

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, July 19, 2021/ Ashadha 28, 1943 (Saka)

(Ministries : Coal; Defence; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Information and Broadcasting; Jal Shakti; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Mines; Minority Affairs; Parliamentary Affairs; Ports, Shipping and Waterways; Road Transport and Highways; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions -- 160

Production of coal by CIL

1 Shri K.C. Venugopal:

Shri Sanjay Seth:

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

- (a) the target fixed and the quantum of coal produced by Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether CIL has earned substantial profit during the last three years, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has assessed the performance and profitability of coal mines in the country and if so, the names of coal mines which are running in profit and those running in losses; and
- (d) the other steps taken by Government to increase the production of coal by CIL?

Deadline for adoption of new emission norms

2 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

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

- (a) whether Government has pushed back deadlines for coal fired power plants to adopt new emission norms and allowed utilities that missed the new targets and imposed penalties; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and present status thereof?

Fixing and revision of coal royalty

3 Shri Prasanna Acharya:

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

- (a) the rate of royalty on coal and when was it last revised;
- (b) the formula for fixing coal royalty and its time to time revision and reasons as to why revision has not been made since last eight years; and
- (c) the total amount payable to Odisha on account of coal royalty and the latest payment position?

Illegal mining

4 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

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

- (a) the total production of coal under Coal India Limited's jurisdiction;
- (b) whether it is a fact that coal smuggling and illegal mining in coal belt is a major issue;
- (c) the amount of coal smuggled through illegal mining in 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21;
- (d) the number of people and companies arrested or charged for illegal mining; and
- (e) the steps being taken to prevent the loss due to illegal mining?

New coal mines

5 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:

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

the number of new coal mines which have been given permission for mining during the last five years, the amount of revenue received by Government from the same, the names of States where the said mines are located and the amount of revenue estimated to be generated for the said States by these mines in future?

Auction of new coal blocks

6 Smt. Mamata Mohanta:

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

- (a) whether Government has decided to auction new coal and mineral blocks in the country including Odisha;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Odisha;
- (c) the details of modifications made in the revenue sharing mechanism in the coal sector; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to minimise the import of coal from other countries?

Illegal coal mining in Odisha

7 Smt. Mamata Mohanta:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of large scale illegal coal mining and recoveries being done from transporters;
- (b) if so, whether any steps have been taken by Government in this regard during the last two years;
- (c) the details of complaints regarding illegal mining and recoveries from transporters received during the last two years and the action taken by Government thereon, State/UT-wise including Odisha; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any step to conduct a high level enquiry and if so, the details thereof?

Disinvestment of coal mines

8 Shri Ripun Bora:

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

- (a) whether Government has identified any coal mine projects and/or collieries for

disinvestment purposes;

(b) if so, report of the expert Committee and the proposal details of Government and the reaction from different Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and federations thereon; and
 (c) the details of reserves of coal in such areas and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) on commercial mining licences with regulatory authority given to private companies and Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) thereof?

Cess on coal

9 Shri Prashanta Nanda:

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

whether Government will rename the cess on coal as “Environment and Rehabilitation Cess” and earmark sixty per cent of the cess to coal bearing States?

Committee to review the safety standards

10 Dr. C.M. Ramesh:

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

(a) whether Government proposes to constitute a Committee to review the existing safety standards for the workers in the coal mines sector, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) time when the review of safety standards for workers in the coal mines was last done and whether previous recommendations for the benefit of coal mines workers had been implemented, if so, the details thereof?

Difficulties in acquiring land for new coal mine projects

11 Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu:

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

(a) whether Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries are facing difficulties in acquiring land for new coal mine projects and other extended projects in the country, particularly in Jharkhand; and

(b) if so, the details of difficulties being faced by Government and action taken/being taken in this regard?

