

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, March 31, 2023/ 10 Chaitra, 1945 (Saka)

**(Ministries : Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Commerce and Industry;
Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Electronics and
Information Technology; Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; Food
Processing Industries; Heavy Industries; Railways; Textiles)**

Total number of questions -- 160

Space technology in agriculture sector

3361 **Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao Mahadik:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is using space technology in agriculture sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the areas identified by Government for this purpose;
- (c) whether Government has also launched a pilot project using space technology for better yield estimation and if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the project; and
- (d) the further steps being taken by Government for use of space technology in agriculture and allied sectors for the betterment of farmers?

Beej application

3362 **Shri Pabitra Margherita:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the objectives of the Beej application launched by the Ministry;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to ensure widespread adoption of the Beej application; and
- (c) the details of other such applications launched by Government to facilitate smart farming techniques and bring convenience to farmers?

Doubling the income of farmers

3363 **Shri Deepender Singh Hooda:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government promised for doubling the income of farmers of the country by 2022;
- (b) if so, by when Government will do so;
- (c) whether the aim was to raise farmers household income from an average Rs 8,050/- per month in 2015-16 (as projected by the 77th round of the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO)) to ₹ 21,146/- by 2022;
- (d) if so, the year-wise income of farmers during the last five years; and

(e) the steps taken for the fulfillment of said promise with special reference to the farmers of Haryana?

Provision of subsidy under MIDH scheme

3364 # Shri Ghanshyam Tiwari:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether subsidy is provided under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for initiating activities such as area expansion and creation of infrastructure for post-harvest management and marketing of horticulture produce by the beneficiaries of Tribal Sub-Plan of Western States, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the basis on which rates of subsidy is calculated?

Cold storages for fruits and vegetables

3365 # Dr. Sumer Singh Solanki:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cold storages are being built by Government under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) to prevent decay of fruits and vegetables;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether efforts would be made for the same?

Farmers agitation in India

3366 Dr. Amee Yajnik:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for the farmers agitation in India after the repeal of the three agricultural laws passed by the Parliament in September, 2020;
- (b) whether Government has neglected the farming community in the Union Budget 2023-24, due to which the farmers of Punjab protested, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government intends to withdraw the cases registered against the farmers during the farmers protest, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Survey to assess indebtedness of small and marginal farmers

3367 Shri Mukul Balkrishna Wasnik:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any survey to assess the extent of indebtedness of small and marginal farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the steps Government plans to take to get the farmers out of their indebtedness; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Research assistance for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying

3368 **Smt. Ranjeet Ranjan:**

Dr. Ameer Yajnik:

Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

Smt. Jebi Mather Hisham:

Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:

Shri K.C. Venugopal:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has plans to set up research institutes to provide research exclusively in the field of fisheries, animal husbandry and dairy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether a separate council would be started under the Ministry to continue to lead the research institutes of fisheries, animal husbandry and dairy; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Review of registered pesticides

3369 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the registered pesticides used in agriculture during 2022 and 2023 till date and banned some of them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;
- (c) the details of pesticides registered for use in agriculture and allowed in the country, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of pesticides not registered for use in agriculture and are still being used in the country, State-wise?

International Year of Millets

3370 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether UNO has declared 2023 as International Year of Millets (IYOM);
- (b) if so, the details of funds allocated under Budget Estimates 2023-24 for increasing production of millets during the current year and its promotion to ensure maximum benefits to farmers; and
- (c) the details of schemes being run by the Ministry to promote millets and increase its production along with the allocation therefor during 2022-23 and 2023-24, scheme-wise?

Awareness about farming technology

3371 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to spread awareness among the farmers about integrating modern agricultural technology in farming;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any study highlighting the benefits of digitalisation of agriculture to increase productivity and cut losses; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Bhanupali-Bilaspur-Beri railway line

3372 # Ms. Indu Bala Goswami:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the land acquisition process has been started for the construction of Bhanupali-Bilaspur-Beri railway line in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the area of land which would be acquired for the said railway line project; and
- (c) by when the work of the said railway line project is likely to be completed?

Circular issued by ICAR on GM Mustard

3373 Shri Aneel Prasad Hegde:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Circular by the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR), restraining public officials from sharing their professional and technical opinion on GM Mustard was issued with prior concurrence of the Ministry; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

Impact of hot weather on wheat crop

3374 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has done any assessment of the adverse impact of hot weather on the wheat crop;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure that farmers have a progressive outlook and follow scientific advice so that the yield loss, if any, is not very high due to hot weather?

Agriculture's share in employment

3375 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that the share of employment in the agriculture sector stands at 43 per cent in India as compared to 25 per cent in China and typically less than 2 per cent in developed countries;
- (b) the steps proposed to be taken to reduce the share of population that is dependent on agriculture; and
- (c) the initiatives taken so far to ensure transition of workforce from agriculture to non-agriculture sector?

Adding new products under MSP

3376 # Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any action plan to include agricultural products which are not included in Minimum Support Price (MSP) support schemes and market intervention scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any action plan to provide financial assistance to farmers under remunerative prices of agricultural and horticulture produce;

- (d) whether Government has devised any policy to protect farmers from price volatility; and
 (e) if so, the details thereof?

NITI Aayog report on farmers income

3377 Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that NITI Aayog has given a report that the income of Indian farmers has reduced by 1.5 per cent per year in the past five years; and
 (b) the percentage increase in income of Indian farmers from 2018 to 2022, year-wise?

Production and procurement of crops

3378 Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the production and procurement details of paddy, wheat, gram, masoor, moong, toor, urad, groundnut, mustard seed, soyabean, sunflower seed, jowar, bajra, maize, ragi, cotton (Qty in Bales) and jute for the years 2021-22 to 2022-23; and
 (b) in what manner does Government propose to increase procurement of crops other than paddy and wheat?

Increasing pest attacks

3379 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether frequency of pest attacks on farm crops has increased over the years across different States;
 (b) if so, the specific States/UTs that witnessed increasing pest attacks in the past five years and the area of farm land that is affected by pests;
 (c) the effect of these pest attacks on the livelihood and economic conditions of farmers and whether Government is taking any steps to control these attacks; and
 (d) whether the increased use of pesticides due to the pest attacks is leading to increased toxicity of farm produce, if so, the steps taken to balance the two?

Deaths of farmers due to suicide

3380 Shri Javed Ali Khan:

Shri Ram Nath Thakur:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any data regarding deaths of farmers due to suicide during 2022 and 2023 till date;
 (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
 (c) if not, the reasons for such apathy towards farmers of the country committing suicide;
 (d) whether an average of 8 farmers are committing suicide daily in some States like Maharashtra; and
 (e) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

Survey of farmers who left farming

3381 **Shri Javed Ali Khan:**

Shri Ram Nath Thakur:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey after COVID-19 pandemic to ascertain the number of farmers who have left farming due to unremunerative price for their produce;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government would conduct any survey to ascertain their exact numbers so that pro-farmer policies could be implemented;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and timeframe therefor; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds under MIS

3382 **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

Shri Javed Ali Khan:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds allocated, released and utilized under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) during 2022-23 till date, State-wise along with allocation for 2023-24;
- (b) the details of proposals under MIS received by the Central Government from various State Governments during 2022-23, State-wise and district-wise in case of Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra; and
- (c) the details of amount of Central share of losses released by the Central Government for potato and onion during 2022-23 till date, State-wise and district-wise in case of Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra?

