolution passed in Chief Justices' Conference held in

April, 2015, Arrears Committees have been set up in 24 High Courts to clear cases pending for more than five years. Arrears Committees have been set up under District Judges too. Arrears Committee has been constituted in the Supreme Court to formulate steps to reduce pendency of cases in High Courts and District Courts.

- (v) **Nyaya Mitra Scheme:** In order to reduce cases pending in courts for over 10 years, the Government launched the Nyaya Mitra Scheme in April 2017. Under the Scheme, retired judicial officers are engaged and designated as 'Nyaya Mitra' to facilitate expeditious disposal of the cases pending over 10 years. In the first Phase, 15 Nyaya Mitra have been engaged in 15 Districts of Rajasthan, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura.
- (vi) **Emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR):** Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts (Amendment) Act, 2018 has been enacted on 20th August, 2018 whereby mandatory pre-Institution mediation mechanism has been introduced for settlement of commercial disputes. Amendments to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 by the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act 2015 has been done to expedite the speedy resolution of disputes by prescribing timelines. The Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Bill, 2018 passed by the Lok Sabha on 10.08.2018 seeks to set up Arbitration Council of India (ACI) to *inter alia* grade arbitral institutions, accredit arbitrators and impart training and award certificate in the ADR field.
- (vii) **Initiatives to Fast Track Special Type of Cases:** The Fourteenth Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which included, *inter alia*, establishing Fast Track Courts for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children etc., and urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided in the form of enhanced tax devolution from 32% to 42% to meet such requirements. At present, 708 such Fast Track Courts are functioning across the country. To fast track criminal cases involving elected MPs/MLAs, twelve (12) Special Courts have been set up in eleven (11) States (Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and NCT of Delhi) and proportionate funds have been released to these States by the Government. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018 to amend the Indian Penal Code, Indian Evidence Act, 1872, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 has been enacted on 11th August, 2018.

Impact assessment study of legal aid schemes

1868. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has conducted an impact assessment study of the key legal aid and employment schemes launched by Government *viz.*, the Pro Bono Legal Services, Nyaya Mitra and Tele-Law schemes:

(b) if so the results of the study; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not conducting such a study ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) A Field Assessment of the Tele-Law Scheme was got done through Quality Council of India (QCI) to review and suggest mid-course corrections in the scheme. Major findings given by the QCI are as follows:—

- (i) Outreach, publicity and awareness of the scheme to be enhanced through Posters, Radio, TV, Newspapers, Hoardings and use of any other public domain;
- (ii) Consolidated Dashboard to visualize, assess, analyse the nature and type of cases registered, number and types of beneficiaries seeking legal advice; feedback from legal advice seeker and cases pending etc; should be created.
- (iii) Regular training sessions should be conducted for Paralegal volunteers and Village Level Entrepreneurs.

Separate courts for trying criminal cases against MPs and MLAs

1869. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of criminal cases pending against sitting and ex-Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assemblies in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Maharashtra and Rajasthan; and

(b) whether separate courts for deciding those cases have been set up in these States and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) As per information obtained from various High Courts, number of criminal cases pending against sitting and ex-Members of Parliament

and Members of Legislative Assemblies in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Maharashtra and Rajasthan is as under:—

Name of the States	Cases pending against sitting and ex-MPs/MLAs
Uttar Pradesh	1141
Odisha	373
Maharashtra	335
Rajasthan	46

(b) In compliance to Hon'ble Supreme Court of India's Orders dated 01.11.2017 and 14.12.2017 in WP (C) No. 699/2016 [Ashwini Kumar Upadhyaya *Vs* Union of India and ANR.], 12 Special Courts have been set up in 11 States (one each in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and two in NCT of Delhi).

Vacancies of Judicial Officers and pendency of cases in lower courts

1870. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in lower courts in each State along with the number of vacancies of Judicial Officers in each State;

(b) since when these vacancies have been lying vacant and the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when these vacancies are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The details of State-wise cases pending in District/Subordinate Courts alongwith details of State-wise vacancies of Judicial of Officers in District and Subordinate Courts are given in the Statement.

As per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of the High Courts and State Governments concerned. In so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, in certain States recruitment is done by the High Courts, whereas in other States, the recruitment is done by High Courts in consultation with State Public Service Commission.

During the Chief Justice's Conference held in 2016 it was, *inter alia*, resolved that the Chief Justices shall take effective steps in coordination with the State Governments to ensure an increase in the cadre strength of the District and Subordinate Courts

commensurate with the needs of their States in compliance with the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Brij Mohan Lal *versus* Union of India, as well as to ensure compliance with the time schedule and directions laid down in the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Malik Mazhar Sultan case (2006). It was also resolved that the Chief Justices shall, in particular, ensure that the Selection and Appointment Committees in the High Courts periodically monitor the process of filling up of vacancies in the District and Subordinate Courts.

In September, 2016, Union Minister of Law and Justice wrote to the Chief Ministers of States and the Chief Justices of High Courts to enhance the cadre strength of the District and Subordinate Courts and provide physical infrastructure to the State judiciary. The same was reiterated in May, 2017. In August, 2018, in the context of increasing pendency of cases, the Union Minister of Law and Justice has written to all Chief Justices of High Courts to monitor the Status of the vacancies regularly and to ensure proper coordination with the state Public Service Commission to fill up vacant posts as per time schedule prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case. The filling up of vacancies is also being monitored by the Supreme Court in a *suo-motu* writ petition (civil) no. 2 of 2018.

A series of meetings were held with Registrars General of all High Courts and Law Secretaries of all State Governments/UTs through Video Conferencing in the month of January, 2018, July, 2018 and November, 2018 to follow up on filling up posts of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts.

The Department of Justice has hosted a web-portal on its website for reporting and monitoring of sanctioned and working strength, and vacancies of Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts on monthly basis.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of number of cases pending and vacancies of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts

Sl. No	Name of States/UTs	Number of cases pending in District and Subordinate Courts as on 24.12.2018	Number of vacancies of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts as on 30.09.2018
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	*0	0

1	2	3	4
2.	Andhra Pradesh	524672	97
3.	Telangana	517117	
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	*0	5
5.	Assam	285580	47
6.	Bihar	2475341	622
7.	Chandigarh	43772	0
8.	Chhattisgarh	261499	55
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2770	0
10.	Daman and Diu	1886	0
11.	Delhi	720386	258
12.	Goa	44193	8
13.	Gujarat	1625643	356
14.	Haryana	728541	162
15.	Himachal Pradesh	258315	10
16.	Jammu and Kashmir	160146	86
17.	Jharkhand	354488	216
18.	Karnataka	1284185	231
19.	Kerala	1170173	63
20.	Lakshadweep	*0	0
21.	Madhya Pradesh	1384695	511
22.	Maharashtra	3561254	167
23.	Manipur	9867	15
24.	Meghalaya	6748	58
25.	Mizoram	3646	21
26.	Nagaland	*0	7
27.	Odisha	1134223	156
28.	Punjab	600975	144
29.	Rajasthan	1516956	229
30.	Sikkim	1293	4
31.	Tamil Nadu	1096520	238

1	2	3	4
32.	Puducherry	*0	7
33.	Tripura	23293	40
34.	Uttar Pradesh	7016107	1188
35.	Uttarakhand	236600	59
36.	West Bengal	2209185	75
TOTAL		29260069	5135

* Data on district and subordinate Courts in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, and Union Territories of Lakshadweep and Puducherry are not available on the web-portal of NJDG. Data in respect of Andaman and Nicobar Islands as on 20.12.2018 is not available on NJDG portal.

Status of WAN project

1871. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Wide Area Network (WAN) project undertaken by e-Committee of Supreme Court;

(b) whether any district and subordinate Court complexes, located in hilly areas and other hostile terrains, have been left out under this project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (c) The Government is implementing the e-Courts Mission Mode project for Information and Communication Technology enablement of district and subordinate Courts, across the country in association with the eCommittee of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. Under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project, Managed Multi-Protocol Label Switching (MPLS) Virtual Private Network (VPN) based Wide Area Network (WAN) to connect 2,992 Court complexes across the country is being established through BSNL.

Out of these 2992 Court complexes, 547 Court complexes, which cover 1,260 courts and have no connectivity whatsoever, are given utmost priority to enable them to upload their case data on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG). Internet bandwidth connectivity ranging from 10 mbps to 100 mbps, depending on the number of Courts in a complex is provided to the Court complexes.

(b) All 329 Court complexes located in hilly areas and hostile terrain, including Courts in the North East region and Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir are covered under e-Courts WAN project.

Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) has already been laid at 2,066 Court complexes so far, out of 2,992 project locations. Implementation is monitored through an on-line WAN Implementation Monitoring System which is updated regularly by the different circles of BSNL.

Under e-Courts WAN project, it is planned to connect all District and subordinate Courts in the country, existing as on 24th August, 2018, including the Court Complexes in hilly areas and other hostile terrains.

Loss of voter id cards in Kerala floods

1872. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special arrangement has been made for the people of Kerala who have lost their voter identity cards in the recent floods; and

(b) whether duplicate voter identity cards would be issued to them, enabling them to cast votes in the ensuing Lok Sabha elections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The Election Commission has informed that all the fourteen District Election Officers (DEOs) were directed by the Chief Electoral Officer of Kerala to issue replacement Electoral Photo Identity Card (EPIC) to electors who were victims of recent floods by arranging special campaign from 3.10.2018 to 31.10.2018 including holidays. A total of 872 EPICs have been issued free of cost so far and the process is still continuing. Further, any such elector who may be left out would also be issued EPICs free of cost on receipt of application by the concerned DEO.

Allowing access to foreign law firms

1873. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the dismal working conditions prevailing in prominent law firms in the country;

(b) whether there are any laws regulating working hours in the legal sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government plans to allow foreign legal firms to access the Indian legal market by amending the Advocates Act; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Bar Council of India has stated that they have not received any major complaint relating to working conditions prevailing in prominent law firms in the country. However they have received some complaints from a few litigants over fees being taken by some firms and work not having been done in lieu of fees etc.

(b) and (c) There are no rules of Bar Council of India regulating working hours in the legal sector. The profession of advocacy requires hard work by advocates and so the amount of working hours put in by an advocate in a case depends on a variety of factors including complexity of the issue involved in the case, support provided by client in the form of relevant materials etc.

(d) and (e) The Law Commission of India Submitted its 266th report titled "The Advocates Act, 1961 (Regulation of Legal Profession)" to Government of India in March, 2017 on the issue of entry of Foreign Law Firms. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its judgment dated 13.03.2018 in Civil Appeal Nos.7875-7879 of 2015 titled Bar Council of India Vs A.K. Balaji and Ors. has held that foreign law firms cannot set up offices in India or practice in Indian Courts, but there is no bar for the foreign law firms or foreign lawyers to visit India for a temporary period for giving legal advice regarding foreign law on diverse international legal issues on a 'fly in and fly out' basis if it does not amount to practice. It was further held that if the matter is governed by particular rules of an arbitral institution or if the matter otherwise falls under Section 32 or 33 of Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 there is no bar on foreign lawyers to conduct such proceedings in India. Even in such cases, Code of Conduct, if any, applicable to the legal profession in India has to be followed. It is for the Bar Council of India or Central Government to make a specific provision in this regard, if considered appropriate. Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment dated 13.03.2018 and 266th report of Law Commission of India are under consideration of Government of India.

Proxy voting by NRIs

1874. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of registered NRI voters in the country;

(b) whether any deadline has been set for the registration process, State-wise list thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to allow proxy voting for NRIs, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Ministry has defined the process for proxy voting and when would the NRIs be allowed to vote using proxy voting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) The Election Commission has informed that the total number of overseas Indian electors registered in the electoral roll with reference to 01.01.2018 as the qualifying date is 24,507.

(b) The State-wise list of overseas electors is given in the Statement (*See* below). The Commission has stated that there is no deadline for registration of name in the electoral roll of the constituency concerned. Electoral roll is continuously updated throughout the year, except for the period between the last date for making nominations in an election in the constituency and the date of declaration of result of the said election.

(c) and (d) A Bill to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951 for the purpose has been passed by the Lok Sabha and is pending consideration by Rajya Sabha at present. The process for proxy voting including the criteria in this regard will be finalized in consultation with the Election Commission after the Bill is passed by Parliament.

Statement

Electoral Roll Data 2018

Sl. No.	State/UT	Overseas Indian Electors			
		Men	Women	Third Gender	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11	4	0	15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	9	1	0	10
5.	Chhattisgarh	1	1	0	2
6.	Goa	27	13	0	40
7.	Gujarat	44	27	0	71
8.	Haryana	14	2	0	16
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3	2	0	5

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	4	0	0	4
12.	Karnataka	5	1	0	6
13.	Kerala	21932	1678	0	23610
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4	1	0	5
15.	Maharashtra	45	19	0	64
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
20.	Odisha	1	0	0	1
21.	Punjab	204	110	0	314
22.	Rajasthan	6	3	0	9
23.	Sikkim	1	0	0	1
24.	Tamil Nadu	43	14	0	57
25.	Telangana	3	2	0	5
26.	Tripura	0	0	0	0
27.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0
28.	Uttar Pradesh	9	0	0	9
29.	West Bengal	17	12	0	29
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0
31.	Chandigarh	7	5	0	12
32.	Daman and Diu	8	17	0	25
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0
34.	NCT of Delhi	29	10	0	39
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	138	20	0	158
TOTAL		22565	1942	0	24507

Vacant posts of Judges in lower Courts of Chhattisgarh

†1875. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of posts of Judges lying vacant in lower Courts of Chhattisgarh;
- (b) whether the process of filling up the posts is underway;
- (c) if so, by when the process is likely to be completed; and

(d) whether Government is likely to take any measures to fill the vacant posts of Magistrates at the earliest, considering the large number of pending cases across the country, including in Chhattisgarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) At present, total of 58 posts of subordinate judiciary in the State of Chhattisgarh are lying vacant.

(b) Promotion process for the post of Senior Civil Judge has already been completed and recruitment process of District Judge (Entry Level) is underway in the State of Chhattisgarh.