Shortage of coal in thermal power stations

12 Shri P. Wilson:

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

(a) details of quantum of coal demanded by thermal power stations of Tamil Nadu and supplied by Government to them during last three years;

(b) reasons as to why there is no hundred per cent realisation of coal to Tamil Nadu as per agreed terms and reasons for not supplying the same and by when the deficit coal to Tamil Nadu will be cleared;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to increase domestic production and decrease import of coal, if so, details thereof; and

(d) other steps taken/being taken by Government to bridge gap between demand and supply of coal in future?

Implementation of the 'Swachh Bharat Scheme'

13 # Shri Naresh Bansal:

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

- (a) whether the 'Swachh Bharat Scheme' is also being implemented in those areas of a cantonment, where civilians are residing;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the future plan in this regard?

Setting up of a new Sainik School in Karnataka

14 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a long pending demand for setting up of a Sainik School in Shivamogga district of Karnataka; and
- (b) whether the Ministry will consider for setting up of a Sainik School in Shivamogga, since Finance Minister announced the setting up of 100 Sainik Schools in the country in the Budget?

Investment for procurement of indigenously manufactured defence equipment

15 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

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

- (a) whether Government has earmarked exclusive funds for procurement of indigenously by manufactured defence equipment to give a much-desired push to the domestic industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of major defence equipment likely to be procured from domestic manufacturers; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to impose ban on import of defence equipment which is being domestically manufactured?

Boosting indigenous capabilities in defence production

16 Shri Sujeet Kumar:

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

the steps taken by Government for boosting indigenous capabilities in the development and production of weapons, technology and equipment under the goal of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' in the defence sector?

Corporatisation of OFB

17 Shri Binoy Viswam:

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

- (a) the steps taken to safeguard the rights of the employees under the new corporatisation plan of Ordnance Factory Board (OFB);
- (b) whether Government made a redeployment plan for these employees;
- (c) whether there will be any changes in the service conditions of these employees, if so, the details of the changes made; and
- (d) whether Government has held any discussions with the workers federations of these factories regarding the ongoing corporatisation process, if so, the details of the outcomes of these discussions?

Implementation of CoE recommendations related to defence reforms

18 Shri K. Somaprasad:

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

- (a) whether Government has accepted the recommendations of the Committee of Experts (CoE) which envisages to optimize both military personnel and defence civilians;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the process of downsizing undertaken so far?

Shifting of Government responsibility from ordnance factories

19 Shri Anil Desai:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Ordnance factories are working under the direct supervision of Ministry;
- (b) the number of factories in this category;
- (c) whether Government is considering shifting of ownership/control to some non-Government entities; and
- (d) if so, the justification along with the details thereof?

Privatisation of BEML, Kerala

20 Shri Elamaram Kareem:

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

- (a) details of profit or loss made by the Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) in last five years, year-wise;
- (b) reason behind Government's decision to privatise BEML;
- (c) whether Centre had consulted Government of Kerala before moving forward with privatisation as land for Kerala unit was given on lease by State Government to Centre for establishing BEML Unit in Palakkad, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;
- (d) actual net worth of land and other assets of BEML; and
- (e) details of bidders or companies who expressed their interest on BEML and selected companies or bidders to the next stage?

Work done under CAMPA

21 # Shri Ram Vichar Netam:

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of funds allocated to Chhattisgarh by Government under the head Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) from January, 2019 till date, year-wise;
- (b) details of funds spent out of funds allocated to Chhattisgarh during above period along with the details of work undertaken, district-wise;
- (c) whether Government has received complaints of any kind of irregularity in the work being done under CAMPA head; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by Government in this regard?

Pay-related grievances of the Army officials

22 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

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

- (a) the number of complaints/grievances related to payment of salaries raised by serving army officials over the last five years;
- (b) the number of complaints/grievances related to payment of pensions raised by retired army officials over the last five years;
- (c) the number of these complaints/grievances addressed, resolved and still pending; and
- (d) the amount of Government's spending on payment of salaries and pensions changed over the last five years, adjusted for inflation?