Schemes for farmers in Jharkhand

3383 # **Shri Aditya Prasad:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes proposed for horticulture, fruit and vegetable producers in the plateau areas of the biodiversity rich State of Jharkhand, where production of food grains is not sufficient and there is a huge migration from there due to this; and
- (b) details of harmful effects of the pesticides and harmful chemical fertilizers on human health and the environment as well as the details of training plans for the farmers for organic production of fruits and vegetables without using the said chemicals?

Honey production in Jharkhand

3384 # **Shri Aditya Prasad:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the plan to increase honey production and to provide training and related equipment to increase economic self-sufficiency of producer farmers in various geographical areas of Jharkhand; and
- (b) the procedure for direct purchase from these producers, the district-wise details of shopping centers in this respect?

Banana production

3385 Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total acreage of banana production in the country and the number of States which produce banana along with their production during each of the last five years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether banana farmers are constantly suffering financial loss due to drought and other calamities resulting in reduced production and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any national level schemes/assistance/ package have been chalked out by Government to promote banana cultivation and if so, the details thereof alongwith the beneficiaries during the said period, State/ UT-wise?

Crop insurance scheme

3386 # Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers who got their crops insured under the crop insurance scheme in the last two years along with the major crops insured, the area of land on which the insured crops are spread and the insurance premium paid by farmers to insurance companies for various crops under the scheme;
- (b) the amount paid by the insurance companies to the farmers against the loss of crops; and
- (c) whether Government has made any assessment to ascertain if the economic balance of this scheme is in favour of the farmers or the insurance company?

Loss in food production due to climate change

3387 Smt. Jebi Mather Hisham:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has estimated how climate change is affecting food production, if so, the steps taken to address this issue;
- (b) whether Government has estimated the loss in food production due to climate change, if so, the crop-wise details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to promote food products from genetically modified crops which are claimed to be resistant to climate change, if so, the details thereof?

Women employed in research institutes

3388 Smt. Sangeeta Yadav:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of women employed full time in the in-house R&D establishments as on date in research institutes of DARE;
- (b) the number of women agri-scientists who received prestigious scholarships from the Ministry in the last five years, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Ministry will favorably consider starting any scheme for re-intake of women scientists who had to quit research due to marriage or maternity leave?

Adverse impact of heat wave on crops

3389 # Shri Brijlal:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the high probability of heat wave in food grain producing States and its possible adverse impact on the wheat crop during the coming season;
- (b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to maintain adequate stock of rice and millet (bajra) to ensure food security in the country and the details of the procurement schemes formulated for the same; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to control the prices of foodgrains in the near future?

Average annual income of farmers

3390 # Shri Sandeep Kumar Pathak:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the average annual income of farmers in India during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government had set a target of doubling the income of the farmers, if so, whether the target has been achieved and if not, the reasons therefor and the extent of achievement as against the target set; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the allocation of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojana has been reduced during the last five years, if so, the reasons therefor, if not, the details thereof, year-wise?

Saffron cultivation in Lebong Valley

3391 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that saffron cultivation at Lebong Valley of Darjeeling Hills has shown promising results;
- (b) steps taken by the Ministry to fund and encourage saffron cultivation at Lebong Valley of Darjeeling Hills; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds for doubling farmers' income

3392 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds allocated, released, and utilized during 2021-22 till date to double farmers' income in the country, State/UT-wise and scheme-wise; and
- (b) the details of schemes being run for women farmers in the country, State/UT-wise?

Increased organic farming under PKVY

3393 Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the area under the organic farming has increased due to Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY);
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the clusters formed till date under the PKVY, State-wise?

Special scheme for cold storages in rural areas

3394 # **Smt. Geeta alias Chandrababha:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any special scheme is being run by Government to set up cold storages in rural areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of new cold storages set up in the country during the last five years;
- (c) whether Government provides any subsidy to farmers for setting up cold storages, if so, the total amount of subsidy provided to them; and
- (d) number of new cold storages planned to be set up in the country in next five years?

Coconut centric schemes

3395 **Dr. Dharmasthala Veerendra Heggade:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the coconut centric schemes under implementation;
- (b) States/UTs that cultivate coconut;
- (c) area under coconut cultivation, State-wise, major coconut producing States, in terms of productivity;
- (d) whether coconut parks/trading centers will be set up to support coconut production, details thereof;
- (e) steps initiated by Central Plantation Crop Research Institute (CPCRI) and Coconut Development Board (CDB) in overall development of coconut cultivation;
- (f) foreign exchange earned through export of coconut and coconut products during the last three years; and
- (g) whether coconut yield per hectare has reduced in Karnataka, if so, steps taken to improve the same and financial incentives provided to coconut farmers?

National Agroforestry Policy

3396 **Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether under the National Agroforestry Policy, any special drive for agroforestry has been undertaken where the forest cover is less than 7 per cent of the geographical area of such districts and particularly districts falling within the Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ);
- (b) total plantation carried out in the various districts of the TTZ during last five years, year-wise and district-wise;
- (c) whether there is any increase in the forest cover as the result of plantation as above; and
- (d) the details of the efforts for promoting plantation of native species and developing their nurseries for saplings?

Use of bio-fertilisers

3397 **Shri S. Selvaganabathy:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to promote the use of bio-fertilizers and pesticides in agriculture;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the volume of increase in crop yield achieved by the use of bio-fertilizers and pesticides during the last three years;
- (d) the course of action chalked out by Government to augment the use of bio-fertilizers and pesticides in the country; and
- (e) the steps being taken to curtail the use of chemicals and promote the use of bio-fertilizers?

Agricultural growth rate

3398 # Dr. Radha Mohan Das Agrawal:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

the agricultural growth rate and the percentage of agricultural production in State Gross Domestic Product of various States in the country during last three years?

Cash incentives under PM-KISAN Yojana

3399 Shri Anil Desai:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has provided some cash incentives/subsidy to the farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojana with an intention to provide some assistance to them;
- (b) if so, the amount each farmer received during the last two years;
- (c) the number of farmers from Maharashtra who have registered for this scheme and how many of them have received the incentives during the last two years; and
- (d) the mode of payment to these farmers?

Number of cold storages

3400 Shri Sujeet Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cold storages present across the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the current number of cold storages fulfill the national requirement;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the steps taken by Government to increase the cold storages across the country?

India Industrial Land Bank

3401 Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the India Industrial Land Bank (IILB) features more than 4,400 industrial parks in a GIS-enabled database to help investors identify their preferred location for investment; and
- (b) the steps being undertaken by Government to upgrade and add more features in the IILB, a GIS-based portal which is a one-stop solution to the free and easy accessibility of all industrial information including availability of raw material, agriculture, horticulture, minerals, natural resources?

Trade deficit in key export sector

3402 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to global demand slowdown, some key export sectors including gems and jewellery, engineering, petroleum products, readymade garments of all textiles, chemicals, pharma marine products and leather recorded negative growth as a result trade deficit has widened, the details thereof; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government in this regard to boost export, the details thereof?

Industrial units in Punjab

3403 **Dr. Ashok Kumar Mittal:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of all the industrial units and manufacturing units established in the State of Punjab;
- (b) the details of all the industrial units and manufacturing units closed down in the State of Punjab in the last three years;
- (c) the steps taken by Government for the promotion of manufacturing industries in Punjab; and
- (d) whether Government is planning to establish Special Economic Zone in the State of Punjab, the details thereof?