(c) As informed by High Court of Chhattisgarh, the above recruitment process in the State of Chhattisgarh is likely to be completed by February, 2019 according to the tentative schedule.

(d) As per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of Judges in subordinate Courts is the responsibility of the High Courts and State Governments concerned. In so far as recruitment of Judicial Officers in the States is concerned, in certain States recruitment is done by the High Courts, whereas in other States, the recruitment is done by High Courts in consultation with State Public Service Commission.

In August, 2018, the Minister of Law and Justice had written to Chief Justices of all the High Courts including Chief Justice, High Court of Chhattisgarh about increasing pendency of cases which is a source of concern both the Government and Judiciary; one of the underlying reasons behind the high pendency is sometimes the inordinate delay in filling up the vacancies of Judicial Officers. It was, accordingly, requested that the High Court may monitor the Status of the vacancies regularly and ensure proper coordination with the state Public Service Commission so that the examination and interviews are conducted in accordance with the time schedule prescribed by the Supreme Court in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

All India Judicial Services

1876. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up any commission to bring all the State Judicial Services under one roof through All India Judicial Services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) A comprehensive proposal which was formulated for constitution of All India Judicial Service (AIJS) was recommended by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012. The proposal along with views received from High Courts and States was included in the agenda for the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of High Courts held on 05th April, 2015. Keeping in view the divergence of opinion among the States and High Courts on constitution of All India Judicial Service (AIJS), the Government has undertaken the consultative process to arrive at a common ground. However, no progress has been made on the subject.

Use of advance technology to prevent accidents

†1877. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the safety measures being taken/proposed to be taken by the Ministry to prevent rail accidents at unmanned railway level crossings keeping in view the number of rail accidents;

(b) the type of advanced technology likely to be introduced by Government to prevent accidents and to enhance safety in railway operation and all sectors pertaining to infrastructure; and

(c) by when this advanced technology would be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Indian Railways (IR) have taken the following proactive measures to ensure safety and to prevent accidents at unmanned level crossings:—

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (i) Elimination of unmanned level crossings through closure/merger/grade-separator/manning etc. on a programmed basis. All unmanned level crossings on Broad Gauge have now been eliminated except 28 UMLCs, which have also been planned to be eliminated by closure, merger, subway and manning.
- (ii) SMS-based campaigns to create awareness amongst road users.
- (iii) Social awareness campaigns to educate road users with the use of various print and electronic media for observance of safe practices prescribed in Motor Vehicles Act and Indian Railways Act.
- (iv) Public awareness campaigns at different places like villages, Gram Panchayat, weekly market, bus stands, schools and other public places.
- (v) Nukkad Nataks organized at public places with theme "Safety at Level Crossings".
- (vi) Drives to ensure availability of basic infrastructure at unmanned level crossings including whistle boards, road warning boards, speed breakers, visibility etc. as per the laid down standards.
- (vii) Periodic inspection of such crossings by Railway officials to ensure the above and for taking corrective actions, if any.
- (viii) Level crossing awareness week is organized each year by the Zonal Railways, which also includes the 'International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD)'.
(ix) To ensure safety, all unmanned level crossings have been provided with Gate Mitra to counsel/warn the road users for observance of safe practices while negotiating the unmanned level crossings.

(b) and (c) In addition, following technology upgradation has been adopted by the Indian Railways to prevent rail accidents and to enhance safety in railway operation and pertaining to infrastructure:-

- (i) Fog Pass Devices have been provided on locomotives in fog prone areas. This is a portable equipment issued to Loco Pilots while working trains during fog season, which guides Loco Pilot about incoming signal location.
- (ii) All Locos are provided with Vigilance Control Devices for checking alertness of Loco Pilots.
- (iii) Remote Monitoring and Management of Locomotives and Trains enables remote monitoring of Diesel Locomotives and focused counseling and

training of such crew, who are prone to unsafe working. It also monitors condition of locomotive and makes preventive maintenance of locomotives. The above system is already running on about 3520 locomotives and 113 DEMUs.

- (iv) Heating, Ventilation and Air conditioning of locomotive Cabs (HVACs) – Improvement in the working conditions of loco crew is a priority area for Indian Railways. Provision of AC in loco cab will reduce fatigue level on run and will make working environment of crew better and improve their efficiency. Better working condition will also improve the alertness level of the loco pilots. So far, 895 diesel locos have been equipped with HVACs.
- (v) Simulator training is imparted to all Loco Pilots to gain hands on experience on the locomotives.
- (vi) Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) type coaches, which are of a superior design having better safety features like anti-climbing, etc., are being proliferated in main line trains. It has also been decided that only LHB coaches would be manufactured by Production Units of Indian Railways from April, 2018 onwards.
- (vii) Several fire safety measures like provision of Smoke Detection System in Air Condition coaches, Fire Detection and Suppression System in Power car and Pantry car and availability of Fire Extinguishers in Non-AC coaches have been initiated. These systems/equipments are getting provided in a phased manner on identified coaches.
- (viii) To automatically identify the defective wheels in rolling stock by measuring the impact of wheels on track, 15 Nos. of Wheel Impact Load Detectors (WILDs) are operational in Indian Railways. Further, Purchase Order has been placed for another advanced system called Online Monitoring of Rolling Stock (OMRS) which monitors defective bearing, wheel flats and generate defect reports on real time basis. Two such systems are operational in IR and two more systems are under installation.
- (ix) To proactively detect cases of potential Hot Box at the initial stage of propagation, Hot Box Detectors are being tried out over Indian Railways' network to mitigate en-route detachment and avoid serious repercussion on the operation of trains.
- (x) Indian Railways has already adopted the technological upgradation in safety aspects of coaches and wagons by way of introducing Modified

Centre Buffer couplers, Bogie Mounted Air Brake System (BMBS), improved suspension design and provision of Automatic fire and smoke detection system in coaches. These modifications are being provided in newly manufactured coaches and wagons in a regular basis.

- (xi) Long Rail panels are being used on track to minimize welded joints.
- (xii) Ultrasonic Flaw Detection (USFD) testing of rails to detect flaws and timely removal of defective rails.
- (xiii) Thick Web Switches and Weldable CMS Crossing are being procured for use on track.
- (xiv) Mechanization of track maintenance is being carried out to reduce human errors.

**Establishment of a bench of High Court of
Allahabad at Meerut**

1878. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to establish a bench of Allahabad High Court at Meerut in Uttar Pradesh, keeping in view the large number of cases of people living in Western Uttar Pradesh, pending in Allahabad High Court and people are facing difficulty due to non-availability of a High Court bench in Western Uttar Pradesh, particularly in Meerut;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) In accordance with the recommendations made by the Jaswant Singh Commission and judgment pronounced by the Apex Court in W.P. (C) No. 379 of 2000, Bench(es) of the High Court are established after due consideration of a complete proposal from the State Government incorporating readiness to provide infrastructure and meet the expenditure, along with the consent of the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court who is authorized to look after day to day administration of the High Court and its Bench. The proposal should also have the consent of the Governor of the concerned State.

No complete proposal has been received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to establish a Bench of Allahabad High Court at Meerut.

Rail accidents due to fog

†1879. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents that has taken place due to fog or some other reason in last year;

(b) the amount of compensation paid by Government to the kins of persons who died in these accidents; and

(c) the immediate steps being taken by Government to prevent such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) During the year 2017-18 and in the current year upto 30th November, 2018, no consequential train accident due to fog took place.

Details of type-wise number of consequential train accidents that took place during the year 2017-18 and in the current year upto 30th November, 2018 are as under:—

Type of Accidents	Number of accidents	
	2017-18	2018-19 (upto 30.11.2018)
Collision	3	0
Derailments	54	35
Manned Level Crossings	3	3
Unmanned Level crossings	10	3
Fire	3	2
Misc.	0	1
TOTAL	73	44

(b) The amount of compensation paid during the year 2017-18 and the current year 2018-19 (upto November, 2018) is as follows:—

Year	Compensation paid (₹ in lakhs)
2017-2018	188.51
2018-2019 (upto November, 2018)	164.68

Note: The compensation paid in a year need not necessarily relate to the accidents/casualties in that year alone. The amount paid in a year depends upon the number of cases finalized by the Railway Claims Tribunals (RCTs) or other Courts of Law in a particular year irrespective of the year(s) in which the accident they pertain to, have occurred.

(c) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. The following steps are taken to prevent rail accidents due to fog and other reasons:-

1. To provide safeguard in train operation in Automatic Block System during foggy weather, the number of trains are restricted to two between two stations.
2. Reducing the speed of trains.
3. During fog, when Loco Pilot feels that visibility is restricted, he runs at a speed at which he can control the train so as to be prepared to stop short of any obstruction.
4. Deputing additional staff to alert the Loco Pilot through placement of detonators before the First Stop signal.
5. Improving the visibility of signals.
6. Loco Pilots are advised to take precautions, be vigilant and alert and to observe Special Rules and instructions regarding speed limits under foggy conditions.
7. Fog PASS Device, a Global Positioning System (GPS) based hand held portable device, is used. This device is not installed on a locomotive as such but is given to Loco Pilots in fog affected sections. It serves as an aid for the crew during foggy weather through audio visual alarm, whenever any landmark comes within the geo-fence range.
8. Extensive footplate inspections by officers and supervisors, particularly during night hours are being ensured.
9. Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK) - As announced by Hon'ble Minister of Finance in his Budget Speech for 2017-18, a fund namely 'Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK)' had been introduced with a corpus of ₹ 1 lakh crore over a period of five years from 2017-18 onwards for critical safety related works. A provision of ₹ 20,000 crore has been made in Budget Estimate 2018-19 out of 'RRSK', as was done in 2017-18. The funds under RRSK are being utilized to finance works under Plan heads Traffic Facilities, Rolling Stock, Level Crossing, ROB/RUB, Track Renewal, Bridge Works, Signal and Telecommunication Works, other Electrical Works, TRD Works, Machinery and Plant, Workshop and Training/HRD.

10. Expenditure on safety has increased consistently from ₹ 45516 crore in 2015-16 to ₹ 53457 crore in 2016-17, ₹ 60885 crore in 2017-18 and further ₹ 73065 crore (Budget Estimate) in 2018-19.
11. Topmost priority is given to Rail/Track renewal by making available funds and material for rail renewal. Further adequate traffic blocks for carrying out work are also being provided.
12. Switch over to the manufacture of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches from 2018-19 onwards and stopping the manufacture of ICF coaches. The LHB coaches having superior design and better safety features like anti-climbing features etc.
13. Elimination of unmanned level crossings on Broad Gauge through closure, merger, provision of subways and manning, etc. Upto November, 2018 all the unmanned level crossings (UMLC) have been eliminated on Broad Gauge except a very small number *i.e.* 28 UMLCs.
14. New works have been included in the category of Safety works like Platform extension and raising, foot overbridge, pathways and boundary walls etc. to improve passenger safety.
15. Delegation of powers and easing of procedures, improving safety awareness amongst railway employees, and better training facilities like imparting simulator based training for improving the driving skills and the reaction time of Loco Pilots.

**Construction works and passenger facilities at railway
platforms of Madhya Pradesh**

†1880. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the details of the construction works under Zonal Railways regarding covering the railway platforms with sheds in Ujjain, Nagda, Khachrod, Mahidpur Road, Vikramgarh, Alot, Suvasra, Chaumahla, Shamgarh, Tarana, Maksi, Shajapur, Bercha, Kalisingh, Akodiya, Shujalpur, Kalapipal and extending the passenger facilities there during the last four years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): Work for extension of platform shelter has been completed for Ujjain and Nagda Railway Stations, mini sheds have been provided at Tarana, Maksi and Kalapipal stations, extension and raising of platform No.1, provision of divyang friendly toilet and small shelter (8 Nos.) have been provided at Shajapur station, in the last four years.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The list of Passenger Amenities works (including cover shed works) completed during the last four years is given in the Statement.

Statement

*Details of passenger amenities works (including cover shed works)
completed during the last four years*

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Facility
1	2	3
1.	Ujjain	<p>In connection with Simhasth 2016 Mela extension of Platform shelter of Platform No. 2/3 at Ujjain Railway Station.</p> <p>Developing sitting space on Platform No.1 in connection with Simhasth 2016.</p> <p>Improvement to platform cover (Platform No. 2/3 and 6/7).</p> <p>Raising of platforms (Platform No.1, 2/3 and 4/5) and improvement to circulating area.</p> <p>Providing additional Foot Over Bridge with connectivity to all passenger platforms.</p> <p>Extension to existing Foot Over Bridge towards passenger Platform No.8.</p> <p>Development of circulating area at Neel Ganga colony side in connection with Simhasth 2016 Mela.</p>
2.	Nagda	<p>Raising of Platform No.4/5 from Medium Level to High Level.</p> <p>Extension of Platform No.4/5.</p> <p>Extension of covering shed on Platform No.4/5 in connection with Simhasth 2016 Mela.</p>
3.	Khachrod	Raising of remaining portion of Platform No.1
4.	Mehdipur	Provided benches and water booth.
5.	Vikramgarh Alot	Provided benches and water booth, upper class waiting room and dormitory retiring room facility etc. at railway station.
6.	Suvasra	Provided benches and water booth, upper class waiting room and dormitory retiring room and improvement of circulating area etc.
7.	Chaumahla	Provided benches and water booth.
8.	Shamgarh	Raising of passenger Platform No.2 by High Level and resurfacing of Platform No.1 etc.

1	2	3
9.	Tarana	Mini shed have been provided.
10	Maksi	Provision of Minimum Essential Amenities (MEA) at Platform No.1 by raising the level of platform from Rail Level to Medium Level and mini shed have been provided.
11	Shajapur	Extension and Raising of Platform No.1, provision of Divyang friendly toilet and small shelter 8 Nos.
12	Berchha	Provision of Minimum Essential Amenities (MEA) at Platform No.2 by raising the level of platform from Rail Level to Medium Level. Provided benches, toilets and water fountains.
13	Kalisindh	Provided benches, toilets for divyangians.
14	Akodiya	Provided benches, toilets and water fountains.
15	Shujalpur	Extension of Foot Over Bridge, Pay and Use toilets and improvement to platform surface. Providing benches, toilets (for divyang persons).
16	Kalapipal	Providing benches, toilets and water fountains and mini shed have been provided.