Production of defence equipment in 'Make-in-India' programme

23 Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:

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

- (a) the details of the proposal for production of defence equipment under "Make-in-India" programme; and
- (b) the likely timeline by which the country will be 'AatmaNirbhara' in defence production?

Measures taken to combat climate change

24 Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any action has been taken to combat the inevitable climate change;
- (b) if so, the funds allocated between 2014 to 2021, State-wise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Setting up of effluent treatment plants in Karnataka

25 Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received the proposal for setting up the effluent treatment plants in the State of Karnataka;
- (b) whether the proposals from the Government of Karnataka have been approved; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Great Indian Bustard

26 # Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Great Indian Bustards (Ghorad) in Kutch Bustard Sanctuary, located in Kutch, Gujarat as on 1st January, 2021;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Ghorads die due to collision with windmills and electric wires in the sanctuary; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

Disposal of COVID-19 biomedical waste

27 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) steps Government is taking to promote segregation at source and separate waste collection of COVID-19 and non COVID-19 waste, and ensure efficiency of incinerators in case this waste is not segregated;
- (b) details of monitoring mechanisms at incineration plants to check water and air based

pollution caused by increased biomedical waste;

(c) details of waste generation to incineration capacity, and States that adopted hazardous waste treatment, storage, and facilities for disposal of biomedical waste, State/UT-wise; and

(d) details of steps Government has taken to create awareness and citizen engagement on disposal of COVID-19 biomedical waste and reduce plastic-pollution due to same?

Environment conservation in Uttarakhand

28 # Shri Naresh Bansal:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the present state of environment in the country and the plan for environment conservation;
- (b) the details thereof; and
- (c) the plan for disaster management and environment conservation in Uttarakhand?

Amending various environmental laws

29 Shri Vaiko:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal in the Ministry to streamline processes by amending various environmental laws like Forest Conservation Act, Wild Life Protection Act, Environment Protection Act etc;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the mechanism by which Government will ensure that there is no resource conflict and will conserve environment;
- (d) whether the Ministry has made any provision to expedite forest clearance for critical infrastructure and defence projects and security related projects;
- (e) whether any opposition/objection was raised from the public, activists and Non Government Organisations (NGOs); and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Endangerment of biodiversity of Western Ghats due to INO

30 Shri Vaiko:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of India Neutrino Observatory (INO) in Theni district of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether any opposition has been raised against the project, in view of serious endangerment to biodiversity of Western Ghats;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the State Government of Tamil Nadu has recently raised objection to the continuation of INO;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the response of Government thereto; and
- (f) whether Government would review the continuation of INO there in view of large scale opposition in the area, including the State Government, if so, the details thereof?

Waste in landfills

31 Dr. Vikas Mahatme:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government takes serious cognisance of the effect of unprocessed waste in

landfills on the environment;

(b) the steps undertaken by Government to deal with the same;

(c) whether Government has commissioned a study in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps undertaken by Government to mitigate the hazardous effects of unprocessed waste in landfills on people living nearby?

Conservation of lakes and ponds

32 Dr. Banda Prakash:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether number of lakes and ponds have declined substantially across the country during the last ten years;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether Government has launched any scheme to save/conserves/revive such lakes and ponds across the country and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has received any proposals from various State Governments to protect natural lakes and ponds located in their respective States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated by Government in this regard?

Construction of Pothireddypadu project without environmental clearances

33 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for constructing Pothireddypadu project without environmental clearances;

(b) whether State Government of Andhra Pradesh is disobeying environmental clearances and nod of the National Green Tribunal(NGT);

(c) whether the Ministry has taken any corrective steps in this regards; and

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

Sewage and solid waste management

34 Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Swatch Bharat Mission was initiated to eliminate open defecation and improve solid waste management, improper handling, disposal of sewage and municipal waste in creating unsanitary conditions leading to outbreaks of vector-borne diseases;

(b) whether Ministry has framed policies and draft Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) at national level to be complied by all municipal corporations and their executive actions, in compliance with SOP, subject to regular audits through third party agency appointed from the approved panel maintained by Ministry; and

(c) the measures being taken by Ministry to address the critical issues relating to sewage and solid waste management?