Development of IP Laws

3404 **Dr. Ashok Kumar Mittal:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has noticed the recent report of International Intellectual Property Index by the US Chamber of Commerce, which ranked India 42nd out of 55 countries;
- (b) whether the Ministry is planning to take any action for the improvement of the IP laws and copyright laws to uplift the situation;
- (c) whether the Ministry has made any international agreements and ratifications for the development of the IP laws in India; and
- (d) whether the IP laws in India are up to the terms of the World Intellectual Property Code?

Districts as Export Hub and ODOP

3405 **Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry intends to set up a a collective body or a mechanism in the selected districts for the endorsement and branding of products by Government by providing a validation certificate to the producers and manufacturers;
- (b) the steps taken by the Ministry to create linkages between local producers and Export Trading Companies (ETC); and
- (c) the steps taken to promote District as Export Hub (DEH) and One District One Product (ODOP) on e-commerce platforms?

Boost to Startups in India

3406 **Shri Sanjeev Arora:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons that 90 per cent of Startup enterprises are likely to fail within the first five years;
- (b) the measures Government is taking to help Indian Startup ecosystem to produce more 'Unicorns' as they are likely to be engines of employment in the country; and
- (c) the details of persons currently employed in the Startup ecosystem under formal employment?

Implementation of Startup India scheme in Uttar Pradesh

3407 # **Shri Mithlesh Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of industries established in the State of Uttar Pradesh under Startup India scheme, district-wise;
- (b) the details of the financial assistance provided by various banks to the Startups established in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years, district-wise; and
- (c) the number of persons who were provided employment in the State of Uttar Pradesh under the Startup India scheme during the last three years, year-wise?

Decline in exports

3408 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the exports from India declined in the recent years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ministry has identified e-commerce as a key lever in increasing exports from India; and
- (d) the initiatives taken by the Ministry to incentivise e-commerce platforms to increase exports from India?

Promote the spirit of Ease of Doing Business

3409 **Dr. Sonal Mansingh:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken to promote the spirit of 'Ease of Doing Business' in the country;
- (b) the details of acts and rules deleted and rectified in relation to various existing policies to promote investments in Industries/IT sector, in the country in last three years;
- (c) the details of investment proposals received by various States in the country in the last three years, State-wise;
- (d) the details of projects implemented started/MoU signed out of such proposals, State-wise; and
- (e) the details of employment generated in the country through such projects, State wise?

Trade deficit with China

3410 # **Shri Digvijaya Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India's imports from China had increased and export got decreased in terms of trade taking place between China and India during the last five years, if so, the status of import and export respectively thereon; and
 (b) the total trade deficit caused to India in trade with China during the year 2022, and the reasons therefor?

Development of Tea industry infrastructure

3411 Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose infrastructure development support for tea tourism, besides measures for improving educational and other facilities for tea tribe workers and their families;
 (b) the fund allocation for Tea Industry in Assam and North Eastern Region; and
 (c) the details of special incentives for Assam's Tea Industries Scheme (ATSIS) for 2023?

Import of natural rubber

3412 Shri Elamaram Kareem:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) in what manner the announcement made in the Union Budget to increase the import duty of compounded rubber will help the rubber farmers in India;
 (b) whether the announcement will be applicable to the ASEAN countries, if not, the maximum percentage of duty that can be imposed on the imports from ASEAN countries; and
 (c) whether Government will take action to increase the import duty of natural as well as compound rubber even from ASEAN countries to help the Indian rubber farmers in light of the huge loss these farmers are going through, if not, the reasons therefor?

Rubber import in India

3413 Shri Elamaram Kareem:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of quantity of natural and compound rubber was imported by India during each year since 2018;
 (b) the maximum import duty applicable to ASEAN countries and the amount of natural and compound rubber imported from ASEAN countries since 2018;
 (c) which are the other countries from where India imported rubber in this period, country wise quantity in each year; and
 (d) whether Government will announce MSP for rubber in light of the difficulties faced by the rubber farmers, if not, the reasons therefor?

Agricultural export

3414 Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) India's agriculture exports and imports in lakh tonnes in last five years, year-wise and State-wise;
 (b) revenue generated by India's agriculture exports and revenue spent on agricultural imports in last five years, year-wise;
 (c) whether it is a fact that commodities whose exports have been subjected to curbs like

- wheat, rice and sugar have shown jumps in shipments, if so, the reasons therefor;
 (d) whether India has been importing the same products which are also being exported by the country and whether it has also increased, if so, details thereof and reasons therefor; and
 (e) details of India's import in last five years, year-wise?

Details of MoU signed between India and USA

3415 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed to establish Semiconductor Supply Chain & Innovation Partnership be beneficial to India;
 (b) whether any other MoU has been signed between India and USA; and
 (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

One District One Product

3416 Dr. Dharmasthala Veerendra Heggade:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the goal, objectives and components of One District One Product (ODOP);
 (b) eligibility criteria and quantum of loan provided under ODOP;
 (c) the advantages of ODOP initiative;
 (d) achievements of ODOP since its launch;
 (e) the names of the districts covered and the list of products identified under ODOP initiative in the country, State/UT-wise and the details thereof;
 (f) the details of the hurdles faced by Government in implementing the scheme and the action taken by Government to tackle these issues; and
 (g) whether Government is also taking steps to channelize these products to facilitate easy export and if so, the details thereof?

Post-COVID export pattern

3417 # Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has done any assessment about post-COVID change in export pattern of the country; and
 (b) if so, the details in this regard particularly with reference to steps being taken or have been taken to utilise this opportunity?

Mobile towers in remote areas

3418 Shri Pabitra Margherita:

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) the efforts made/being made by Government for installing mobile towers in remote areas of country especially in the North Eastern States, the details thereof;
 (b) the time frame by which the vision of revolution in communication is likely to be fulfilled in remote villages and the efforts made by Government in this regard, so far; and
 (c) whether any policy framework has been prepared by Government in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

Modernisation/upgradation of post offices

3419 **Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu:**

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any plan to modernise/upgrade the post offices in view of the important works assigned to them including issuance of train reservation tickets, Aadhaar enrolment centres, Passport seva, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the steps taken by Government in this regard; and
- (c) the post offices where modernisation/upgradation has already been undertaken/proposed to be undertaken, State/UT-wise, especially in Tamil Nadu?

Relief package to BSNL and MTNL

3420 **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether relief package offered to BSNL and MTNL provides for merger of the two entities;
- (b) if so, whether a transaction advisor has been appointed and expected timeline for conclusion of merger;
- (c) number of districts in which 5G has been launched and number of base transceiver stations deployed as on date;
- (d) whether contract for 4G equipment acquisition by BSNL has been awarded, if so details thereof and expected timeline for completion of 4G roll-out;
- (e) telecom circles in which BSNL has seen sharpest revenue declines and reasons therefor; and
- (f) whether Government has sought an action plan from associated CGMs in this regard?

Gram Panchayats in Tamil Nadu connected with broadband and Wi-Fi hotspot

3421 **Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar:**

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the optical fibre cable laid in Tamil Nadu, so far under National Optical Fibre Network project;
- (b) the details of the number of Gram Panchayats in Namakkal district of Tamil Nadu that have been connected with broadband and Wi-Fi hotspot, so far under the said project; and
- (c) the reasons for the number of Gram Panchayats not been connected to the said services in abovesaid district of Tamil Nadu under the said project, so far?