Delay in station redevelopment proposal

1881. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the redevelopment of 600 stations by Railways and proposal to extend lease from 45 years to 99 years has hit a hurdle as the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has refused to take token payment for leasing out its land for the project; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to resolve this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Government has recently approved Railways' proposal for redevelopment of railway stations by Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC) as Nodal Agency, through simplified procedures and for longer lease tenure. Accordingly, Central Government Agencies/Departments may consider to transfer any Central Government land to Railways (including land already given to Railways on leasehold basis) on freehold basis only, on a token payment as conversion charges. Wherever the land is given on perpetual lease hold basis by

Central Government Agency/Department, redevelopment of stations will be done on a revenue sharing basis by Railways with Central Government Agency/Department as per mutually agreed terms and conditions on case to case basis.

Introduction of stainless steel coaches

1882. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that 80 per cent of railway coaches are old, outdated and unsafe;

(b) if so, whether Government is also planning to produce and introduce stainless steel coaches for better durability and safety;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government has also fixed any time-frame for the same; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Systems are in place in order to ensure that passenger coaches that have completed their prescribed service life, are not allowed in train service in Indian Railways (IR). Replacement of in-service passenger coaches from trains on age-cum-condition basis is a continual process. Systems are also in place to ensure that coaches are given stipulated maintenance schedules and unsafe coaches are not allowed in passenger train service.

Presently, there are primarily 2 types of passenger coaches - Integral Coach Factory (ICF) design coaches and Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) design coaches running on IR.

LHB coaches, manufactured by using Stainless Steel, are lighter in weight, have higher carrying capacity, higher speed potential, increased codal life and better safety features as compared to ICF coaches.

(c) and (d) Due to the technological superiority of LHB coaches, it has been decided to run more trains with LHB coaches and replace trains operating with ICF coaches by LHB coaches, in a phased manner. Accordingly, as on 30.11.18, 308 pairs of trains are being operated with LHB coaches.

It has also been decided that only LHB coaches would be manufactured by Production Units of IR from April, 2018 onwards.

**Upgradation of Vallioor and Melapalayam in Thiruvananthapuram
division of Southern Railways**

1883. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vallioor and Melapalayam stations would have stoppage of all express trains and upgradation of passenger amenities;

(b) whether these stations would have ticket booking facility;

(c) whether Tirunelveli station would become Divisional Headquarter; and

(d) whether Veeravanallur station will get ticket booking counter for Chennai-Tambaram direct trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) At present, Valliyur is served by 22 Mail/Express trains and 6 passenger trains whereas Melapalayam halt, which is only 4 km. away from Tirunelveli, is being served by 4 passenger trains. Further, Valliyur railway station is an NSG-5 category station and two booking windows are available at this station to issue reserved and unreserved tickets. Melapalayam and Veeravanallur are Halt stations which issue unreserved tickets based on passenger demand. Further, upgradation/modernization of passenger amenities at stations is a continuous and on-going process and works in this regard are undertaken depending upon need, volume of passenger traffic and *inter-se* priority of works, subject to availability of funds. At present, there is no proposal to create Divisional Headquarter at Tirunelveli.

Railway bridge in Manipur

1884. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a railway bridge in Manipur is going to be the tallest of such kind in the world, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the construction of the railway line is in full swing at present, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the latest projection of timeline for completion of the railway line up to Imphal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Work of Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal new railway line has been

taken up. Jiribam-Vangaichungpao (11.80 km.) section is completed and commissioned. Works have been taken up in remaining length.

A bridge is being constructed on Irang River at Noney in Tamenglong district of Manipur as a part of Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal new line project. It is going to be the world's tallest railway bridge.

(c) Time-line for completion of the project depends on land acquisition, and law and order situation, availability of funds etc.

Punctuality of trains

1885. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways has seen one of its worst performance with regard to punctuality of trains;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to late running of trains, travel time is extended; and

(d) if so, whether Government would like to review the issue of running of all trains and ensure timely arrival and departure of all trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) The punctuality performance of Mail/Express trains over Indian Railways for the period from April, 2018 to November, 2018 was 68.19%. Trains get delayed not only due to the factors related to its internal working but also external factors which are beyond the control of Railways. In addition to asset failures, certain factors such as line capacity and terminal capacity constraints on account of increasing passenger and freight traffic, adverse weather conditions (fog, rains, breaches), intermittent natural calamities such as floods, cyclones, heavy rains, heavy road traffic at level crossing gates across the Indian Railways network, mid-section run over cases involving cattle and humans etc. also adversely affect the punctuality of trains over Indian Railways.

(c) Zonal Railways have rationalized the timings of some Mail/Express trains in order to improve punctuality performance of trains services.

(d) Punctuality of passenger carrying trains is being monitored rigorously on a daily basis at Divisional, Zonal and Railway Board levels by Divisional Railway Managers (DRMs), General Managers (GMs) and Railway Board Members and Senior

officers. To ensure running of trains right time when pairing trains are running late, scratch rakes are inducted and rakes are standardized to the extent operationally feasible. Also various steps have been initiated to improve punctuality such as prioritization of preventive maintenance of assets to minimize asset failures, capacity enhancement projects by construction of additional loop lines at stations, doubling, construction of third line corridors, automatic signaling, construction of limited height subways to replace level crossings, Road Under Bridges (RUB) and Road Over Bridges (ROB) etc. Besides, punctuality drives are launched from time to time and staff involved in train operations are sensitized. In addition, Zonal Railways have also been advised to have better coordination with Civil and Police authorities of States to deal with situations arising out of law and order problems.

Seating capacity at railway stations

1886. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that seating capacity at railway platforms is inadequate as compared to the number of passengers, causing discomfort to the senior citizens, children, physically challenged persons; and

(b) if so, whether Government would consider enhancing the seating capacity at railway stations all over the country, particularly at the platforms from where long-distance trains are operating?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir. All Railway platforms are provided with adequate seating capacity for convenience of the travelling passengers as per norms of Minimum Essential Amenities. In addition to the existing seating arrangements at stations, additional seating arrangements are also provided in waiting halls, waiting rooms and platforms wherever required considering increase of passengers.

(b) Augmenting seating capacity is a normal exercise which is carried out on regular basis to provide facility to increasing number of passengers.

Treatment to Ayushman Bharat beneficiaries in Railway Hospitals

1887. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been decided to provide treatment to Ayushman Bharat beneficiaries in all Railway Hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Railways would add more facilities in its hospitals for treating Ayushman Bharat beneficiaries; and;

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Railway intends to provide treatment to Ayushman Bharat beneficiaries in identified Railway Hospitals having bed occupancy ratio less than 70 per cent only.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Funding for Sabari Railway Project

1888. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the appeal from Government of Kerala to bear 100 per cent of the cost of Sabari Railway Project by Centre, is under consideration;

(b) if so, whether any decision regarding this is in the offing; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay in giving nod to the appeal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) For Angamali-Sabarimala new line project, Government of Kerala had consented for sharing 50% of above project cost in November, 2015. However, the State Government requested in November, 2016 to execute this project with Railway funds.

Due to alignment issues and abnormal increase in land cost, the project cost has increased from ₹ 550 crore to ₹ 2815 crore. Land cost has been increased from ₹ 22.82 crore (in original estimate) to ₹ 965 crore. Due to increase in project cost on account of alignment issues and abnormal increase in land cost, State Government has been requested to continue to share 50% cost of the project.

Crime against women in trains

1889. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of harassment, torture, etc. of women in long route trains have increased manifold;

(b) if so, the details of complaints registered during the last two years and the current year;

(c) the number of cases in which action was taken and the culprits were put behind bars; and

(d) the effective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Railway Police to give relief to women passengers from harassment, snatching of gold jewellery, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Policing of Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP to provide better protection and security of passenger area and passengers. Cases of Indian Penal Code (IPC) crimes in Railways are registered and investigated by the concerned Government Railway Police. Railways does not maintain any data on Indian Penal Code crimes. Whenever any information about status of crime on Railways is sought, State GRP is requested to provide the information. Action is taken on each and every case registered by the concerned Government Railway Police. As per data provided by the Government Railway Police Stations, there is decrease in the cases of harassment and torture of women in the long route trains during the year 2016 as compared to the year 2015, however, such cases increased during the year 2017 as compared to the year 2016. The cases/complaints of harassment and torture of women in long route trains registered during the year 2016, 2017 and 2018 (upto October) are as under:—

Year	No. of cases of harassment of women in long route trains registered	No. of cases of torture of women in long route trains registered	Number of cases wherein culprits arrested
2015	309	19	241
2016	293	13	207
2017	432	14	286
2018 (upto October)*	411	12	187

* The figures of State of West Bengal for the year 2018 are upto August.

(d) The following measures are being taken by the Railways in coordination with Government Railway Police to ensure security of passengers including women passengers:—

1. On vulnerable and identified routes/sections, 2500 trains (on an average) are escorted by Railway Protection Force daily in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.
2. Security Help Line number 182 is made operational over Indian Railways for security related assistance to passengers in distress.
3. Through various social media platforms viz. twitter, facebook etc., Railways are in regular touch with passengers including women passengers to enhance security of passengers and to address their security concern.
4. Drives are conducted against entry of male passengers for entering into compartments reserved for women passengers and persons apprehended are prosecuted as per law.
5. Ladies Special trains running in Metropolitan cities are being escorted by lady RPF personnel. In other trains, where escorts are provided, the train escorting parties have been briefed to keep extra vigil on the lady passengers travelling alone, ladies coaches en-route and at halting stations.
6. Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras, provided at about 453 stations over Indian Railways, to ensure safety and security of passengers.
7. An Integrated Security System (ISS) consisting of surveillance of vulnerable stations through Close Circuit Television Camera Network, Access Control etc. has been sanctioned to improve surveillance mechanism over 202 railway stations.
8. Railways has planned to provide CCTV system in all running passengers trains.
9. Frequent announcements are made through Public Address System to educate passengers to take precautions against theft, snatching, drugging etc.
10. Regular coordination is made with the State Police/GRP authorities at all levels for prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains.

Export of rail coaches to other countries

1890. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are working on an export policy which will allow coach factories to manufacture and export coaches to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways have exported coaches to any of the foreign countries in the past;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the number of coaches exported and foreign exchange earned as a result thereof; and

(e) the potential markets Railways are looking at global level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is an export policy in place. As per this policy, the exports of the Rolling Stock is only through Rail India Technical and Economic Service (RITES) and Indian Railway Construction Company (IRCON).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In past ten years, 490 numbers of coaches have been exported and foreign exchange was earned USD 30,71,93,087 during the same period.

(e) The potential markets for Rolling Stock manufactured by Indian Railways are principally South East Asia, Africa and countries in West Asia, South America, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Mozambique and UAE.

Railway projects in Maharashtra

1891. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of new railway lines laid during the tenure of the present Government, from 2014 till date in Maharashtra;

(b) the number of pending projects and ongoing projects in Maharashtra;

(c) the number of projects that are held up in Maharashtra due to scarcity of funds; and

(d) by when the pending projects in Maharashtra would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) 390 km. of New Lines/Doublings have been commissioned during the

tenure of the present Government from 2014 till date in Maharashtra whereas 191 km. of New Lines/Doublings had been commissioned from 2009 to 2014 in Maharashtra.

(b) 34 railway line projects consisting of 12 New Lines, 4 Gauge Conversion and 18 Doublings falling partly/fully in the State of Maharashtra have been taken up which are at various stages of planning/sanctioning/execution.

(c) and (d) Funds are allotted project-wise on yearly basis, based on funds availability, importance of project, last mile connectivity and progress of project.

Completion of projects depends upon many factors such as land acquisition, statutory clearances, shifting of utilities etc. As such no time-frame for completion of the projects can be given.

Setting-up of a sleeper factory in Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh

†1892. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether setting-up of a sleeper factory in Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh was declared in 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of work completed, so far, in this regard and the per centage of work completed thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no record available regarding announcement to set up a sleeper factory at Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh in 2007. There is no plan to set up a sleeper factory at Jhabua.

(c) Does not arise.

Madurai-Tuticorin rail line

1893. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has completed the process of acquiring of land for new rail line project, Madurai-Tuticorin *via* Aruppukottai in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has fixed any time-frame to complete the new rail line project of Madurai-Tuticorin *via* Aruppukottai;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) On Madurai-Tuticorin new line project (143.5 km.), Tuticorin-Milavittan is an existing broad gauge line and thus, take off point is Milavittan station. So far, 184.92 acre land for Milavittan-Melmarudur section (18 km.) has been acquired in October, 2018.

Land acquisition documents for balance section (125.5 km.) have been submitted to State Government of Tamil Nadu.

Execution/completion of this project depends on acquisition of land and shifting of various utility services etc. Therefore, it is not feasible to give fixed time-line for completion of this project.

Adarsh railway stations in Tamil Nadu

1894. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targets for modernising railway stations under the 'Adarsh Station Scheme' have been met;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the additional facilities that have been provided at the stations identified for the said scheme in the State of Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Upgradation of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and on-going process. Works for improvement of passenger amenities are undertaken depending upon need, volume of passenger traffic and *inter-se* priority, subject to availability of funds.

'Adarsh Station Scheme' has been started since 2009-10 and presently, railway stations are modernized under 'Adarsh Station Scheme' based on identified need of providing better enhanced passenger amenities at stations. Since then, 1253 stations have been identified under this scheme out of which 1065 stations so far have been developed under 'Adarsh Station Scheme.' 49 stations have been identified for development under 'Adarsh Station Scheme' in the State of Tamil Nadu and 43 stations have been developed so far and the remaining 6 stations are targeted to be developed by 2019-20.

Various passenger amenities which, *inter alia*, include improvement to façade of the station building, retiring room, waiting room, separate waiting room for ladies, landscaping of circulating area, earmarked parking, signages, Pay and Use toilets, Foot Over Bridge, ramps at entry to station, separate parking for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), non-slippery walkway, 'May I help you' booth, trolley path etc. are proposed to be provided at Railway stations which are identified for development under this scheme as per the respective category of the station and the works for which are funded under Plan Head 'Passenger Amenities'.