Deployment of STPF in Sahyadri Tiger Reserve

35 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether only four tiger reserves, excluding Sahyadri Tiger Reserve, in Maharashtra, have been deployed with Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF);

(b) whether the proposal to deploy STPF at Sahyadri Tiger Reserve pending with National

Tiger Conservation Authority has resulted in poor protection of tigers;

(c) the immediate arrangements Government proposes to make for protection and an increase in the population of tigers in Sahyadri Tiger Reserve pending the proposal for deployment of STPF; and

(d) whether Government has taken any steps to increase the density of herbivorous and reduce instances of human-animal conflict within the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve?

Finalization of Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) for Goa coast

36 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM) has submitted the Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) for Goa coast keeping in view the protection of beaches, unplanned exploitation and protection of threatened aquatic lives;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when CZMP would be notified and implemented on ground;

(c) whether Government has taken adequate steps for preparation of CZMP for other coastal regions also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, to ensure that unhealthy activities on the coasts are stopped?

Change in environmental laws in India

37 Shri Binoy Viswam:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is considering changing the country's environmental laws and introducing an overarching law for all infrastructure and industry projects;

(b) the principles the Ministry has adopted to guide this change process;

(c) measures the Ministry has taken to actively consult communities that are dependent on forests and forest produce while bringing about these changes; and

(d) safeguards/protective measures taken by the Ministry to ensure that the rights of forest dwelling communities are protected amidst these proposed changes?

Air pollution due to diesel vehicles

38 Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the increasing number of diesel vehicles causes more pollution in the environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has constituted any scheme or has any suggestion to reduce the means of air pollution?

Conservation of wetlands

39 # Dr. Anil Jain:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of National Programme for Conservation of Wetlands;

(b) the details of land identified in the country as wetland during the last five year and current year till 30th June, 2021, year-wise and district-wise;

(c) whether wetland health cards, formation of Wetland Mitras and focused management scheme have been included in Namami Gange Programme in various districts of Uttar

Pradesh; and

(d) whether there is any action plan to develop coastal wetlands of various rivers of the country including the river located around Firozabad district in Uttar Pradesh, as a tourism or pilgrimage destinations, if so, the details thereof?

Bio-medical waste generation pertaining to COVID-19 treatment

40 **Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharya:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of bio-medical waste generation pertaining to the treatment of COVID-19 patients since 2020 till date, State-wise; and
- (b) the details of management and handling of such bio-medical waste, State-wise?

Implementation of Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining 2020

41 **Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharya:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to implement and execute the Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020;
- (b) whether all the States have prepared their district survey reports before putting any sand mine on auction; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in case of the States who have failed to comply with the said guidelines?

Central Vista Redevelopment Project

42 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the funds required to implement the measures to negate environmental impact of Central Vista Redevelopment Project;
- (b) the details of various components like water, land and air which the Ministry considers under 'environmental impact'; and
- (c) the measures to be adopted to protect the heritage monuments in the area and under the Central Vista Redevelopment Project?

Loss due to forest fire

43 **# Shri Ramkumar Verma:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the loss incurred to forest resources due to wildfires during the last five years in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) the details of steps taken by Government to save the forest resources from wild fire; and
- (c) whether any legal action has been taken against any person or institution by Government for deliberately causing damage to forest resources, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Projects for conservation of environment

44 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Shri K.C. Venugopal:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is running projects for conservation of environment in the country and if so, the amount of funds spent on the said projects during the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the number of trees is declining in the country with each passing year and if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is considering to increase the number of trees in the States having less number of trees to conserve environment in metropolitan cities and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) other steps taken by Government to generate awareness and public participation towards a cleaner environment?