Criteria to cover population under TPDS

3422 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of criteria adopted to cover the population under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS);
- (b) whether it is a fact that the national average of TPDS coverage is 75 per cent of the rural population and 50 per cent of the urban population;
- (c) if so, the reasons that only 60 per cent population is covered in rural areas and 40 per cent in urban areas in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (d) details of corrective steps to be taken by the Ministry?

Amendment in FIFO principle

3423 **Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government intends to make changes to the First In, First Out (FIFO) principle adopted by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) which mandates that grain that has been procured earlier needs to be distributed first, which has been said to be ineffective in terms of time and cost associated with the same, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of other such measures being taken to review and reform the FCI processes?

Price hike of essential food and domestic commodities

3424 **Dr. M. Thambidurai:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken a note of sky rocketing prices of essential food and domestic commodities in the last one year;
- (b) if so, the effective steps taken by Government to mitigate the price rise crisis and its impact on the common people; and
- (c) whether Government has allocated any additional foodgrains and essential commodities to States/UTs and if so, the appropriate steps taken by Government to mitigate the issues and problems faced by the poor and middle class people due to the steep rise in prices of essential commodities?

Consumer rights awareness scheme

3425 **Shri Kartikeya Sharma:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has implemented any schemes in the last three years to educate consumers of their rights;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to safeguard the rights of consumers in the last three years; and
- (d) whether Government is also planning to fast track its resolution framework to avoid delays while dealing with the grievances?

Storage facility to farmers

3426 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the storage facilities provided by Government to the farmers in the country are sufficient and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is contemplating provision of additional storage facility within the country;
- (c) If so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) if not, the time by which it is likely to be contemplated?

Verification standard in accordance with Legal Metrology Act, 2009

3427 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the entity responsible for providing the verification standards necessary for verifying weights and measurements in accordance with the Legal Metrology Act of 2009;
- (b) whether such responsibility of providing verification standards can be put on the users of weights and measures; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Release of funds against the subsidy for CMR

3428 **Shri P. Wilson:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons the Ministry has not released funds of Rs 4446.14 against the subsidy for Custom Milled Rice (CMR) to the State of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the steps taken by Government in order to enhance Price Monitoring Mechanism and stabilise prices of vegetables that have seen unstable price rise across the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Total expenditure on NFSA and PMGKAY

3429 **Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) total expenditure incurred towards National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) programmes from 2018 till date, year-wise and State-wise; and
- (b) total beneficiaries of NFSA and PMGKAY programmes from 2018 till date, year-wise and State-wise?

Guidelines for advertisements

3430 **Shri Vaiko:**

Shri M. Shanmugam:

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has issued new guidelines for advertisements like non-misleading advertisements, due diligence required for endorsement of advertisements etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any advisory has been issued to the State Governments and general public about caution to be exercised in view of many misleading and bait advertisements appearing in the electronic media and newspapers; and
- (d) steps taken for action against such advertisements which are against norms and ethics and cheating the innocent public?

Quantum of fresh produce spoiled in storage

3431 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the fruits and vegetables damaged/spoiled in the storage of Food Corporation of India (FCI), from 2018 to March 2023, year-wise and category-wise;
- (b) the reasons as identified by the Ministry and FCI for such damage/spoiling of foodgrains;
- (c) the details of the total cost of fruits and vegetables damaged/spoiled from 2018 to March 2023, year-wise;
- (d) whether the Ministry is considering policy proposals including but not restricted to establishing an end-to-end cold storage system at the farm gate level;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana

3432 **Shri Vikramjit Singh Sahney:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of the funds allocated and utilized for PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY) since inception of the scheme, year-wise, State-wise, and district wise for the State of Punjab;
- (b) number of beneficiaries especially women and Below Poverty line, under PM-GKAY in the country, State-wise, district-wise for Punjab;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any quality control study while distributing foodgrains in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) whether any corruption charges have been reported while implementing the scheme since its inception, if so, the details thereof, State-wise, district-wise for Punjab?

Procurement of paddy from Punjab

3433 **Shri Raghav Chadha:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government is procuring paddy from the farmers of Punjab and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the amount of paddy procured by the Central Government from Punjab during each of the last four years; and
- (c) the amount of Minimum Support Price (MSP) per quintal given to farmers of Punjab by the Central Government for paddy during the said period?

Increasing number of ration cards under NFSA

3434 # **Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to increase the number of prescribed ration cards issued under the National Food Security Act (NFSA);
- (b) if so, by when the decision is expected to be taken; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Complaints against e-commerce entities

3435 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of the grievances/complaints received against e-commerce entities by aggrieved consumers in the country;
- (b) details of the action taken by Government or its agency or any statutory body on the complaints submitted by the aggrieved consumers, entity-wise;
- (c) whether Government has felt any necessity to further streamline the grievance redressal mechanism against e-commerce entities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Website for consumers to get details of after sales services

3436 **Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:**

Shri Rajmani Patel:

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to unveil a website where consumers will have access to get details of after sales service for their cars, handsets, appliances and other electronic goods in order to push quality product services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof with the time frame of launching the website; and
- (c) whether Government has any plans to expand the scope of this website to cases filed by homebuyers pending in consumer courts for several years and if not, the reasons therefor?

Ration cards in the country

3437 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that since 2014, over 4.4 crore ration cards have been deleted, if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether India is leading in World Hunger statistic being home to 22.4 crore hungry people according to State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) report, if so, the details thereof for last five years and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether India's ranking has dropped from 101 to 107 in World Hunger Index, in 2022; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Data security

3438 **Shri Harbhajan Singh:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country has international level data centres and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether these data centres have data security arrangement;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has mandated any standards for data security and data capacity

creation in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action taken by Government in this regard?

Status of implementation of Digital India Programme

3439 Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu:

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of Digital India Programme in the country including Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether all the villages and towns in remote areas of the country including Tamil Nadu have been connected to the basic communication/internet services;

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

(d) by when the entire country is likely to be connected with these services;

(e) whether Government proposes to provide basic internet services to all the villages to educate the rural youths of the country; and

(f) if so, the steps taken/being taken in this regard?

Regulation of darknet

3440 Dr. Prashanta Nanda:

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government is aware of the projected data breaches for Indian citizens on the darknet;

(b) the steps taken to improve the mechanism as the present legislative framework does not effectively provide for methods to restrict the darknet; and

(c) whether Government plans to introduce a policy measure for the same?

Centres of Excellence in neighboring countries

3441 Dr. Prashanta Nanda:

Shri Sujeet Kumar:

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Centres of Excellence that have been set up in neighbouring countries as part of the International Cooperation Division (ICD) scheme;

(b) the quantum of funds used for the setting up and maintenance of these Centres of Excellence; and

(c) the exact role of digital coordination played by the Centres of Excellence in the countries?

Process of appointment of the members under Self-Regulatory Body

3442 Dr. Anil Agrawal:

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

(a) the timeline for the finalisation of the proposed amendments under the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Code of Ethics) Rules, 2021 with respect to regulation of Online Gaming intermediaries; and

(b) the details of qualification, eligibility, role and process of appointment of the members under the Self-Regulatory Body for the Online Gaming Intermediaries?

Digital India Act

3443 **Dr. Anil Agrawal:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Government's plan pertaining to the Digital India Act;
- (b) whether the Bill is likely to be released for public consultation; and
- (c) if so, the timelines for the same?