Redevelopment of railway stations in Andhra Pradesh

1895. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to redevelop any railway station in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has entered into an agreement with any authority/organisation for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Railways have planned for redevelopment of major Railway stations by making Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC) as Nodal Agency, through simplified procedures and with longer lease tenures. These include major Railway stations situated in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) to (e) An MoU has been signed between Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) and National Buildings Construction Corporation India Limited (NBCC) for redevelopment of 10 stations including Nellore and Tirupati Railway stations in Andhra Pradesh. Invitation of Bids for redevelopment of these two stations is being undertaken by NBCC.

Cancellation and delay of trains due to fog

†1896. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has not been completely successful

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in solving the problem of cancellation and delay of hundreds of trains due to fog every year, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken by Government in this direction, so far, in order to deal with the said problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) A large number of trains are affected every year during foggy weather in the winter months in Northern parts of the country.

(b) During foggy weather, a Fog Safety Device called 'Fog Pass Device' (FPD), a Global Positioning System (GPS) based hand held portable device, which is not installed on a locomotive as such, is given to Loco Pilots in fog affected sections. It serves as an aid for the crew during foggy weather through audio visual alarm, whenever any landmark comes within the Geo-fence range. Location of stations, warning boards, signals, level crossing gates and Whistle for Level crossing (W/L) boards in the section is fed in the equipment. It displays speed of the locomotive, distance and time to reach landmarks and is carried by the Loco Pilots.

6940 nos. Fog Pass Devices have been procured and provided to Zonal Railways so far. 6000 nos. more Fog PASS Devices have been sanctioned and included in Pink Book 2018-19. Purchase Order for these 6000 units has already been issued in August, 2018.

In addition, for smooth and safe movement of trains in winter fog, the following action has been taken:—

- (i) Adequate availability of detonators at stations.
- (ii) Lime marking across the track at the Signal Warning/Sighting Board.
- (iii) Fresh painting of the Signal Warning (Sighting Board).
- (iv) Fresh painting of Whistle Board, Fog Signal Posts, Road Signs, Lifting barriers of busy level crossings with Yellow/Black luminous indication strips.
- (v) Adequate availability of additional staff for placement of detonators either from the Engineering Department or from the Operating Department.
- (vi) Display of flashing red light tail lamp at the last vehicle of trains even during day time if the dense fog persists *in lieu* of tail boards in normal working.
- (vii) Counseling of staff involved in train operation.

- (viii) Intensive, round the clock monitoring of trains is done during fog at all three levels viz., Divisional, Zonal Head Quarter and Railway Board to ensure their punctuality.
- (ix) To ensure running of trains right time when pairing trains are running late, scratch rakes are inducted to the extent operationally feasible.
- (x) To avoid delay of trains due to foggy weather and to enhance level of safety in automatic block signaling sections affected by fog, the modified automatic signaling has been introduced which allows only two trains between stations.

Modernisation of railways

1897. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to modernise Railways;
- (b) the number of trains running with modern coaches;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the bio-toilets attached in trains are not in usable condition in most of the trains;
- (d) whether Government is moving forward with the privatisation of different sections of Railways; and
- (e) the number of stations in the country handed over to private players?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) It is the continual endeavor of Indian Railways (IR) to take measures for modernization under various segments of infrastructure and services - coaches and passenger services, electric locomotives, diesel locomotives, electrification, signalling etc., of Railways.

(b) With a view to provide safer and comfortable journey to the travelling passengers, it has been decided to run more trains with modern type of coaches by replacing trains operating with conventional coaches by Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches, in a phased manner. Accordingly, 308 pairs of trains (upto November, 2018) are being operated with modern LHB coaches.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) There is no proposal for handing over railway stations to private parties, only the lease rights for use of land/air space or the structures built on railway stations for Station Redevelopment shall be transferred to developer for a fixed lease period.

**Special allocation for railway infrastructure development
in Tamil Nadu**

1898. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any special allocation for development of railway infrastructure in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated under various heads in the last four years, head-wise and year-wise; and

(c) whether Government has any plans for the commercial utilisation of railway land and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Allocation of funds for projects is provided Zonal Railway-wise. Some Railway projects stretch into more than one State.

08 New Line Projects covering a length of 849 km. at a cost of ₹ 11,405 crore, 05 Gauge Conversion projects covering a length of 1,051 km. at a cost of ₹ 4,667 crore and 09 Doubling Projects covering a length of 596 km. at a cost of ₹ 5,718 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu are under different stages of planning/sanction/execution. The aggregate cost of these projects is ₹ 21,790 crore.

Project-wise details including expenditure incurred thereon and Budget allocations made for the projects over the years are available in Budget documents presented to the Parliament and also available on Indian Railways' website (*i.e.* www.indianrailways.gov.in).

(c) The vacant Railway land which is not required for Railways' Infrastructure Development in immediate future and amenable for commercial development is entrusted to Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) for this purpose. In State of Tamil Nadu, 35.46 Ha. land has been entrusted to RLDA for commercial development.

Vacant SC/ST posts in railways

1899. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for SC/ST and OBCs which are vacant, as on date;

(b) the reasons for not filling these posts; and

(c) the steps taken by the Railways to fill-up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The number of backlog vacancies for SCs/STs and OBCs in all groups in recruitment in the Railways as on 01.04.2018 are as under:—

SCs: 4,166	STs: 3,829	OBCs: 6,377
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(b) and (c) Recruitment process in Railways is being done regularly through authorized recruiting agencies namely Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) and Railway Recruitment Cells (RRCs). The shortfall or backlog vacancies of SCs, STs, and OBCs left unfilled are taken care of in the ongoing recruitment programme and subsequent recruitment cycle.

Improvement in punctuality of trains

1900. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is improvement in the punctuality of trains due to recent initiatives taken by Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has identified possible reasons for delay in running of trains, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The punctuality performance of Mail/Express trains over Indian Railways for the period from April, 2018 to November, 2018 was 68.19%.

(b) Trains get delayed not only due to the factors related to its internal working but also external factors which are beyond the control of Railways. In addition to asset failures, certain factors such as line capacity and terminal capacity constraints on account of increasing passenger and freight traffic, adverse weather conditions (fog, rains, breaches), intermittent natural calamities such as floods, cyclones, heavy rains, heavy road traffic at level crossing gates across the Indian Railways network, mid-section run over cases involving cattle and humans etc. also adversely affect the punctuality of trains over Indian Railways.

Death of wild animals in train accidents

1901. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of wild and other animals, especially elephants, that get killed in train accidents, has increased substantially, if so, the details of such animals killed during the last four years; and

(b) whether the officials of Railways have worked out an action plan to curb such deaths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. The details are as under:—

Year	Wild life including elephants killed on the railway tracks
2015	19
2016	29
2017	25
2018 (upto November, 2018)	34

(b) An action plan has been worked out by Zonal Railways in coordination with Ministry of Environment and Forest to curb the death of wild animals and elephants while crossing railway track which includes the following:—

- (i) Imposition of speed restrictions in identified locations,
- (ii) Provision of signage board to warn loco pilots about identified elephant corridors,
- (iii) Sensitization of Train Crew and Station Masters on a regular basis,
- (iv) Need based clearance of vegetation on the sides of the track within railway land,
- (v) Construction of underpasses and ramps for the movement of elephants at identified locations,
- (vi) Provision of fencing at isolated locations, and,
- (vii) Forest Department staff deputed in Railway control offices to liaison with Railway and elephant trackers engaged by forest dept. for timely action by alerting station master and loco pilots.

Construction of railway from Lohardaga to Gumla

†1902. SHRI SAMIR ORAON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any project for constructing railway line from Lohardaga to Gumla (Manjhatoli border of Chhattisgarh) in Jharkhand is under consideration; and

(b) if so, whether any proposal is under consideration to include this line in the next railway budget?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) A survey for a new line from Lohardaga to Korba *via* Gumla (326 km.) has been sanctioned in December, 2018 and preliminary survey work has been taken up.

Completion of doubling of railway lines in Bihar

†1903. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that approval for the doubling of railway line from Hajipur to Ramdayalu in Muzaffarnagar and from Samastipur to Darbhanga was given in 2013-14;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard: and

(c) whether there is any possibility of doubling work of this line being completed within its time-limit and if so, by when the task of laying the double line would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Hajipur-Ramdayalu Nagar Doubling and Samastipur-Darbhanga Doubling projects were sanctioned in 2013-14 and 2015-16 respectively. Details of these projects along with status thereof are as under:—

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No	Project	Latest anticipated cost	Outlay 18-19	Present Status
1.	Hajipur-Ramdayalu Nagar (48 km.) Doubling	367	50	Hajipur-Ghoshwar (5 km.) and Ramdayalu-Kurhani (14 km.) sections have been commissioned. Works have been taken up on balance section of the project.
2.	Samastipur-Darbhanga (38 km.) Doubling	519	50	Works have been taken up.

Completion of project depends upon several factors including, land acquisition, statutory clearances, shifting of utilities, etc. Since most of these factors are beyond

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the control of Ministry of Railways, no time-frame has been fixed for completion of these projects.

Black box facility in railways

1904. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to introduce black boxes in the railway trains, in line with planes to know the reasons leading to train accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this will come into force ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In lieu of Black Box, it has been planned to provide Video/Voice recording system (Loco Cab Voice Recording/Crew Voice/Video Recording System (LCVR/CVVRs) in diesel and electric locomotives respectively. This system provides invaluable data to investigators which helps them in understanding the sequence of events leading upto an accident and for identifying operational issues and human factors.

The system ensures the effective and tamper proof video and voice recording of locomotive cab for post failure event analysis.

(c) 26 locomotives (23 Diesel and 3 Electric) have already been fitted with LCVRs/CVVRs.

Status of railway projects in Punjab

1905. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the details of sanctioned and ongoing rail projects in the State of Punjab along with the status of each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): Railway projects are not sanctioned State-wise. However, the details of New Line and Doubling projects falling fully/partly in the State of Punjab are as under:—

Sl. No.	Section	Year of inclusion	kms.	Cost (₹ in crore)	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
New Lines					
1.	Nangal Dam-Talwara	1981-82	113	2528.49	Nangal Dam to Amb Andaura commissioned and Amb Andaura-Dhoulatpur Chock section has been completed. Daulatpur Chock-Kartouli Punjab: Land acquisition has been taken up.
2.	Qadian-Beas	2011-12	39.68	1047.96	Land acquisition have been taken up.
3.	Rajpura-Mohali	2016-17	24	312.5	New work included in budget 2016-17 subject to requisite approval. State Government has been requested to give their consent to take up the project through Joint Venture (JV).
4.	Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri	2009-10	63.1	6769	Land acquisition have been taken up.
5.	Yamuna Nagar-Chandigarh via Sadhaura, Narayangarh	2013-14	91	901	The works included in budget 2013-14 subject to requisite clearances.
6.	Firozpur-Patti	2013-14	25	299.7	Land acquisition have been taken up.
Doubling					
7.	Jalandhar-Pathankot-Jammu	1997-98	211	791	Out of 211 km. length, doubling of 206 km has been commissioned. Works have been taken up in balance sections.
8.	Mansa-Bathinda Phase-I (53 km.) with Material Modification Rama Mandi (Raman)-Sada Singhwala via Talwandi Sabo (29 km.)	2009-10	53 km. doubling and 29 km. new lines	427	Doubling work commissioned except Bathinda yard which has been taken up. Rama Mandi-Talwandi-Sadasinghwala; Land acquisition have been taken up.
9.	Rajpura-Bathinda doubling	2015-16	172	1251	Works have been taken up.

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Kathua-Madhampur doubling across bridge No. 16, 18 and 19	2011-12	0.261	33.42	Work on bridge No. 19 completed. Work on Bridge No. 16 and 18 have been taken up.
11.	Kathua – Madhopur doubling across Ravi Bridge No.17	2010-11	2.5	96	Works have been taken up.
12.	Ludhiana-Kila Raipur	2017-18	19	224.7	Work included in budget subject to obtaining requisite approvals.
13.	Ludhiana-Mullanpur	2017-18	21	83	Work included in budget subject to obtaining requisite approvals.
14.	Amritsar-Chhehart Double Line	2018-19	7	28.68	New work sanctioned in Budget 2018-19.

Raising boundary walls along rail tracks to prevent accidents

1906. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to raise boundary walls at accident-prone spots along the rail tracks to prevent people from crossing illegally;

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

(c) whether the Ministry has any plan to conduct awareness drive on regular basis in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two works costing ₹ 650 crore having allocation of ₹ 200 crore during 2018-19, chargeable to Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK) have been sanctioned for this purpose.

(c) Yes, Sir. Conducting Awareness Drives are regular process over Indian Railways. The details of Awareness drives are as under:–

(i) Various awareness campaigns are organized by Railways to sensitize passengers about the fatalities of crossing railway tracks, foot-board/ roof-top travelling, boarding/de-boarding running trains etc.

- (ii) Awareness through Posters, Banners, Newspapers Notices and various social media Platforms viz. Radio/ FM etc. are being spread in general public to curb trespassing on railways.
- (iii) Regular announcements are made through Public Address System at Railway stations urging passengers to use Foot Over Bridges (FOBs) and to avoid crossing of railway tracks.
- (iv) Nukkad Nataks/Street Plays, Village Panchayat Meetings and interaction with schools alongside tracks are regularly being organized.
- (v) Regular drives are conducted against trespassing, travelling on foot-board, steps, roof top of trains, boarding/de-boarding running trains and the persons apprehended are prosecuted under the relevant provisions of the Railways Act, 1989.
- (vi) Railway Protection Force personnel are deployed on locations vulnerable for trespassing.
- (vii) Warning sign boards are provided at conspicuous places for the awareness of passengers.
- (viii) Unauthorized trespassing on Railway premises including the Railway track is a punishable offence under Section 147 of the Railways Act, 1989. During the current year upto October, 2018 total 131770 persons have been prosecuted for trespassing over Indian Railways.