Encroachment in forest area

45 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that rampant encroachment in forest area happens in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken to ban encroachment in the forest area;
- (d) whether Government has extended many relaxations in recent years in the nearby forest areas for infrastructure development; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Phasing out single use plastics

46 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the policy of Government in phasing out single use plastics in the country;
- (b) the quantum of plastic being used annually in the last three years; and
- (c) the details of efforts made to reduce use of plastic in the coming years?

Clearance in eco-sensitive areas

47 **Shri Shamsher Singh Dullo:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the rejection rate for clearances in eco-sensitive areas, from 2014 till date, year-wise;
- (b) whether the Ministry is aware of the minimal rejection rate of 1.1 per cent for clearances in eco-sensitive areas during the last four years, and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the opinion of the Ministry on the mandate of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) to safeguard and conserve wildlife and habitat protection?

Effect of climate change on ecosystem

48 # **Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any study has been conducted by Government on the effect of climate change on various ecosystems including agriculture sector during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any action plan in collaboration with global agencies to fight with the ill effects of climate change; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the characteristics of such action plan?

Artificial plantation of trees

49 # Shri Surendra Singh Nagar:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of hectares of land in Uttar Pradesh which were planted by Government in lieu of trees cut for construction of National Highways during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether the Ministry is aware that artificial plantation is not a long term measure and cannot be compared to the declining or depleting natural forests; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the response of Government thereto?

Impact of climate change in India

50 Shri Sanjay Singh:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the report published by the Bonn based environmental think tank Germanwatch, which claims that India is among the top ten most affected countries in the Global Climate Risk Index 2021;
- (b) whether Government is also aware of the fact that majority of the Indian population is dependent on agriculture, which is being severely affected by the impact of climate change; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government to safeguard its people against the impact of climate change?

Effluent discharge by sewage treatment plants in water bodies

51 Shri Derek O' Brien:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of limits set by Government for effluent discharge by sewage treatment plants in water bodies;
- (b) whether industries have followed the norms in the last five years, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has ascertained the effect of sewage discharge in water bodies, and whether the water bodies have seen a consistent decline in purity for the reason, and if so, the details thereof?

India-based Neutrino Observatory project

52 Shri P. Wilson:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received requests to drop the India-based Neutrino Observatory (INO) project in Theni district of Tamil Nadu as the construction site is reportedly falling inside the designated Mathikettan-Periyar tiger corridor;
- (b) details of study Government undertook before giving environmental clearance and whether any impact assessment study was done and whether any public hearing was

conducted;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government is aware that this would not only affect the wildlife but also have a long term impact on the eco-system of such areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Manufacturing of Advance Chemistry Cell

53 Smt. Ambika Soni:

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

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan to boost manufacturing of Advance Chemistry Cell (ACC) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present quantum of import of ACC in the country; and

(d) the fresh steps taken by Government to reduce import dependence of ACCs battery?

Use of drone technology by NHA in NHs construction

54 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Highways Authority of India (NHA) has made usage of drone mandatory for recording development, construction, operation and maintenance of all National Highways (NHs);

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

(c) the other steps being taken to ask the contractors to complete the road projects in time?

Establishment of new PSUs in the country

55 # Shri Neeraj Dangi:

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

(a) whether Government has established Public Sector Undertakings/Enterprises (PSUs) in various States/ Union Territories (UTs) of the country including Rajasthan during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether Government is contemplating to set up suitable PSUs in view of the availability of skilled and unskilled manpower in various States/UTs of the country including Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Transfer of Instrumentation Limited, Palakkad

56 Shri Elamaram Kareem:

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

(a) the status of transfer of Palakkad Unit of Instrumentation Limited to State Government of Kerala;

(b) the reasons for this inordinate delay in transfer even after getting 'in-principle' approval of Union Cabinet and signing of Memorandum of Understanding;

(c) justification for argument of Ministry that the value of land owned by Palakkad Unit should also be taken into consideration for transfer when land was originally allotted to Instrumentation Limited by Kerala Government for starting its unit; and

(d) whether Central Government is stepping back from transfer decision, if not, by when transfer process is expected to be completed?