Online gambling games

3444 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

Shri Vaiko:

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that there are growing incidents of youth getting addicted to online gambling games and cheated of their money and some of them committed suicides;
- (b) if so, the measures taken to ban such games;
- (c) whether any advisory has been sent to the State Governments regarding the risk of playing such games by youth and innocent people;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether a model Central legislation will be framed for the guidance of State Governments; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Impact of failure of American Banks on Indian IT sector and startups

3445 **Shri A. A. Rahim:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the American banks which have failed, particularly Silicon Valley Bank, have a significant presence in the Indian startup sector;
- (b) whether the Ministry has studied the ramifications of their failure for the IT sector and particularly IT startups in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether the Ministry will carry out a study?

Access to content on websites meant for mature audiences

3446 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that despite the provisions of the Indian Contract Act 1872, a vast number of minors continue to access content and contract on websites meant for mature audiences;
- (b) whether Government plans a new and improvised mechanism as the present legislative framework does not effectively provide for methods to determine the age demography of users;
- (c) whether Government is in the process of issuing guidelines to address the aforementioned issues, directing websites to undertake stricter methods to protect and limit involvement of minors; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Deepfakes

3447 **Shri Jawhar Sircar:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) Government's plan to take Artificial intelligence created deepfakes that deceive people by making someone appear to say or do something they did not do or say.;
- (b) whether Government is satisfied with the tools designed to detect manipulated content capable of deep fakes or would Government seek to cooperate with proven fact-checkers; and
- (c) whether Government is examining the new regulations issued by other countries like China's cyberspace administration's order of January 10, that aims to protect people from uninvited impersonation using "Deep Synthesis Technology"?

Leakages in PDS

3448 **Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has data on the total amount of leakages in the Public Distribution System;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the past five years;
- (c) the amount of leakage due to damage of foodgrains during transportation; and
- (d) whether Government is taking any steps to reduce the leakages in the system?

Business Process Outsourcing industry

3449 **Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) number and details of Information Technology (IT) destination centers operational and constructed in last five years, year-wise, State-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that India's \$38 billion Business Process Outsourcing industry (BPO) industry is looking to double its presence in the country's towns in the next four years, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) number of BPO units constructed and sanctioned in last five years, year-wise, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of steps taken by Government to safeguard the rights of the people employed in the BPO sector in the country?

CERT-In and cyber security directions

3450 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal to exempt the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) from the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005; and
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry has sought a legal opinion on the legality of such an exemption from the Ministry of Law and Justice?

Measures to contain theft of cyber data

3451 **Smt. Jebi Mather Hisham:**

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the cyber data of students entrusted with Government Authorities while applying for various eligibility tests is being accessed by educational institutions across the country and is being used for canvassing their courses to the students, if so, whether it can be considered as theft or unauthorised sale of individual cyber data; and
- (b) whether any provisions have been incorporated in the proposed Data Protection Bill to contain such theft of cyber data?

Implementation of Nirbhaya fund schemes

3452 Smt. Sangeeta Yadav:

Will the Minister of **Electronics and Information Technology** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of Implementation of Nirbhaya fund schemes under the Ministry in the last five years;
- (b) amount appraised, disbursed and utilised for Nirbhaya fund schemes of the Ministry in last five years;
- (c) status of development of panic switch based safety device for cars and buses for aiding women safety; and
- (d) the timeline set for completion of the project?

Data Policy for e-commerce

3453 Shri Niranjan Bishi:

Will the Minister of **Electronics and Information Technology** be pleased to state:

- (a) the Data Policy and Rules that govern the ownership, access, storage, use and sharing of data generated on e-commerce platforms;
- (b) whether Government is planning to formulate clear guidelines regarding the use and sharing of data generated on e-commerce platforms, if so, the timeline of the guidelines thereof; and
- (c) the developments with respect to the expansion of data centers and server farms in the country and to formulate domestic standards of data infrastructure?

Cyber attacks and technical failures in e-commerce

3454 Shri Niranjan Bishi:

Will the Minister of **Electronics and Information Technology** be pleased to state:

- (a) measures taken by Government to address the issues of Cyber attacks and technical failures in e-commerce;
- (b) the steps taken with respect to improving customer awareness regarding sharing of sensitive financial data;
- (c) the number of periodical cyber security audits undertaken by e-commerce platforms, payment gateways and payment aggregators and financial institutions; and
- (d) whether Government has engaged in stakeholder consultations with respect to the re-introduction of Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) in UPI transactions and the structure of Payment Service Provider (PSP)?

Laws to check hate speech and fake views

3455 Shri Raghav Chadha:

Will the Minister of **Electronics and Information Technology** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to curb misleading news, messages, hateful material

- and advertisements being spread through fake accounts on social media since 2014;
- (b) whether the Government has set up or proposes to set up any system/make law for prosecuting criminal cases against the persons responsible for spreading hatred, committing frauds and spreading fake news through social media;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps taken by Government regarding objectionable content being spread on every small or big platform and social media; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Low IT exports from Andhra Pradesh

3456 Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) value and share of Andhra Pradesh in IT exports in the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) value and share of Andhra Pradesh in domestic market for IT/ ITes services;
- (c) reasons for low share of IT exports from Andhra Pradesh despite having high skilled manpower;
- (d) potential for development of Andhra Pradesh and Visakhapatnam as a hub for IT/ ITes services;
- (e) reasons for delay in establishing a full fledged incubation centre of STPI in Visakhapatnam; and
- (f) other incubation centres, institutional facilities available in Andhra Pradesh and Visakhapatnam for the growth of IT and ITes sectors?

Establishment of software park

3457 Shri Masthan Rao Beeda:

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plans to set up new software parks in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether a software park will be established in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Assessment or survey of fishery farmers

3458 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any assessment or survey has been made by the Ministry to find out fishery farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) details of criteria for eligible beneficiaries to get Kisan Credit Card (KCC);
- (d) number of fishing farmers provided with KCC in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise; and
- (e) details of credit provided to the above fishery farmers based on KCC during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and district-wise in Andhra Pradesh?

Fund allocation under NDP-I

3459 Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds allocated and utilised under the National Dairy Plan-I (NDP-I) during

the last five years;

(b) the details of gains made under the NDP-I throughout the country, State-wise and year wise;

(c) whether the NDP-I has created employment opportunities in rural areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the number of milk cooperatives benefited under the NDP-I, State-wise; and

(g) the steps taken by Government to increase milk production in India?

Expenditure under LH&DC scheme

3460 # Shri Ghanshyam Tiwari:

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

(a) the head-wise details of the expenditure incurred by Government under the Livestock Health and Disease Control (LH&DC) scheme during the last three years;

(b) the financial assistance sought by the State of Rajasthan for disease control under the LH&DC scheme every year during the last three years and the year-wise details of the assistance provided by Government; and

(c) number of livestock vaccinated under the said program during the last three years?

Training Center for developing fisheries in Himachal Pradesh

3461 # Ms. Indu Bala Goswami:

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open a training center for developing fisheries in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the amount to be spent on establishing the said training center;

(c) whether NABARD will be funding this project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Investment under PMMSY

3462 # Shri Mithlesh Kumar:

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the investment made so far in the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), State-wise;

(b) the incentives provided to startups and fish farms by the Ministry in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last five years; and

(c) the details of steps taken by the Ministry to promote easy credit availability to aquaculture entrepreneurs, fish farms and for fishing activities?