**Allotment of retail outlet/kiosk/land/office space units
at railway stations**

1907. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the list of agencies like private companies, cooperatives, trusts, societies (NGOs), individuals etc. to whom retail outlet/kiosk/land/office space units have been allotted at each railway station;

(b) the annual turnover of each of these agencies during 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 and the revenue received by the Indian Railways on these turnovers;

(c) the number of such agencies owned by the members of OBC/SC/ST categories and their annual turnover during these years; and

(d) the date and year of these allotments and guidelines for reservation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Appointment of Chief Crew Controller

†1908. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the qualifications prescribed for the appointment of Chief Crew Controller on deputation basis in diesel lobbies of Railways;

(b) the total number of diesel lobbies in North–Eastern Railway and the number of lobbies in which loco pilots and loco inspectors have been posted on deputation basis; and

(c) the tenure of Chief Crew Controllers and Drafted Crew Controller, in years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The eligibility condition for drafting as Crew Controller is 75000 kms. of actual driving experience as drivers. Senior and suitable Drivers drafted as Crew Controllers are designated as Chief Crew Controller.

(b) There are seventeen Diesel Lobbies in North Eastern Railway. Chief Loco Inspectors are working in six Diesel Lobbies and Loco Pilots are working in eleven Diesel Lobbies as Chief Crew Controllers.

(c) The tenure of Crew Controllers and Chief Crew Controllers is of three years with a cooling off period of equal duration.

Expenditure under Corporate Social Responsibility by railways

1909. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount spent under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) by Railways and other PSUs under the Ministry in the last three years, year-wise;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of amount spent by various sponsoring entities, corporate-wise and the detailed works undertaken in the Railways like cleanliness and sanitation of stations, provision of passenger amenities etc., especially in the Northern Railway; and

(c) the efforts made by the Railways to encourage sponsoring entities to undertake more CSR activities for the welfare of railway passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) There is no CSR fund in the Railways, being a Government department. Railway PSUs' expenditure for CSR in the last three years, year-wise is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The details of works undertaken by various sponsoring entities, corporate-wise in the Railways like cleanliness and sanitation of stations, provision of passenger amenities etc., is appended as Appendix-II. However, amount spent by various sponsoring entities on several items as given in Statement-II (*See below*) is not available since these works have been carried out by the sponsoring entities.

(c) Zonal Railways approach the sponsoring entities to encourage them to undertake CSR activities in/near railway premises for the welfare of Railway premise users. Companies with sizeable CSR budget have also been requested by Railway Board to sponsor CSR activities for the welfare of Railway passengers.

Statement-I

Expenditure incurred by Railway PSUs under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in the last three years, year-wise.

(₹ in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of PSU	Amount spent, year-wise		
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
1.	MRVC	66.16	145.30	100.75
2.	RailTel	321.00	359.49	75.53
3.	IRCON	615.00	589.00	873.00
4.	RITES	827.78	920.08	990.52
5.	RVNL	594.00	612.00	767.00
6.	CONCOR	3096.00	2445.00	1575.00
7.	DFCCIL	135.00	197.76	208.44
8.	IRCTC	398.66	459.49	543.70
9.	IRFC	2962.67	1570.96	1320.85

Statement-II

Works undertaken by sponsoring entity, corporate-wise under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Indian Railways

Sl.No.	Zonal Railway	Sponsoring Entity	Work undertaken
1.	Southern Railway	Dargha Adheenam, Nagore	Drilling of a bore well for drinking water
2.	Southern Railway	Phooli Bai Sohan Raj Trust, Villupuram	Water cooler with purifier
3.	Southern Railway	Shrine Basilica of our lady of health, Velankanni	LED information board, Mobile chargers, wheel chair
4.	Southern Railway	Life Insurance Corporation of India	RO water purifiers
5.	Southern Railway	City Union Bank	RO water purifiers
6.	Southern Railway	City Union Bank	Powder coated steel chairs
7.	Southern Railway	City Union Bank	Chairs and tables for Visitors' lounge
8.	Southern Railway	TAQA	Steel chairs
9.	Southern Railway	Meenakshi Mission Hospitals	Wheel chairs
10.	Southern Railway	Lions Club	Wheel chairs
11.	Southern Railway	Kavery Medical Centre	Wheel chairs
12.	Southern Railway	Jain Association	Water purifiers
13.	Southern Railway	Ultra Tech Cements	Steel chairs
14.	Southern Railway	Swetambar Jan Sangh Cuddalore	RO Plant

15.	Southern Railway	Saranya Textiles Nagapattinam	Garden maintenance
16.	Southern Railway	Maharaja Ready Mades, Thanjavur	Garden maintenance
17.	Southern Railway	Rail Users Welfare Association, Pattukkottai	Garden maintenance
18.	Southern Railway	Lakshmi Machine Works Ltd., Perianaickenpalayam	Renovation of Perianaickenpalayam Halt
19.	Southern Railway	India Cements Ltd., Sankari Durg	Installation of RO Plant
20.	Southern Railway	Rotary Club, East Tiruppur	RO Water Plant
21.	Southern Railway	Rotary Club, Tiruppur.	Modern Information Centre
22.	Southern Railway	SKM Animal Feeds, Erode	Goodshed development
23.	Southern Railway	Tamil Nadu Paper Ltd., Karur	RO Plant
24.	Southern Railway	Chettinad Cements	RO Plant
25.	Southern Railway	Round Table, Karur	Tower Clock
26.	Southern Railway	Swarga Foundation, Coimbatore	Provision of toilets for Divyang passengers
27.	Southern Railway	Rotary Club, Erode	Water plants
28.	Southern Railway	Ollirum Erodu, Erode	Development of Park
29.	Central Railway	Yes Bank	Water Purifier
30.	Central Railway	IRCTC	Renovation of Suburban Toilet Block
31.	Central Railway	Bright India	LED Light Fittings
32.	Central Railway	E'MAC OPT Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	LED Light Fittings

Sl.No.	Zonal Railway	Sponsoring Entity	Work undertaken
33.	Central Railway	RR Cables	LED Light Fittings
34.	Central Railway	Polycab Wires Pvt. Ltd.	LED Light Fittings
35.	Central Railway	Mega Energy Solutions	LED Light Fittings
36.	Central Railway	Western Coal Fields Ltd.	Escalators
37.	Central Railway	Nerolac Paints	Ecological improvement and renovation of Toilet Block
38.	Central Railway	Rotary Mumbai	Renovation of Toilet Blocks
39.	Central Railway	Reliance Industries Ltd.	Ecological improvement
40.	Central Railway	Nepanagar Municipal Council	Public Address System and Coach Guidance Board
41.	Central Railway	GMR Warrora Energy Ltd.	LED Light Fittings
42.	Central Railway	ACC Ghuggus	LED Light Fittings
43.	Central Railway	JSW Steel	Light Fittings
44.	Central Railway	IRCTC	Wheelchairs Lifts with Wheelchair
45.	Central Railway	Vidarbha Industries Power Ltd.	LED Light Fittings
46.	Central Railway	Parle Agro Private Ltd.	Bio Crush Machine
47.	Central Railway	IRCTC	Plastic Bottle Crusher
48.	Central Railway	CONCOR	Bio Toilets, Bottle Shredder
49.	Central Railway	Persistent Foundation	Solar Power Plant

50.	Central Railway	ThyssenKrup Industries India Pvt. Ltd.	Toilet Block, painting, underground water tank
51.	Central Railway	Thyssen Krup Industries India Pvt. Ltd.	LED Light Fittings
52.	Central Railway	HPCL	Provision of stainless steel seating arrangement, sanitation products and water cooler
53.	Central Railway	IOCL	Dustbins
54.	Central Railway	IOCL	Toilet kits
55.	South East Central Railway	Hind Energy Coal Benefaction Ltd.	Provision of Toilets
56.	South East Central Railway	NTPC	Provision of Toilets
57.	South East Central Railway	Janata Sahakari Bank Ltd.	Battery operated car
58.	South East Central Railway	Vimla Infrastructure (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Battery operated car
59.	South East Central Railway	Adani Power Maharashtra Ltd.	Saplings plantation
60.	South East Central Railway	Jai Balaji Ltd.	Saplings plantation
61.	South East Central Railway	Ultratech Cement	Saplings plantation
62.	South East Central Railway	Mahindra and Mahindra Pvt. Ltd.	Stainless Dustbin
63.	South East Central Railway	Sheetal Enterprises	Stainless Dustbin
64.	South East Central Railway	Sun Flag Steel	Stainless Dustbin
65.	South East Central Railway	Rajdhani Construction	Stainless Dustbin
66.	South East Central Railway	Rotary club	Stainless Dustbin
67.	South East Central Railway	Univabs Sleepers Pvt. Ltd.	Plastic Dustbin

Sl.No.	Zonal Railway	Sponsoring Entity	Work undertaken
68.	South East Central Railway	Chhattisgarh Khandelwal Mahila Sangathan	Wheel chair
69.	South East Central Railway	Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Samiti	Wheel chair
70.	South East Central Railway	MOIL and other Individual persons	Electric water coolers
71.	South East Central Railway	Lions club	Plastic Dustbin
72.	South East Central Railway	Sarvjanhit Samiti	Plastic Dustbin
73.	South East Central Railway	Shwtal Enterprises	Plastic Dustbin
74.	South East Central Railway	Godawari Power and Ispat Ltd.	Development of green patch
75.	South East Central Railway	Mahachakra Industries	Mobile charging point and Misc. renovation work
76.	N F Railway	NRL	RO plants
77.	N F Railway	IRFC	RO plants
78.	N F Railway	BITES	RO plants
79.	N F Railway	IRCON	Ambulances, Dustbins, RO plants
80.	N F Railway	IRFC	Toilets at stations
81.	South Eastern Railway	-	Plastic Bottle Crushing Machines and dustbins
82.	North Central Railway	IRCON	Twin Dustbins
83.	North Central Railway	IRCTC	Toilets
84.	North Central Railway	Nagar Palika, Nadbai	Toilet block
85.	North Central Railway	RVNL	Toilet Block

86.	North Central Railway	RVNL	Deluxe Toilet
87.	North Eastern Railway	CONCOR	Toilets
88.	North Eastern Railway	IRCON	Toilets
89.	North Eastern Railway	RVNL	Toilets
90.	North Eastern Railway	IRCTC	Toilets
91.	North Eastern Railway	RITES	Toilets
92.	Western Railway	Yes Bank	Provision of Water Filtration
93.	Western Railway	Asian Paints and St Art Foundation.	Painting of iconic mural of Mahatma Gandhi
94.	Western Railway	Union Bank of India	Construction of new toilet
95.	Western Railway	IRCTC	Toilets.
96.	Western Railway	Rotary Club of Bombay Kandivali	Renovation of existing toilet block
97.	Western Railway	M/s Mafatnal Industries	Dustbins
98.	Western Railway	DFCCIL	Dustbins
99.	Western Railway	M/s Sarin Technologies India Pvt. Ltd.	Station cleaning and beautification
100.	Western Railway	HPCL	Swachhta Campaign
101.	Western Railway	K C Law College	LED screens
102.	Western Railway	Syska LED	LED fittings
103.	Western Railway	M/s Asset Reconstruction Co. (India) Ltd.	Solar panelling, signage revamp, landscape gardening, water purifier, renovation of toilet block

Sl.No.	Zonal Railway	Sponsoring Entity	Work undertaken
104.	Western Railway	Mumbai First and MAD Foundation	Beautification of stations
105.	Western Railway	Roshani Foundation	Beautification of station
106.	Western Railway	Shah Publicity	Beautification of station
107.	Western Railway	CONCOR	water coolers
108.	Western Railway	IRCTC	Toilets
109.	Western Railway	Bankers Cardiology Pvt. Ltd.	AED machine
110.	Western Railway	Adani Foundation	Modular toilet
111.	Western Railway	CONCOR	Wet and Dry dustbins
112.	Western Railway	ONGC Ltd.	Battery Operated Car
113.	Western Railway	CONCOR	LED lights
114.	Western Railway	ONGC-BRC	One bottle crushing machine
115.	Western Railway	GACL	Toilet
116.	Western Railway	ONGC-AKV	Toilet
117.	Western Railway	ONGC-AKV	Toilet
118.	Western Railway	M/S Yes Bank	Water treatment system provided
119.	Western Railway	M/S Yes Bank	Water treatment system
120.	Western Railway	M/S Jubilant Food Works Ltd., Noida	Wet and dry dustbins with stand

121.	Western Railway	Youth Pathsala, Urban Improvement Trust, Birla Cement	Wall paintings
122.	Western Railway	Municipal Corporation	Beautification by wall painting
123.	Western Railway	J K Cement	Beautification by wall painting
124.	Western Railway	J K Cement and Ultra tech Cement	Beautification by wall painting
125.	Western Railway	Covetus Technologies	Beautification by wall painting
126.	Western Railway	Syska LED	Provision of LED
127.	Western Railway	M/s Wonder Cement	Bottle Crushing machine
128.	Western Railway	Nuvoco Vistas	Public Address system
129.	Western Railway	CRPF	Beautification by wall painting
130.	Western Railway	Yes Bank	Provision of water filtration system
131.	Western Railway	M/s Jubilant Food works	Provision of dustbins
132.	Western Railway	CONCOR	Feedback system
133.	Western Railway	M/s Adani Foundation	Mud painting
134.	Western Railway	Adani Wilmar	Video wall
135.	Western Railway	CONCOR	Beautification through painting
136.	Western Railway	M/s Reliance Industries	Provision of LED lights
137.	Western Railway	M/s Tata Chemicals	Toilet block
138.	Western Railway	M/s Reliance Industries	R.O. drinking water plant, dustbin