Revival of closed media houses

57 Shri Ripun Bora:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the year 2019-20 and 2020-21 lots of media houses have closed and many big houses have stopped their editions in the country due to unfolding COVID-19 catastrophe;
- b) if so, the detail therein, State-wise; and
- c) proposal of Government and support to the media houses since 2019 Financial Years and revival packages therefor?

Transfer of BHEL-EML, Kasaragod and Instrumentation Ltd. Palakkad to Kerala Government

58 Dr. V. Sivadasan:

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

- (a) the progress achieved in the transfer process of Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited-Electrical Machines Limited(BHEL-EML) to the State Government of Kerala;
- (b) the progress achieved in the transfer process of Instrumentation Ltd. unit in Palakkad to State Government of Kerala;
- (c) whether there is any other such transfer processes which are in half way down to be completed, with any State Governments; and
- (d) timeframe set by Union Government to complete these processes of transfer?

Regulation of online content

59 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Information Technology Act is inadequate legislation for the regulation of online content;
- (b) if so, the reasons why Government has not anchored regulation in appropriate law and whether there are any plans to introduce such a law in the future;
- (c) the mechanism Government proposes to enforce IT Rules without threshold of users or readers of digital news media; and
- (d) the mechanism Government proposes to ensure online privacy, freedom of speech and expression and access to information under IT Rules?

Sharing of free news content

60 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that tech giants like Facebook, Google, etc., are cornering 85 per cent of advertisement revenue on their platforms getting through sharing free content of newspapers, magazines, etc.;
- (b) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that a law passed by Australian Parliament makes it mandatory for digital platforms like Google and Facebook to pay publishers for taking news content from them;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Ministry is considering to enact a law, making tech giants share their revenue with our news publishers?

Regulations on OTT platforms

61 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

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

- (a) the details of self-regulation code proposed to the Ministry by Over The Top (OTT) platforms;
- (b) whether it is a fact that consultations have started with various stakeholders on framing of guidelines for OTT platforms;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the tentative time by when regulations on OTT platforms would come into being?

Ranking of India in 'Reporters Without Borders' annual report

62 Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that India retains its lowly 142nd rank out of 180 countries in the 2021st annual report of 'Reporters Without Borders';
- (b) if so, the steps are being taken by Government to improve India's position in the report's Index; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact the India's ranking has dropped from 133 to 142 since 2016?

Increase in popularity of radio through 'Mann Ki Baat'

63 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

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

- (a) whether 'Mann Ki Baat' programme by the Prime Minister has increased the popularity of radio and rehabilitated, if so, whether the Ministry has done any survey to know its increased reach;
- (b) the steps taken to improve its access and programmes;
- (c) the revenue earned in 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21; and
- (d) the steps being taken to make it more audience friendly through news and views?

Government outreach strategy

64 Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

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

- (a) whether Government through a Group of Ministers is preparing a "Government Communications" or a media and outreach strategy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government, through this proposed strategy intends to identify and track "negative influencers";
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the plan of action to track and counter "negative influencers"; and
- (e) the criteria used to classify a media or social media person/entity as a "negative influencer"?

Journalists engaged in anti-India activities

65 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that several journalists are engaging in spy, espionage and anti-India activities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government would take steps to issue "Press Cards" in the country, both by Centre and State Governments to control fake journalists;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Expenditure incurred on 'Mann Ki Baat' programme

66 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

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

- (a) the number of times, frequency and platforms on which the 'Mann ki Baat' programme is broadcasted;
- (b) the expenditure incurred in the production of each of the programmes individually;
- (c) the number of individuals who listen to the said programme each year; and
- (d) the details of the expenditure incurred, revenue generated along with profit or loss, year-wise till date?