Fishing ports in Jharkhand

3463 # Shri Deepak Prakash:

Will the Minister of ***Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any survey to identify the fishing ports in Jharkhand which lack infrastructure and other facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the proposals received from the State of Jharkhand for the establishment of new Fisheries Science Institutes during the last three years and current year?

Availability of green fodder for animals

3464 # **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the availability of quality green fodder for livestock is very less in the country and the health of livestock is getting adversely affected due to non-availability of green fodder;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details of demand and supply of green fodder; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to formulate any special scheme in this regard, if not, the reasons therefor?

Electric fencing in farms

3465 **Shri Mohammed Nadimul Haque:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that electric fencing is being used to protect crops in farm lands;
- (b) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that electric fencing like 'Jhatka Machines' are causing accidents and deaths of humans and children coming in contact with the fences;
- (d) if so, whether Government has taken any steps to check the harm caused and set up an alternative mechanism for both protection of crops and prevention of harm to children; and
- (e) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

Aquaculture ecosystem in Odisha

3466 **Shri Manas Ranjan Mangaraj:**

Dr. Prashanta Nanda:

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government seeks to promote the thriving aquaculture ecosystem in Odisha;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the figures pertaining to the number of registered aquaculture facilities in Odisha, district wise?

Gaushalas and Gausadans

3467 **Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) number of Gaushalas and Gausadans in the country owned and operated by Central and State Governments and private entities, category-wise;
- (b) amount of money spent on Gaushalas and Gausadans by the States and Central Government, year-wise for the last five years; and
- (c) amount of money allotted for protection of sick, old or stray cows by the Central Government and State Governments, year-wise for the last five years?

Sagar Parikrama programme

3468 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of Sagar Parikrama programme;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the aims of the programme is to interact with fishermen, coastal

communities and other stakeholders to educate them about the benefits of various schemes of the Ministry and disseminate information on various fisheries related schemes and programmes;

(c) if so, the reasons that Sagar Parikrama programme has not covered Andhra Pradesh in Phase-I; and

(d) by when the programme will be rolled out in Andhra Pradesh?

Food processing industries under PMKSY

3469 **Smt. Ranjeet Ranjan:**

Smt. Jebi Mather Hisham:

Dr. Ameer Yajnik:

Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:

Will the Minister of **Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals regarding food processing industries the State Government have sent and how many have been sanctioned by the Central Government, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the budgetary allocation for Production Linked Incentive and expenditure for the last three years; and

(c) whether Government has not been able to achieve the set targets of setting up food processing industries under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY), if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

Quality check of food products

3470 **Dr. K. Laxman:**

Will the Minister of **Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of how the quality of packaged food products is controlled by Government and the standards/measures on which these products are tested;

(b) whether Government has any details of revenue from packaged food product industry of foreign companies during the last three years, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Establishment of new mega food parks in Tamil Nadu

3471 **Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla:**

Will the Minister of **Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is having any plan to establish new mega food parks in the State of Tamil Nadu in the Financial Year 2023-24 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Central Government has taken any steps to promote technological innovations to support the supply chain management in Food Processing Industry in the last five years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

(PLI) scheme in FPI

3472 **Shri Vikramjit Singh Sahney:**

Will the Minister of **Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Processing Industry (FPI) has invested ₹ 4,900 crore under production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme so far since the inception of the scheme, if

so, details thereof;

- (b) the number of applicants and these who have been approved under the PLI scheme for FPI since inception of the scheme, year-wise, State-wise, district-wise for Punjab;
- (c) number of additional direct and indirect employment opportunities created with the Implementation of PLI scheme, year-wise, State-wise, district-wise for Punjab; and
- (d) details of the timeline of funds dissemination under PLI scheme for current year?

Mega food parks and agro processing clusters

3473 # Shri Narhari Amin:

Will the Minister of **Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has chalked out any scheme to set up mega food parks and agro processing clusters in the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of food parks and agro processing clusters considered to be set up under these schemes across the country;
- (c) whether there is a plan to set up any mega food park or agro processing cluster in Gujarat; and
- (d) the features of food Parks and Agro Processing Clusters planned to be set up and number of people likely to get employment in Gujarat after setting up of these establishments, the details thereof?

New guidelines for endorsements by social media influencers

3474 Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether new guidelines for endorsements by celebrities and social media influencers have been released by Government, if so details thereof;
- (b) details of material benefits that require disclosure by celebrities, influencers and penalties for guideline violations;
- (c) whether Government deliberates with tech companies over potential mechanism for identifying guideline violations;
- (d) number of violation and penalty imposed till date;
- (e) sectors where Indian consumers display greater dependence on online reviews and ratings;
- (f) whether framework to curb fake reviews on e-commerce sites has been finalized, if so details thereof; and
- (g) whether compliance under framework is voluntary for e-commerce entities, if so rationale for that?

Status of hybrid and electric vehicles

3475 Shri Kartikeya Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the manufacturing of hybrid and electric vehicles in the country;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to promote the adoption of hybrid and electric vehicles in the country during last three years;
- (c) the provision to set up electric charging stations across the country; and
- (d) the details of hybrid or electric vehicles, currently in use in the country, State-wise including the State of Haryana?

Misappropriation of subsidies

3476 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that two-wheelers and Electric vehicle manufacturers are engaging in misappropriation of subsidies and if so, whether Government proposes to halt the benefits of the scheme before 2024; and
- (b) the details of the action taken against such fraudsters along with the number of companies that have engaged in this practice in the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise?

Subsidy for Electric vehicles

3477 **Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has established any policy for the subsidy for electric vehicles in the country;
- (b) whether the policy has been able to achieve its laid down aims and objectives, if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is planning to allow FDI for the electric vehicles industry; and
- (d) the details of steps taken by Government for the promotion of electric vehicles in the country?

Replacing older trains with Vande Bharat trains

3478 **Shri Jaggesh:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Vande Bharat trains are considered to be superior to conventional trains due to the use of better suspension technologies;
- (b) whether Government proposes to replace older trains with faster ones like Vande Bharat trains;
- (c) whether Government has identified routes for the deployment of faster trains to reduce travel time; and
- (d) if so, the details of the routes identified for deployment, State-wise and the time frame for its implementation?

Upgradation of urban public transport by Vande Metro trains

3479 **Shri Jaggesh:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to connect short distance cities by replacing older trains with faster ones like Vande Bharat trains to save travel time and to ease vehicular traffic;
- (b) whether Government also plans to upgrade its urban public transport infrastructure by deploying short-distance variant of the indigenous Vande Bharat trains namely Vande Metro;
- (c) whether Government has identified cities to be connected by these trains; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and the time frame for its implementation?

Ongoing railway projects in Maharashtra

3480 Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao Mahadik:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and the present status of ongoing railway projects in the State of Maharashtra including those announced in the last five year Union Budgets;
- (b) the details of the railway projects announced in the last five year Union Budgets for the State of Maharashtra but have not been taken up for execution so far, project-wise along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the funds allocated/spent along with the funds lying unspent for the said projects during the last three years, project-wise, along with the reasons for unspent funds?

Installation of CCTV camera at entry and exit points of railway boggies

3481 # Dr. Sumer Singh Solanki:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to install CCTV cameras at the entry and exit point of railway bogies in future from security point of view;
- (b) if so, whether any pilot project giving shape to this intent has been started; and
- (c) if not, whether it is likely in future?