Sl.No.	Zonal Railway	Sponsoring Entity	Work undertaken
139.	Western Railway	CONCOR	Solar power plant
140.	Western Railway	Essar Oil Pvt. Ltd.	Solar power plant
141.	Western Railway	Yes Bank	Provision of water filtration system
142.	Western Railway	Reliance Industries	R.O. drinking water plants, Seating arrangement and platform shelter
143.	Western Railway	M/s Gujrat State Fertilizer and Chemicals Ltd.	LED lighting
144.	Western Railway	Rotary club of Rajkot	Dustbins
145.	Western Railway	M/s HPCL	Toilet block
146.	Western Railway	IRCTC	Bottle crushing machines
147.	Western Railway	M/s Reliance Industries	Bottle crushing machines
148.	Western Railway	M/s Nirma Ltd.	Provision of Toilet block
149.	Western Railway	Yes Bank	Provision of water filtration system
150.	Western Railway	BIOCRUX India Pvt. Ltd.	Bottle crushing machine
151.	Western Railway	Indian Rayon	Provision of benches and beautification of station
152.	Western Railway	Gujarat Pavitra Yatradham Vikas Board	Development of Garden in circulating area and Battery Operated car
153.	North Western Railway	CONCOR	4x10 KWp stand alone Solar PV power plant, 2x10 KWp Grid Interactive Solar PV Power plant

154.	North Western Railway	Ajmer Development Authority	Installation of lighting high masts with provision of energy efficient LED flood lights
155.	North Western Railway	Nagar Nigam Udaipur	Installation of lighting high masts with provision of energy efficient LED flood lights
156.	North Western Railway	Lions Club	Provision of centralized RO plant
157.	North Western Railway	Rotary Club	Provision of water coolers along with RO plants and provision of benches for passengers
158.	North Western Railway	Rotary Club, Udaipur	Beautification of station building by providing Teracota Art work on the walls.
159.	North Western Railway	UIT, Ajmer	Vertical green wall with use of plants.
160.	North Western Railway	UIT – Bhilwara	Installation of benches
161.	North Western Railway	Nagar Palika, Aburoad	Repair of road
162.	North Western Railway	CONCOR	40 KWp grid interactive solar power plant for lighting and fannage for passengers.
163.	North Western Railway	Shree Cement Ltd.	Development of entry/exit gate and parking area
164.	North Western Railway	Public representatives	Development of second entry at Udaipur station
165.	North Western Railway	IRFC	Provisions of solar power plants
166.	North Western Railway	Rajpurohit Navyuvak Mandal Sirohi	R.O. Plant
167.	North Western Railway	UIT, Udaipur	Local heritage painting at station building, main hall, concourse

Sl.No.	Zonal Railway	Sponsoring Entity	Work undertaken
168.	North Western Railway	Ajmer Development Authority	Local heritage painting at station building, main hall, concourse
169.	North Western Railway	UIT-Bhilwara	Local heritage painting at station building
170.	North Western Railway	IRCON	Ambulance
171.	North Western Railway	Lions club	Glow sign station name board, Tree guards with Tree, Benches and Fans at Platform
172.	North Western Railway	NTPC, Vidyut Vyapar Nigam	Provision of Industrial RO plants for providing potable water
173.	North Western Railway	Prajapitta Brahma Kumaries Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya, Abu Road	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Air cooling of Waiting Room 2. Platform display board 3. Train reservation chart display system 4. CCTV 5. Arrangements for cleanliness 6. Replacement of passenger announcement system 7. Patining and colour of station building offices, circulating area, boundary wall etc. 8. Vertical wall green beautification (flower pots and plants) 9. R.O. plants 10. Stainless steel benches 11. Stainless steel dustbins

12. Development of pick and drop facility for truck and buses for public use.

174.	North Western Railway	Lions Club, Fateh Nagar	R.O. plant
175.	North Western Railway	Nana Rly Prawasi sewa sanstha	Water hut and water cooler
176.	North Western Railway	Several individuals	Granite Benches
177.	North Western Railway	Mahaveer International	Baby Feeding Room
178.	North Western Railway	Several individuals	Water coolers
179.	North Western Railway	Rotary club Udaipur	Granite Benches
180.	North Western Railway	Rotary club Udaipur	Trolley for Licence porters
181.	North Western Railway	CONCOR	Installation of solar power plant at Roof top of station
182.	North Western Railway	CONCOR	Construction of bio toilets at Railway stations
183.	North Western Railway	National Engineering Industries –Jaipur	Beautification of station
184.	North Western Railway	IRFC	Construction of Bio toilets
185.	North Western Railway	IRFC	Solar Power Plants at Roof tops of Railway stations.
186.	North Western Railway	IRCTC	Toilets in circulating area
187.	North Western Railway	AU Small finance Bank-Jaipur	Water coolers
188.	North Western Railway	Ghewar Ram Sankal Chand Bangalore.	Construction of waiting Hall along with two waiting rooms.
189.	North Western Railway	Deptt. of Archaeology and museum Rajasthan, Jaipur	Renovation of circulating area for tourist purpose

Sl.No.	Zonal Railway	Sponsoring Entity	Work undertaken
190.	North Western Railway	Dist. collector NGO state Government	Beautification and cleanliness of circulating area
191.	North Western Railway	Tritendra Surismarak Sangh Trust, Bakara Road.	Shed and hall outside railway station
192.	North Western Railway	Individuals	Provision of 1st Class Waiting Room with TV, Sofa, etc.
193.	North Western Railway	Rotary Club, Bikaner	Provision of Stainless Steel
194.	North Western Railway	Vyapar Mandal Suratgarh	Provision of stainless steel benches.
195.	North Western Railway	Mahaveer International, Suratgarh	Provision of water coolers
196.	North Western Railway	HMEL Refinery	Provision of small sheds and RO system
197.	North Western Railway	Individual	Provision of PF Shed 10'X40' along with four benches.
198.	North Western Railway	Seth Mohan Lal Om Narayan Lakhani Trust	Marble benches, Water Cooler and Water Trolley
199.	North Western Railway	Individuals	Wheel chairs.
200.	North Western Railway	Mata Vaishno Devi Jal Ann Sanstha	Water cooler and RO system
201.	North Western Railway	UCO bank and Rotary Club, Bikaner	Provision of Stainless Steel benches
202.	North Western Railway	UCO Bank and Inner Wheels Club, Bikaner	Provision of water coolers
203.	North Western Railway	Lions Club Ratangarh West	Provision of Steel benches and wheel chairs
204.	North Western Railway	Lions Club	NTES LED Display provided

205.	North Western Railway	DRUCC Members	Luggage trolley provided
206.	North Western Railway	Jain Youth Club	Luggage trolley provided
207.	North Western Railway	Bikaner Jila Udyog Sangh	Luggage trolley provided
208.	North Western Railway	IRCON International Limited	Provision of Ambulances.
209.	North Western Railway	Inner Wheels Club, Rotary Club and Bank of Baroda, Bikaner	Provision of water coolers, Provision of Sanitary Napkin Vending and Destroyer Machine.
210.	North Western Railway	Mahaveer International	Provision of Water Cooler
211.	North Western Railway	RPS Group of Institutions	Provision of stainless steel benches
212.	North Western Railway	Bhata Union-7DD, Sardargarh	Provision of Water Cooler
213.	North Western Railway	Uttari Rajasthan Pradeshik Maheshwari Mahila Sangathan	Provision of Sanitary Napkin Vending and Destroyer Machines.
214.	North Western Railway	Maheshwari Sabha (Shahar), Bikaner	Granite benches
215.	North Western Railway	Inner Wheel Club of Bikaner	Provision of Sanitary Napkin Vending and Destroyer Machine.
216.	North Western Railway	Inner Wheel Club of Bikaner	Provision of Baby Feeding room
217.	South Central Railway	IRCTC	Pet Bottle Crusher
218.	South Central Railway	HAL	RO based water treatment plant
219.	South Central Railway	HAL	Dustbins
220.	South Central Railway	HAL	Battery operated Golf Cart

Sl.No.	Zonal Railway	Sponsoring Entity	Work undertaken
221.	South Central Railway	Junior Chamber International	Benches
222.	South Central Railway	Dura-line India Pvt. Ltd.	RO water coolers
223.	South Central Railway	Coromandal International	RO Water Plant
224.	South Central Railway	Mandal Praja Parishad	RO water plant
225.	South Central Railway	CONCOR	LED lighting
226.	South Central Railway	Tata Steel	RO Water Plant
227.	South Central Railway	Vijaya Milk Dairy	RO Water Plant
228.	South Central Railway	Ramesh Hospitals	Wheel Chair
229.	South Central Railway	Lalita Hospital	Wheel Chair
230.	South Central Railway	Deccan Cement	Wheel Chair
231.	South Central Railway	India Cement	Wheel Chair
232.	South Central Railway	IIT Chennai	Wheel Chair
233.	South Central Railway	Chettinada Cement	Wheel Chair
234.	South Central Railway	Ramesh Hospitals	Ramps
235.	South Central Railway	Lalita Hospital	Ramps
236.	South Central Railway	Deccan Cement	Ramps
237.	South Central Railway	India Cement	Ramps
238.	South Central Railway	IIT Chennai	Ramps

239.	South Central Railway	Chettinada Cement	Ramps
240.	South Central Railway	Bharti Soaps	Garden Maintenance
241.	South Central Railway	Prudhvi Gas Agency	RO Water Plants
242.	South Central Railway	PML Charitable Trust	Water cooler
243.	South Central Railway	M/s Jubilant Food Work Ltd.	40 sets of dustbins
244.	South Central Railway	IRCTC	Wheel chair
245.	South Central Railway	HAL	Plastic Bottle Crushing machines
246.	South Central Railway	JCI	Stainless steel dustbin
247.	South Central Railway	Help Age India	Wheel chairs
248.	South Central Railway	SCR WWO	Napkin Vending Machine
249.	South Central Railway	IRCTC	PET Bottle crusher
250.	South Central Railway	CMCT	LED TV
251.	South Central Railway	Joyalukkas	Wall clock
252.	Northern Railway	RVNL	Toilet Complex
253.	Northern Railway	IRCON	Tree plantation
254.	Northern Railway	IRFC	Tree plantation
255.	Northern Railway	NTPC	Footover bridge
256.	West Central Railway	Shubham Group	Landscaping work in circulating area
257.	West Central Railway	UIT	Thematic Paining

Sl.No.	Zonal Railway	Sponsoring Entity	Work undertaken
258.	West Central Railway	IRFC	Water recycling plant
259.	West Central Railway	CFCL	Water coolers with RO, Toilet facility, seating arrangement,
260.	West Central Railway	ACF	Baby feeding corner
261.	West Central Railway	CONCOR	Solar plant
262.	West Central Railway	Allen Career Institute	Battery operated car
263.	West Central Railway	Motion Education Pvt. Ltd.	Stainless steel benches
264.	West Central Railway	NTPC	Dustbins
265.	West Central Railway	Parle Agro Pvt. Ltd	Plastic Bottle crushing machine
266.	West Central Railway	IRCTC	Plastic Bottle crushing machine
267.	West Central Railway	Goel TMT	Garden development
268.	West Central Railway	SBI	Battery operated car
269.	West Central Railway	Hindustan Coca Cola	Bottle crushing machine
270.	West Central Railway	Yes Bank	Water filtration system
271.	West Central Railway	Steel Authority of India Ltd.	Upgradation of Railway station
272.	East Central Railway	RITES	Steel benches
273.	East Central Railway	Power Grid	Construction of toilet

Sanctioned strength of GRP in Karnataka

1910. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY:

SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry is aware that sanctioned strength of Government Railway Police (GRP) in Karnataka is 900 since 1980;

(b) whether it is a fact that there have been demands from various quarters to increase the sanctioned strength for proper maintenance of law and order, prevention and detection of crime and safety of passengers;

(c) whether Ministry has consulted the concerned Railway Zones in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome of the same; and

(e) by when the Ministry will give the final go ahead and revise the sanctioned strength of GRP as per the existing requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) Government Railway Police (GRP) is a wing of State Police which functions under the control of respective States. The guidelines for creation of posts in GRP provide that State Government may submit their proposals to the General Managers of the Zonal Railways concerned after getting them approved by their respective finances. The General Managers will get these proposals examined in consultation with their associated finance for acceptance and, if considered feasible, forward it to the Railway Board for approval of the Ministry of Railways.

As such, any assessment of requirement of man power and initiation of proposal for augmentation of GRP falls in the domain of concerned States and considered by the Ministry of Railways as per extant provisions.

Karnataka State falls within the jurisdiction of South Western Railway, South Central Railway, Southern Railway and Central Railway. Presently, a proposal for sanction of 63 GRP posts has been received from South Central Railway for consideration at Railway Board level.

Expertise of vigilance directorate of railways in dealing with cyber crimes

1911. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vigilance Directorate of Railways does not have requisite expertise to deal with cyber crimes;

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

(c) the corrective steps taken by Government to provide necessary infrastructure and expertise to Vigilance Directorate in order to enable them to effectively deal with cyber crimes and software manipulation, e-tendering and e-auction system of Railways and make them foolproof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) The Vigilance Directorate is in the process of setting up of a cyber crimes cell as per recommendation of Railway Convention Committee. Further, if issues related to misuse of software by outside agencies come to notice, they are handed over to law-enforcement agencies like CBI depending on the gravity of the matter. Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), which is an IT arm of Indian Railways has also set up Network Operation Centre for monitoring the cyber threats on IT infrastructure. CRIS is also conducting internal security audit of its IT applications through Information Security Group (ISG). Indian Railways has also nominated Chief Information and Security Officers on all Railway Units for monitoring the cyber attacks and providing knowledge to end users.

Non-competitive freight rates

1912. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways' freight rates are already higher than those of other modes of transport for several commodities, thereby losing out on automobile and Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCGs) markets which are preferring roads;

(b) whether the share of Railways in the total freight traffic has declined from 83 per cent in 1950-51 to 30 per cent in 2011-12 and is limited to bulk commodities and is heavily dependent on coal transportation; and

(c) whether NITI Aayog noted in 2016 that Railways end up using profits from its freight business to provide for losses in passenger segment with cross- subsidization, resulting in high freight tariffs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Indian Railways' freight tariffs are explicitly notified in the form of a firm structure, based on the classification of commodity transported, social impact of essential commodities and its lead. Since the tariff structure prevalent on other modes of transport, such as roadways, are generally not so, their comparison with the Railway freight tariff structure is considered neither accurate nor meaningful.