Tobacco imagery in OTT platforms

67 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

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

- (a) whether any steps have been taken to regulate display of tobacco use in Over-The-Top (OTT) platforms) like Amazon Prime, Hulu, Hotstar, Netflix, Sony liv, Alt Balaji, MX Player, Voot etc.; and
- (b) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken to make OTT platforms comply with Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Rules, 2003, regulating display of tobacco products and their use in films and television programmes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Fake news

68 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

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

- (a) the number of fake news reports received by Government during the last year till date, spread on social media and the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether there have been instances of protests and mob riots in relation to the spread of such fake news and the details of incidents thereof; and
- (c) the initiatives taken by Government to put the perpetrators to book under law and the details thereof?

Allocation of funds to Bihar

69 # **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of funds allocated to the State of Bihar during the current financial year under 'Har Ghar, Nal Ka Jal' scheme;
- (b) the time-limit set to make tap water available for every household in Bihar;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a large area surrounding Ganga river in Bihar is contaminated with Arsenic; and
- (d) if so, whether Government will introduce a special provisions in this scheme to provide drinking water in this area?

Tap water to all households in Aspirational districts

70 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Shri Sanjay Seth:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tap water supply increased fourfolds in Aspirational districts with households getting tap connection in just 22 months with the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith number of Aspirational districts covered; and
- (c) whether Central Government has asked States to provide tap water on priority to all households in Aspirational districts and SC/ST majority villages and if so, the details thereof and the response of the State Governments thereto?

Rainwater harvesting drive

71 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is conducting the rainwater harvesting drive and also implementing the Jal Shakti Abhiyan phase-II and undertaking jobs like cleaning, dredging and widening water streams and water-holding ponds, lakes and reservoirs which need to be carried out prior to the onset of the monsoon, as the pre-monsoon dry season is an opportune period for building rainwater collecting infrastructure or renovating and expanding the old one; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and progress made, State-wise as on date along with funds sanctioned/spent?

Funds released under JJM

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

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount of fund released to State Governments under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)(Rural) programme so far, year-wise;
- (b) the details of funds released and utilized for all the States, year-wise;
- (c) whether the funds released to States are adequate to meet the programme goal of providing tap water connections to all rural households by 2024; and
- (d) the details of progress of the mission with respect to Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh?

Special scheme for inter-linking of rivers

73 Shri Y. S. Chowdary:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is contemplating any special scheme for inter-linking of rivers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the new schemes are different from the earlier schemes which are already being implemented; and
- (c) the rivers which are likely to be inter-linked under river inter-linking scheme in Southern part of India, especially Narmada, Godavari, Krishna and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

Construction of Mekedatu dam

74 Shri Vaiko:

Shri M. Shanmugam:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Water Commission or the Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change has given permission for the proposed construction of Mekedatu dam across Cauvery river by the State Government of Karnataka;
- (b) if not, whether Government is asking State Government of Karnataka not to pursue it;
- (c) the quantum of Cauvery river water released by the State of Karnataka during the last two years and the percentage of deficiency, month-wise; and
- (d) the efforts made by Government to fully implement the Award of Cauvery Water Tribunal for release of Cauvery water to the State of Tamil Nadu, with details?

"Day Zero" roadmap for water scarce regions

75 Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has/had any specific expert/Inter-ministerial committee/research study/policy/plan/strategy for studying, evaluating and preparing a "Day Zero" roadmap/policy for water scarce regions of the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

People having access to piped drinking water

76 Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) the total percentage of people in the country having access to piped drinking water as on date; and
- (b) the percentage of people having access to piped drinking water, State-wise?

Funds under DRIP Scheme

77 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any proposals from Andhra Pradesh Government requesting for release of funds under Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Programme (DRIP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the quantum of funds release/proposed to be released to the State of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (d) the details thereof?