Sharing of passenger data by IRCTC

3482 Shri Sanjeev Arora:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the present policy of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) regarding sharing of passenger data; and
- (b) whether IRCTC has sought any legal opinion prior to creating the scope of work issued to Consultants for monetisation of passenger data - name, age, mobile number, gender, address, e-mail ID, number of passengers, class of journey, payment mode, login and password?

Hiring of contractual employees in Railways

3483 Shri A. A. Rahim:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways intends to hire employees on contractual basis, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Railways has released any order/circular for appointment of gatekeepers on contractual basis in Thiruvananthapuram division, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether there is any direction to stop the hiring of women as gatekeepers, if so, the details thereof?

RailTel and 3i Consortium

3484 Shri Jawhar Sircar:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether RailTel guarantees that its agreement with a consortium led by 3i Infotech Ltd will not create digital nuisance through advertising thrust on captive users of 6000 railway stations;

- (b) whether it guarantees that the data of railway passengers and users is not used by the consortium for unauthorised access by third parties, data breaches, tracking & profiling users online behaviour, etc.; and
- (c) contingency plans that have been made to control and rectify the situation in both cases?

New railway lines

3485 Dr. Sasmit Patra:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of new Railway lines sanctioned by the Ministry since 2018 till present date, State-wise and year-wise; and
- (b) the details of total funds allocated and spent on these sanctioned new railway lines from 2018 till present date, State-wise and year-wise?

Delay in MMTS phase II project

3486 Dr. K. Laxman:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government of Telangana is not releasing its share of funds and not giving land for implementing Railway Projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that due to the delay in payment of share by Government of Telangana, the Multi Modal Transport System phase II of Hyderabad is being delayed; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government for the completion of this project?

Erratic brake system

3487 Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the number of incidences of Signal Passed At Danger (SPAD) of freight trains due to erratic brake systems has increased in the past year, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any steps were taken by Government to resolve this problem faced by the goods trains; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Backlog vacancies of SC, ST and OBC categories in Railways

3488 Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of staff employed in Group A, B and C posts and the vacancies in different categories in Railways;
- (b) the details of backlog vacancies in SC, ST and OBC categories;
- (c) the details of the action plan to fill up backlog and regular vacancies to prevent train accidents from happening frequently and to run railways smoothly; and
- (d) the details of the number of employees who retired from Railways and the number of newly recruited employees during the last three years?

Running of more passenger trains

3489 # Shri Ram Nath Thakur:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of passenger trains being run between Barauni to Hajipur-Sonepur via Bachwara, Vidyapati Nagar, at present;
- (b) whether there has been a demand by the public representatives to run more passenger trains considering the number of local passengers; and
- (c) whether the Railways is considering to run more passenger trains on the aforesaid route in view of the demand of passengers?

FOB at Bhavnagar Railway Terminus

3490 # Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether applications have been submitted repeatedly to DRM Bhavnagar for construction of a Foot over bridge (FOB) for general public at Bhavnagar Railway Terminus at Kumbharwada crossing; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Compensation for Lalitpur-Sigrauli rail line project

3491 # Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) by when Railways would provide jobs to the persons whose land has been acquired for Lalitpur-Sigrauli rail line before 11 November 2019;
- (b) whether Railways would provide jobs to the persons whose applications were not considered due to the omission by the revenue officials;
- (c) whether Government has announced an assistance amount of Rs. 5 lakh to the families who earn their living through the land in lieu of job; and
- (d) details of the families who have received the said assistance amount along with the families to whom payment is pending and if not, the reasons therefor?

Progress of Bhanupli Bilaspur Leh Railway line in Himachal Pradesh.

3492 Dr. Sikander Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the progress made so far on the process of survey/construction of Bhanupli Bilaspur Leh Railway line in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) the details of the total budget sanctioned for the project along with the expected date of work commencement; and
- (c) the details of the railway stations to be established in the route of the railway line in Himachal territory?

Late running of Trains between Korba to Raipur and Raigarh to Raipur

3493 # Shri Sandeep Kumar Pathak:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether trains running between Korba to Raipur and Raigarh to Raipur are getting affected by transportation of coal in this area;
- (b) whether it is a fact that goods train carrying coal are given passage by stopping the

passenger trains for hours on this route, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) number of trains of these routes which ran late during the last two years along with the number of occasions of their delayed arrival and the average delay in terms of hours; and
(d) the steps taken by Government to prevent train delays on the above route, the details thereof?

Bullet train project

3494 # **Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of bullet train projects proposed in the country at present;
- (b) the total number of projects, the work related to which, has been started;
- (c) whether the work related to Delhi-Varanasi bullet train project has been completed; and
- (d) by when the operations of the Ahmedabad-Mumbai bullet train are likely to commence, the details thereof?

Railway projects and station development in Andhra Pradesh

3495 **Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) number of ongoing railway projects in Andhra Pradesh, their length, cost, details thereof;
- (b) list of the above projects, nature of the project, route, likely date of completion, reasons for delay of each project;
- (c) average annual budget for Railways in Andhra Pradesh between 2009 to 2014 and in 2023-24;
- (d) budget for 2023-24 for Andhra Pradesh and break-up by major heads;
- (e) list of stations selected for Amrit Bharat Scheme in Andhra Pradesh and proposed improvements;
- (f) stations selected for redevelopment in Andhra Pradesh, budget status; and
- (g) stations where techno-economic feasibility studies are underway for redevelopment, progress thereof?

National Rail Plan

3496 # **Shri Narhari Amin:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched National Rail Plan to strengthen the rail infrastructure in the country;
- (b) the details of the targets set by Government under this scheme;
- (c) the time frame fixed by Government to achieve the set targets; and
- (d) whether there is a plan to start any rail project for the State of Gujarat under National Rail Plan, if so, the details thereof?

Railway expansion in North East Region

3497 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the plan for expansion of railway in the North East Region;
- (b) number of new stations which are being planned in the said region; and
- (c) whether Government will name a station in Meghalaya after of U Tirot Sing, a freedom

fighter from East Khasi Hills in Meghalaya?

Chengannur – Pamba Rail Line

3498 **Dr. John Brittas:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways is considering a new Chengannur - Pamba Rail Line in Kerala;
- (b) if so, whether this proposal is in addition to the Angamali–Erumeli Sabari Rail Line or in place of the later; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Accessibility of trains for Persons with Disabilities

3499 **Smt. Mausam Noor:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has made passenger train coaches accessible for Persons with Disabilities(PwD);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways has set up any complaint redressal mechanism for resolving issues of accessibility of railway stations and trains for the PwD and senior citizens;
- (d) whether the Railways has been asked to extend their halting time for allowing PwD, senior citizens and sick people to board and deboard the train safely; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Vacancies in Railways

3500 **Shri Rajeev Shukla:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways is aware that more than three lakh vacancies are there in various grades in railways at present;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, grade-wise;
- (c) whether any steps are being taken to fill up these vacancies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the timeline by when these vacancies will be filled up and if not, the reasons therefor?

Regular operation of trains after lockdown

3501 # **Smt. Darshana Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of trains suspended during lockdown, zone-wise;
- (b) whether the suspension of trains has been stopped after lockdown;
- (c) whether demand letters have been received from Uttar Pradesh for running of suspended trains; and
- (d) whether regular stoppage of trains is being considered, if so, the details thereof, State-wise by when the trains would again be operated regularly?