(b) The total transport system study carried out by RITES for the erstwhile Planning Commission in 2010 had estimated that Railways' share in the inter-regional freight traffic came down from 89% in 1951 to 30% in 2007-08. Major portion of freight traffic by Indian Railway is of bulk commodities which includes 48% of Coal, 12% of Iron, and 9% of Cement.

(c) Yes, Sir. This was included in the report of NITI Aayog on Railway Budget 2016-17.

Constitution of peninsular railway zone

1913. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways is considering the long-pending demand for Peninsular Railway Zone in Kerala by carving out Thiruvananthapuram and Palakkad divisions from Southern Railway;

(b) if so, whether any decision regarding this is in the offing; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay in giving nod for this long-standing demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Disposable pillow covers

1914. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways plan to introduce new disposable pillow covers and napkins to improve passenger amenities and hygiene standards in trains;

(b) whether a CAG report mentioned that unhygienic condition of blankets, used by several railway passengers during their train journey, was caused because of not washing them for up to six months, even through the directive is to wash them every one or two months; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to enhance passenger amenities as well as cleanliness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Disposable napkins have been introduced in AC coaches in place of hand/face towels on cost neutrality basis. However, there is no such plan for introducing disposable pillow covers.

(b) and (c) As per earlier instructions, blankets were required to be dry cleaned or washed once in two months. CAG in its report no. 14 of 2017 has mentioned that at a few depots, blankets were not dry cleaned and/or sanitised as per schedule.

Specifications of blankets for AC coaches have been recently reviewed and improved, washing frequency increased to once in a month, and their service life reduced from 4 years to 2 years, with aim to provide cleaner and more hygienic blankets to passengers.

Some of the other major initiatives taken by Indian Railways towards improvement in passenger amenities and cleanliness in trains are as follows:—

- (i) Upgradation of coaches including toilets in identified rakes of existing trains under Project Swarn and Project Utkrisht, and introduction of improved passenger services such as Humsafar trains and Antodaya trains.
- (ii) Provision of dustbins is being done in non AC coaches also in addition to the AC coaches.
- (iii) Provision of health faucets in all new AC and non-AC coaches, in addition to mug with chain arrangement.
- (iv) Pace of installation of Bio-toilets in coaches has been intensified. It is planned to install bio-toilets in the entire BG coaching fleet of Indian Railways by 2019.
- (v) Cleaning of coaches, including toilets, is done at both ends including mechanised cleaning through professional agencies at around 145 coaching depots.
- (vi) On Board Housekeeping Service (OBHS) has been provided in more than 1050 pairs of trains including Rajdhani, Shatabdi and other important long distance Mail/Express trains for cleaning of coach toilets, doorways, aisles and passenger compartments during the run of the trains.
- (vii) 'Coach Mitra' facility has been introduced in about 1000 pairs of OBHS trains. 'Coach Mitra' is a single window interface to register coach related requirements of passengers such as cleaning, disinfection, linen, train lighting, air conditioning and watering of coaches.
- (viii) To improve the quality of washing of bed linen, mechanized laundries have been set up at 57 locations in the railways.
- (ix) Pest control treatment of coaches and rodent control measures are regularly done as per schedule.

Ashram for separated children

†1915. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up Ashram for separated children on different railway stations;

(b) if so, the cities and States where such Ashrams would be established, the details thereof;

(c) the facilities that would be provided in these Ashrams; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) No, Sir. There is no proposal to set up Ashram for separated children. However, Ministry of Railways is facilitating Ministry of Women and Child Development to run child help desks at eighty eight railway stations. Further, at six stations, short stay of vulnerable children is also being facilitated.

Reassessment of old growth rate figures

†1916. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government has conducted the reassessment of growth figures under the previous Government and the said assessment has indicated lower growth rate than what the erstwhile Government had shown;

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

(c) the details of methods adopted in re-evaluating the revised growth rate figures of the previous Government and details of the transparency ensured in this regard; and

(d) the years for which the said reassessment has been conducted, along with the details thereof, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) The Ministry

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of Statistics and Programme Implementation periodically revises the National Account estimates so as to capture the structural changes that have occurred in the economy during the intervening period. The latest Base Year revised for National Accounts Statistics (NAS), is 2011-12 and the revision took place in 2015. The Ministry after detailed exercise has now released Back Series estimates for the years 2004-05 to 2010-11 on the latest Base Year 2011-12. The following table provides GDP and GDP growth Rates for these years at 2011-12 Base and 2004-05 Base.

Years	2011-12 Base		2004-05 Base	
	GDP (at Constant Prices) in ₹ lakh crore	GDP Growth Rate (in %)	GDP (at Constant Prices) in ₹ lakh crore	GDP Growth Rate (in %)
2004-05	54.80		32.42	
2005-06	59.15	7.9	35.43	9.3
2006-07	63.91	8.1	38.71	9.3
2007-08	68.81	7.7	42.51	9.8
2008-09	70.93	3.1	44.16	3.9
2009-10	76.51	7.9	47.91	8.5
2010-11	83.01	8.5	52.82	10.3
2011-12	87.36	5.2	56.33	6.6

The Back-Series estimates are required for comparability of earlier data series (2004-05 Base) with current series, based on changed methodology, data sources and coverage used in the revised base year 2011-12.

(c) The improvements in the compilation of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) with 2011-12 Base over the earlier series (2004-05 Base) are included in the Press Release of 28th November 2018 and the major ones are summarised below:

- The 2004-05 Series followed System of National Account (SNA) 1968 and SNA 1993 whereas 2011-12 Series follows SNA 2008, which are the latest guidelines of UN on National Accounting concepts.
- In the new series, estimation has been done at basic prices as per SNA 2008 in place of estimation at factor cost followed till 2004-05 series.
- In the current series, Institution-wise compilation of aggregates has been done instead of aggregate approach.
- Compilation of Financial Services Indirectly Measured (FISIM) was done in 2011-12 Series using the reference rate method rather than averaging credits and deposits.

- In the new series, sector specific Consumer Price Index (CPI) of sectors of health, education, transport and communication etc. have been used as compared to CPI Industrial Workers (IW) and Agriculture Labourers (AL) used in the earlier series.

The Back-Series methodology was presented before the Advisory Committee on National Account Statistics (ACNAS), which is a specialized body comprising of experts from various institutions in the related field. After the approval of the methodology by the committee, the results were released and have been uploaded on the website of this Ministry.

(d) The Back-Series estimate for 2011-12 Base have been prepared for the Years 2004-05 to 2010-11 and given in the table in point (a) above.

Revision in norms for GDP data

1917. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the norms for GDP data have been revised through a new series introduced in 2015 by the Government agency;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any criticism on the revision has been made alleging that it was done to make the GDP growth a rosy picture; and

(d) if so, whether Government would revert back to the time-tested old series norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is responsible for generating various macroeconomic indicators like Gross Domestic Product (GDP)/Gross Value Added (GVA) and related aggregates/indicators. MoSPI follows an established procedure of collaboration with various experts and stakeholders during the development of methodology. The methodology adopted is in alignment with the best international practices and guidelines adopted by UN (United Nations) and other international organisations like International Monetary Fund (IMF) etc.

The Base years of various indicators are revised from time to time to capture the structural changes in economy. Whenever base year is revised, MoSPI brings

out linkage with the earlier series for consistency and comparability. The procedures adopted by MoSPI are based on latest data sources and methodology.

The MoSPI had revised the base year estimate for 2011-12 in 2015, subsequent to which it has recently released the Back Series estimates of the GDP and other macroeconomic aggregates for the years 2004-05 to 2010-11 on the new 2011-12 Base.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise as the Back Series estimates are based on the same methodology used in the 2011-12 Base and are in accordance with the UN recommendations, available data sources and have been released only after the approval of methodology by the Advisory Committee on National Accounts Statistics (ACNAS).

National Indicator Framework on Sustainable Development Goals

1918. SHRIMATI ROOPA GANGULY:

DR. BANDA PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has constituted a High Level Steering Committee for periodically reviewing and refining the National Indicator Framework (NIF) for monitoring of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with associated targets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any direct financial implication on implementation of the National Indicator Framework, if not, how respective Ministries are expected to align and strengthen their data systems to facilitate monitoring on the SDG indicators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) The Government has approved constitution of a High Level Steering Committee (HLSC) under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) with members from NITI Aayog, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ministry of Finance and MoSPI to periodically review and refine the National Indicator Framework (NIF) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), developed by the MoSPI in consultation with various Ministries/Departments. These Indicators will help in monitoring and tracking the progress of SDGs at national level based on the data provided by various Ministries/Departments implementing the SDGs concerned.

(c) The schemes and programmes run by various Ministries and State Governments are linked to SDG targets by NITI Aayog which would facilitate monitoring the achievement of SDGs and the associated targets. The SDGs are aspirational and the assessment of India's performance in achievement of SDGs is a continuous process based on the National Indicator Framework developed by MoSPI in consultations with the Ministries.

Utilisation of MPLADS funds

1919. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether MPLADS fund can be utilised by MPs for repairing identified black spots in their constituencies;

(b) if so, the details of all such instance where MPLADS funds have been utilised for repairing black spots; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether Ministry would consider making such a provision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The objective of the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is to create durable community assets based on locally felt needs and as per recommendation of Hon'ble MPs. As per Guidelines the recommended works are to be sanctioned by the District Authority only after getting in advance a firm commitment about the operation, upkeep and maintenance of the proposed asset from the user agency concerned. The existing Guidelines prohibits utilization of MPLADS funds on all renovation and repair works.

Survey on PM schemes

1920. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey on Prime Minister Schemes, introduced since 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that many of the PM Schemes have not achieved desired results due to poor funding; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation conducted nation-wide Swachh Bharat Surveys during May-June 2015 and July – December, 2017 as a part of NSS 72nd round (July 2015 – June 2016) and NSS 75th round (July 2017 – June 2018) respectively to assess sanitary conditions in rural and urban areas of the country. The main findings on sanitary conditions are given in the Statement (*See below*).

The survey on Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojna (PMMY) was launched during April, 2018 by the Ministry of Labour and Employment to assess employment generation under PMMY. The field work under PMMY scheme has been completed on 30th November, 2018 and data entry is in progress.

(c) and (d): This information is not maintained by the Ministry.

Statement

Sanitary conditions in rural and urban areas in India

	Rural		Urban	
	May-June, 2015	July- Dec.,-17	May- June,-15	July- December, 2017
Per centage of households having sanitary toilet	45	64	89	94
Per centage of households having water for use in the toilet	43	62	88	93
Among households in India having sanitary toilet, per centage of persons using any type of toilet (household/ community toilet/public toilet)	96	97	99	99

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 2.00 p.m. ...(*Interruptions*)... The House is adjourned till 2.00 p.m.

The House then adjourned at fourteen minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda to introduce the Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services by allied and healthcare professional and the maintenance of a Central Register for Allied and Healthcare Professionals and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

REGARDING NOTICE TO MOVE MOTION UNDER RULE 125

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up the Statutory Resolution of Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy disapproving the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Ordinance, 2018 (No. 7 of 2018) promulgated by the President of India on 19th September, 2018. Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy—not present. Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, we want to speak. You first put the House in order. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: चूंकि हम एक अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण बिल पर बहस कर रहे हैं, पूरा देश देख रहा है, इसलिए मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है कि अपनी-अपनी जगह जाएं। ...(व्यवधान)... मेरा आग्रह है कि अपनी-अपनी जगह जाएं। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज जब पूरे सदन की राय पर कल एक दिन की छुट्टी की घोषणा की गई, उस पर आम सहमति बनी, मैंने तब भी यह अनुरोध किया कि हम आज पूरे दिन सदन में काम करें। यह हमारा नैतिक फर्ज है। ...(व्यवधान)... पुनः ज़ीरो ऑवर के दौरान माननीय नेता विपक्ष ने बिल्कुल स्पष्ट किया कि हम सदन चलाना चाहते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... आपने यह भी देखा कि लोक सभा में काम हो रहा है, बहस हो रही है और अपर हाउस में काम न हो! ...(व्यवधान)... लोक सभा में क्वेश्चन ऑवर भी चले और हम एक दिन भी क्वेश्चन ऑवर न चलाएं! ...(व्यवधान)... देश के अनेक महत्वपूर्ण

[श्री उपसभापति]