Sivok- Rangpo Rail Project

3502 **Ms. Dola Sen:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Environmental Impact Assessment has been conducted to assess the potential effects of the Sivok- Rangpo Rail Project on the environment for the construction of 14 tunnels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken any steps to ensure the safety and well-being of the individuals and communities likely to be displaced due to the ongoing project;
- (d) if so, the details of the compensation and rehabilitation measures of the communities; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cattle Fencing along Railway lines

3503 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has decided to construct fencing along the Railway lines to make cattle barriers;
- (b) if so, the distance the Railways has put up between the proposed cattle barriers and the railway lines;
- (c) the number of incidents of cattle such over by the trains has been reported in the last two years; and
- (d) loss that has been incurred by the Railways by such accidents, the details thereof?

Deadline for completion of bullet train project

3504 **Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

Dr. Amee Yajnik:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that bullet train project was initially planned to be completed by 2023 but deadline for completion of project is likely to go beyond 2028;
- (b) if so, the detailed reasons for the delay in completion, if not, the time-frame for completion of the bullet train project between Ahmedabad and Mumbai; and
- (c) whether the cost of this high speed train project is likely to reach Rs 2 lakh crore by the time of its completion, which is much higher than estimated cost of Rs 108,000 crore, if so, details of the reasons for such increase in the project cost?

Capacity of Railway tracks utilized

3505 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) percentage of the Railway tracks which are operating at more than 100 per cent capacity, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the implications on tracks for being over-burdened; and
- (c) plan of the Ministry to tackle these issues, the details thereof?

Decline in textile production

3506 **Dr. Amee Yajnik:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the production of textiles as measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) for textiles has registered a continuous decline since March 2022, if so, the reasons therefor;

- (b) the reason for the sluggish domestic production in the recent months; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken by Government to promote the textile sector, the existing problems and their solutions?

NTC Mills

3507 Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde:

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the functioning mills of National Textile Corporation Limited (NTC) at present, State/mill-wise including their profit and loss during the last three years and current year;
- (b) details of NTC mills closed/ declared sick, along with the reasons for closure and the steps taken by Government to revive them, mill-wise particularly in Maharashtra;
- (c) the number of NTC stores functioning in the country at present along with their profit/ loss incurred by them during the said period;
- (d) whether Government has sold some of the mills/ or their land; and
- (e) if so, details thereof and reasons therefor, mill-wise?

Textile policies for infrastructural development

3508 Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde:

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to restructure its textile policies for infrastructural development to achieve a growth target;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has sought cooperation from major international players to collaborate with Indian textile industry in the manufacture of fabric and fermenting;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof along with the steps taken by Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the Ministry of Finance has turned down the proposal of the Ministry to restructure the textiles sector loans; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Financial assistance for establishment of Craft Villages in Odisha

3509 Smt. Mamata Mohanta:

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has cleared all the balance amount of the financial assistance for completion of Craft Village projects in Odisha;
- (b) if so, the financial assistance released during the last three years for the project;
- (c) whether the Central Government has any proposal to establish and finance Craft Village projects in some more districts of Odisha to boost the handloom and textile sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the financial assistance proposed for these projects?

Shutting of powerlooms in Tiruppur and Coimbatore districts

3510 Shri P. Wilson:

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Ministry has done anything to revive around 1,75,000 powerlooms, which are the highest number installed anywhere in the country, in Tiruppur and Coimbatore districts which have remained shut;

- (b) whether the Ministry has looked into unstable cotton yarn price which is due to the drop in arrival of fresh cotton in the market and why Manufacturers have stopped supplying warp yarn which is a key ingredient for weaving textile products; and
 (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Samarth Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector

3511 # **Shri Brijlal:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched a scheme called Samarth Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector in the country;
 (b) if so, the aims and objectives of the said scheme;
 (c) whether Government has fixed any target for imparting skills through training in the country, particularly for scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and women; and
 (d) if so, the details thereof and the number of beneficiaries of the said skill training in the organized sector and how many of them have been provided employment so far?

Assistance to promote handicrafts of Himachal Pradesh

3512 **Dr. Sikander Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to promote Handicrafts of Himachal Pradesh globally;
 (b) the details of assistance extended to support and promote handicrafts, State/UT-wise and scheme-wise;
 (c) whether there are any platforms/networks for artisans to connect and help each other and if so, the details thereof; and
 (d) the details of capacity building and/or support provided to handicraft artisans from Himachal Pradesh from 2018 till date?

Relief Package for textiles Industry in Panipat

3513 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of textile industries shut down in Panipat over failure to meet the pollution norms set by the Commissioner for Air Quality Management (CAQM) from 2020 till now, year-wise; and
 (b) whether Government has brought out any specific relief package for the affected industries?

Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks

3514 **Shri Mohammed Nadimul Haque:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Integrated Textile Parks (ITPs) set up in the country so far, State-wise details thereof;
 (b) the number of units in each ITP, ITP-wise;
 (c) whether it is a fact that the progress of Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks has been slow;
 (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
 (e) whether Government has taken any action to fasten the process of setting up the Textile Parks; and

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

Development of Textile Mills under NTC

3515 # **Shri Rajmani Patel:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) the textile Mills under the National Textile Corporation(NTC) in Mumbai with estimated market value;
- (b) whether in order to dispose off these Mills under the NTC, Government have constituted a high level Committee to speed up redevelopment of these mills; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Seventy five years of Central Silk Board

3516 **Shri Narayana Koragappa:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Central Silk Board (CSB) was established on 20 September, 1948;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry has planned to promote and sensitize the silk industry by celebrating CSB's 75th year Pan-Bharat on the lines of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav';
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of any other major plan to promote silk industry for Atmanirbhar Bharat with special focus on research and development?

Schemes for marketing support for handicraft sector

3517 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has implemented marketing support and services scheme for the handicraft sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the salient features of the said scheme; and
- (c) the total number of handicraft artisans benefited from the said schemes during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Gujarat?

Study of economic viability of NTC Mills

3518 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for the continued closure of NTC Mills and whether Government has conducted any economic viability study of the Mills, if so, details thereof;
- (b) the details of the number of workers who were on the payroll of NTC Mills at the time of closure, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any plan for the workers facing the loss of wages due to continued closure, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) details of the budget allocated and utilised towards NTC Mills since 2019, year-wise along with details of the purposes for which the budget was utilized?

Exports of Indian textiles

3519 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the quantum of exports of Indian textiles has witnessed sharp fall in the last fiscal;
- (b) the data on exports of Indian textiles in the last five years in comparison to Bangladesh;
- (c) the status of 7 mega textiles parks as notified by Government in 2021;
- (d) what steps Government is considering to take for improving the competitive advantage of textiles manufactured in India;
- (e) whether Government is considering providing credit support or export aid to textiles exporters; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Support to weavers

3520 **Shri Sandosh Kumar P:**

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that the handloom weavers are facing crisis due to non-availability of raw materials at reasonable cost and lack of demand for products;
- (b) if so, the special assistance schemes extended to the weavers to recover from debt crisis;
- (c) the details of weavers who have benefited from the financial assistance in each State; and
- (d) whether there is any specific plan to rejuvenate the weaving clusters in the country?

New Delhi
The 24th March, 2023
3 Chaitra, 1945 (Saka)

P. C. Mody,
Secretary-General.

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