और संवेदनशील सवालों पर बहस के लिए आपने नोटिस दिया, माननीय चेयरमैन ने मंजूरी दी, पर हमने उन पर चर्चा नहीं की। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हाउस को नहीं चलने दिया।...**(व्यवधान)**... हम न ही एक सरकारी बिल पास कर सके। ...**(व्यवधान)**... एक तरफ लोक सभा स्मूथली चल रही है, पर राज्य सभा में काम नहीं हो रहा है, यह पूरा देश देख रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम अपनी भूमिका और इस महान सदन के बारे में क्या संदेश देना चाहते हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... मेरा आग्रह होगा, देरेक साहब बोलना चाहते हैं, कृपया ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, we want to speak. Please refer to Rule 125. ...**(Interruptions)**... Since I can't hear you, ...**(Interruptions)**... सर, चूंकि आप हमें नहीं सुन पा रहे हैं, इसलिए कृपया पहले आप हाउस ऑर्डर में लाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मुझे कुछ बताना है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप रूल 125 देखिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पहले आप हाउस ऑर्डर में लाइए, हमें बहुत कुछ बोलना है, एलओपी को भी बोलना है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, आप हमारी बात सुन लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विजय गोयल): सर, सरकार चर्चा के लिए तैयार है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर ये चाहते हैं, तो ये अपना मोशन रखें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सरकार को चर्चा से कोई हानि नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम चाहते हैं कि तीन तलाक बिल पर चर्चा हो। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: अगर हर पक्ष से हम इसी तरह से बोलते रहेंगे, तो हाउस ऑर्डर में कैसे होगा? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री देरेक ओब्राईन: सर, मेरा मोशन है...**(व्यवधान)**... मुझे पहले सुन लीजिए। मेरा मोशन रूल 125 के संदर्भ में है।...**(व्यवधान)**... 15 अपोजिशन पार्टीज एक साथ इकट्ठे होकर यह चाहती हैं कि इस बिल को सेलेक्ट कमेटी में भेजा जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप इस पर सेंस ऑफ दि हाउस लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सिर्फ भाजपा ही नहीं चाहती है कि यह बिल पास हो, बल्कि हम लोग भी चाहते हैं कि यह बिल पास हो। ...**(व्यवधान)**... लेकिन हमारा यह कहना है कि इस पर सेंस ऑफ दि हाउस लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... रूल 125 के तहत हमारा मोशन है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... 15 अपोजिशन पार्टीज — कांग्रेस पार्टी, तृणमूल कांग्रेस पार्टी, एसपी, बीएसपी, डीएमके, जेडी(यू), आरजेडी, आईएनएलडी आदि इकट्ठे होकर ...**(व्यवधान)**... You bring the House in order. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY (Andhra Pradesh): First, you bring the House in order. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: You bring the House in order. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री उपसभापति: अगर हाउस के सारे पक्ष के लोग एक साथ खड़े हो जाएंगे, तो आवाज कैसे जाएगी? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): सर, हम लोगों ने अपनी पार्टी और विपक्ष की तरफ से मोशन दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम वह मोशन मूव करना चाहते हैं और उस पर आपका डिजीजन चाहते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आज तक यह परंपरा रही है कि अगर विपक्ष के सभी राजनीतिक दल चाहें, आधे भी चाहें, one-third भी चाहें, लेकिन आज आधे से ज्यादा विपक्षी दल चाहते हैं, बल्कि 90 परसेंट विपक्षी दल चाहते हैं कि सदन चले, सदन का बिज़नेस चले, उस पर कार्यवाही हो और एमपीज़ को बोलने का मौका मिले। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बिल है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस बिल पर पूरे देश की आंखें लगी हुई हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम नहीं चाहते हैं कि हमारे साथी हाउस को रोज़-रोज़ डिस्टर्ब करें, लेकिन उस पर मंत्री जी के चर्चा करने से पहले हम चाहेंगे, हमने और विपक्ष ने रूल 125 के तहत एक मोशन दिया है, चूँकि उस सदन में वर्ष 1993 से परंपरा है कि बिल पहले स्टैंडिंग कमिटी को जाना चाहिए और अगर स्टैंडिंग कमिटी को नहीं गया, तो सेलेक्ट कमिटी को जाना चाहिए, लेकिन इस सरकार ने उस परंपरा को तोड़ा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह सरकार दोनों हाउसेज़ में बिल पास करते हुए bulldoze करती है, न उस हाउस में स्टैंडिंग कमिटी को भेजती है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यहाँ हर वक्त विपक्ष को लड़ाई लड़नी पड़ती है कि इसे सेलेक्ट कमिटी के पास भेजें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जब ये बोलेंगे, मैं सुनूंगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप जब बोलेंगे, मैं सुनूंगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह इतना महत्वपूर्ण बिल है कि इससे करोड़ों लोगों की जिन्दगी में फर्क पड़ सकता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... चाहे नेगेटिव पड़े या पॉज़िटिव पड़े, उस बिल को हम किसी स्टैंडिंग कमिटी में बहस किए बगैर, किसी सेलेक्ट कमिटी में चर्चा किए बगैर, सिर्फ़ सरकार चाहती है, इसलिए हम इसे पास करें? ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस मोशन को हमारे सभी साथियों ने उठाया। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसे हमारे सभी साथियों में से कोई भी उठाए, देरेक जी उठाएं, मैं उठाऊँ, हमारी समाजवादी पार्टी उठाए या कोई भी पार्टी उठाए, हम इसमें unanimous हैं कि पहले इस मोशन पर चर्चा होनी चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस बिल को सेलेक्ट कमिटी में भेजना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उसके बाद जब यह सेलेक्ट कमिटी में चर्चा होने के बाद आएगा, तब यह बिल बहुमत के आधार पर पास हो जाएगा, लेकिन इस पर सेलेक्ट कमिटी के बगैर चर्चा नहीं हो सकती है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह मोशन मूव होना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

آقائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد) : سر، ہم لوگوں نے اپنی پارٹی اور وپکش کی طرف سے موشن دیا ہے۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔ ہم وہ موشن موو کرنا چاہتے ہیں اور اس پر آپ کا ڈسینز چاہتے ہیں۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔ آج تک یہ پرمپرا رہی ہے کہ اگر وپکش کے سبھی راجنیتک دل چاہیں، آدھے بھی چاہیں، ون-تھرڈ بھی چاہیں، لیکن آج آدھے سے زیادہ وپکشی دل چاہتے ہیں، بلکہ نوے فیصد وپکشی دل چاہتے ہیں کہ سدن چلے، سدن کا بزنس چلے، اس پر کاروائی ہو اور ایمپیز کو بولنے کا موقع ملے۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔ یہ ایک بہت اہم بل ہے۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔ اس بل پر پورے

[श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद]

دیش کی آنکھیں لگی ہونی ہیں۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ ہم نہیں چاہتے ہیں کہ ہمارے ساتھی ہاؤس کو روز روز ڈسٹرب کریں، لیکن اس پر منتری کے چرچا کرنے سے پہلے ہم چاہیں گے، ہم نے اور وپکش نے رول 125 کے تحت ایک موشن دیا ہے، چونکہ اس سدن میں سال 1993 سے پرمپرا ہے کہ بل پہلے اسٹینڈنگ کمیٹی کو جانا چاہئے اور اگر اسٹینڈنگ کمیٹی کو نہیں گیا، تو سلیکٹ کمیٹی کو جانا چاہئے، لیکن اس سرکار نے اس پرمپرا کو توڑا ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ یہ سرکار دونوں ہاؤس میں بل پاس کرتے ہوئے bulldoze کرتی ہے، نہ اس ہاؤس میں اسٹینڈنگ کمیٹی کو بھیجتی ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ یہاں ہر وقت وپکش کو لڑائی لڑنا پڑتی ہے کہ اسے سلیکٹ کمیٹی کے پاس بھیجیں۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ جب یہ بولیں گے، میں سنوں گا۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ آپ جب بولیں گے، میں سنوں گا۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ یہ اتنا اہم بل ہے کہ اس سے کروڑوں لوگوں کی زندگی میں فرق پڑ سکتا ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔چاہے نگیٹو پڑے یا پازیٹو پڑے، اس بل کو ہم کسی اسٹینڈنگ کمیٹی میں بحث کئے بغیر کسی سلیکٹ کمیٹی میں چرچا کئے بغیر، صرف سرکار چاہتی ہے، اس لیے ہم اسے پاس کریں؟۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ اس موشن کو ہمارے سبھی ساتھیوں نے اٹھایا۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ اسے ہمارے سبھی ساتھیوں میں سے کوئی بھی اٹھائے، ڈیریک جی اٹھائیں، میر اٹھاؤں، ہماری سماج وادی پارٹی اٹھائے یا کوئی بھی پارٹی اٹھائے، ہم اس میں unanimous ہیں کہ پہلے اس موشن پر چرچہ ہونی چاہیے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ اس بل کو سلیکٹ کمیٹی میں بھیجنا چاہئے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ اس کے بعد جب یہ سلیکٹ کمیٹی میں چرچہ ہونے کے بعد آئیگا، تب یہ بل بہومت کے آدھار پر پاس ہو جائے گا، لیکن اس پر سلیکٹ کمیٹی کے بغیر چرچہ نہیں ہو سکتی ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ یہ موشن موو ہونا چاہئے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

श्री विजय गoyal: सर, सदन के सामने विपक्ष के नेता गुलाम नबी आज़ाद जी का कोई मोशन नहीं है कि यह बिल सेलेक्ट कमिटी को जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... देरेक साहब ने इस पर सेलेक्ट कमिटी के लिए जरूर मोशन दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मुझे यह नहीं समझ आ रहा है कि जब लोक सभा में इस बिल पर चर्चा हुई थी, उस समय कांग्रेस ने इसका समर्थन किया था। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जब दूसरी बार लोक सभा में चर्चा हुई, तब कांग्रेस ने फिर चर्चा में हिस्सा लिया। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस बिल में सरकार केवल और केवल यह चाहती है कि मुस्लिम महिलाओं के साथ जो अन्याय और अत्याचार हो रहा है, वह अन्याय और अत्याचार न हो। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस बिल के बारे में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने भी कहा है कि इस पर बिल पास होना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये इस बिल में delay, देरी करने के लिए सेलेक्ट कमिटी की बात कर रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... चेयरमैन साहब, मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि एक तरफ देरेक साहब यह कहते हैं कि हम इस बिल के समर्थन में हैं, हम चाहते हैं कि यह बिल पास हो, लेकिन दूसरी तरफ वे इसे सेलेक्ट कमिटी में भेजकर चाहते हैं कि यह पारित न हो। ...**(व्यवधान)**... देशभर में यह संदेश जाना चाहिए कि करोड़ों मुस्लिम महिलाओं को न्याय देने में कांग्रेस अपोजिशन समेत रुकावट लाने का काम कर रही है।...**(व्यवधान)**... देशभर में यह संदेश जाना चाहिए कि न ये मुस्लिम के पक्ष में हैं, न महिलाओं को समान अधिकार देने के पक्ष में हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अध्यक्ष जी, इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि तीन तलाक बिल पर सिर्फ और सिर्फ राजनीति की जा रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इन लोगों की मंशा यह नहीं है। अगर मंशा है तो मैं कहता हूँ कि सरकार चर्चा के लिए तैयार है। ... **(व्यवधान)**... अभी और इसी समय चर्चा आरंभ की जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: आप लोग प्लीज़ अपनी-अपनी जगह जाइए और बैठिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर सदन में इस तरह का माहौल होगा तो इतने महत्वपूर्ण बिल पर चर्चा कैसे हो सकती है? ... **(व्यवधान)**... मैं 15 मिनट के लिए सदन को स्थगित करता हूँ।

The House then adjourned at ten minutes past two of the clock.

The House reassembled at twenty-five minutes past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

श्री उपसभापति: मेरा आपसे आग्रह है कि आप लोग अपनी-अपनी जगह पर बैठें। हम लोग ...**(व्यवधान)**... मेरा आग्रह है कि अपनी-अपनी जगह बैठें। यह महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है, हम इस पर चर्चा आगे चलने दें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अपनी जगह पर जाएं। प्लीज़, बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर चर्चा होनी है। प्लीज़, अपनी जगह पर जाएं।

श्री आनन्द शर्मा (हिमाचल प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, अभी कार्यवाही स्थगित करने से पहले संसदीय राज्य मंत्री जी ने कुछ बातें कही हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... देखिए, हमने आपको सुना। आपकी बात रिकार्ड पर आई है। पहले विपक्ष की तरफ से बात साफ कह दी गई है कि अगर राजनीति कर रही है, तो सरकार कर रही है। अगर लोक सभा ने इसकी जांच नहीं कराई, तो without legislative scrutiny laws cannot be made even if Lok Sabha has passed it. Rajya Sabha is not a rubber stamp. That is what I am saying. Nobody is opposing the Bill. Let there be a legislative scrutiny. ...**(Interruptions)**... Let this be referred to the Select Committee. The entire Opposition demands that. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री उपसभापति: आनन्द जी, प्लीज आप बैठें।...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: The Government is doing politics. ...(Interruptions)...
सरकार राजनीति कर रही है। सरकार देश को गुमराह कर रही है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: अगर हम इस विषय पर बहस करना चाहते हैं, इस महत्वपूर्ण बिल पर बात करना चाहते हैं, तो अपनी-अपनी जगह पर बैठें।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: विपक्ष राजनीति नहीं कर रहा है। विपक्ष न्यायोचित बात कर रहा है।...(व्यवधान)...

एक माननीय सदस्य: सर, हम भी चाहते हैं कि बिल पास हो।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप अपनी जगह पर जाएं और बैठें।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: हम बिल का विरोध नहीं करते। लेकिन बिना जांचे-परखे...(व्यवधान)....
बिना जांचे-परखे मोहर लगा दी जाए, तो यह हमें स्वीकार्य नहीं है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: इतने महत्वपूर्ण बिल पर अगर हम चर्चा के लिए सहमत नहीं हैं...(व्यवधान).... आज तक हम एक महत्वपूर्ण बिल पास नहीं कर सके, न अनेक महत्वपूर्ण सवाल, जो आपने दिए थे, Hon. Chairman ने मंजूर किये, उन पर हमने चर्चा की, तो हम देश को अपने काम से क्या संदेश देंगे?...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: ये ऐसा दिखा रहे हैं कि संवेदनशील प्रधान मंत्री हैं।...(व्यवधान).... और यही सरकार को पहली चिंता है देश के अंदर...(व्यवधान).... यह हमें स्वीकार्य नहीं है।

विधि और न्याय मंत्री (श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद): सर, सरकार की ओर से हम इस बिल पर पूरी चर्चा के लिए तैयार हैं। यह मामला इंसानियत का है, मानवीयता का है कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट के फैसले के बावजूद कल तक तीन तलाक हो रहा है।...(व्यवधान).... तो मेरा आपसे यह कहना है कि यदि इनका कोई सुझाव है, तो हम सुनने को तैयार हैं, लेकिन ये बिल को लटकाएं नहीं। हम लोग बहस के लिए तैयार हैं। जो इनके सुझाव होंगे, हम तैयार हैं।

श्री उपसभापति: इस माहौल में चर्चा आगे कैसे जा सकती है? प्लीज, प्लीज अपनी जगह पर बैठें।

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: इस बिल को लटकाया न जाए।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: मैं हाउस चलाना चाहता हूँ। आप एडजर्न करने के लिए मुझे विवश कर रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान).... प्लीज।

The House is adjourned to meet at 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday, the 2nd January, 2019.

*The House then adjourned at twenty-eight minutes past
two of the clock till eleven of the clock on
Wednesday, the 2nd January, 2019.*