Constitutional validity of Punjab Termination of Agreement Act, 2004

78 Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Presidential Reference has been made in the Supreme Court regarding constitutional validity of Punjab Termination of Agreement Act, 2004;
- (b) if so, whether the Supreme Court has listed the matter for hearing;
- (c) if not, whether Government is willing to make a request to the Supreme Court for an early decision on the Presidential Reference;
- (d) if so, the status thereon; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Domestic water tap connection under JJM

79 # Shri Ram Vichar Netam:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) the ratio of share between the Central Government and State Government under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM);
- (b) the target set for the domestic water tap connection under JJM in Chhattisgarh, since 2019 till date;
- (c) the funds allocated by the Central Government to achieve the said target during the said period and the funds spent and left, year-wise; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that JJM in Chhattisgarh is lagging behind its set target, if so, the details thereof?

Relief and rehabilitation package for agricultural labourers affected by PIP

80 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had identified families of agricultural labourers whose livelihood primarily depended upon the lands that have been acquired for Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP);
- (b) if so, details of the families of agricultural labourers who have been affected due to PIP, Mandal-wise in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) whether Government has paid any compensation to the agricultural labourers whose livelihood primarily depended upon the lands that have been acquired for PIP;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Nagarjuna Sagar Dam

81 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the situation that prevailed/is prevailing at the site of Nagarjuna Sagar Dam, where the two States were/are at loggerhead over their respective rights;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) whether Government has given any instruction to the two State Governments viz., State Governments of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Implementation of JJM for desert areas

82 Shri Neeraj Dangi:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any policy decision for priority in implementation of "Jal Jeevan Mission"(JJM), for desert areas, Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe majority villages in States/UTs, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is willing to have a specific strategy and has revised matching grant, under which special incentive to desert areas, Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe majority villages is proposed under JJM, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government is considering impact of COVID-19 pandemic on rural economy for revising the matching grant of Government to States for JJM, if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds allocation for cleaning of rivers

83 Dr. Santanu Sen:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the name and stretch of the river in the country which can be termed as clean after the inception of the Ministry;
- (b) the details of the total amount of funds allocated and utilised for the cleaning of rivers across the country during the last five years; and
- (c) whether a large amount of allocated funds remains unutilized every year, if so, the reasons thereof?

National River Conservation Programme in West Bengal

84 Dr. Santanu Sen:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any project under National River Conservation Program (NRCP) has been approved in the State of West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of polluted stretches identified in the selected rivers;
- (c) the details of funds sanctioned, approved, released and spent on selected stretches during the last three years, year- wise and river-wise; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal to identify more polluted stretches for the said programme in the State of West Bengal, if so, the details thereof?

Illegal construction on bank of river Ganga

85 # Shri Ramkumar Verma:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that by the order of "National Green Tribunal", any commercial construction on the bank of river Ganga and especially it's tributaries, within the radius of 100 meters from the center point of the rivers has been banned, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that even at present illegal construction is being carried on

along the tributaries of river Ganges, especially on the bank of rivers of Yamkeshwar tehsil of Pauri, Garhwal, if so, the details thereof and the details of action taken by Government in this regard?

Drawl of water from Krishna river basin by Karnataka

86 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

Will the Minister of ***Jal Shakti*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is calculating the unauthorized drawl of water from Krishna river basin by Telangana for power generation, as utilization against the agreed allocation of 299 TMC;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that Srisaillam reservoir converted from hydel power project to major multipurpose project to meet domestic, industrial and irrigation needs; and

(d) if so, efforts being made in the past by the Ministry to stop Telangana from generating power from this reservoir?

Drinking water for every household under JJM

87 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

Will the Minister of ***Jal Shakti*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has envisioned to provide drinking water through individual household tap connections by 2024 to all households in rural India under 'Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)', if so, the details thereof, the number of households in rural areas which have been provided drinking water, so far, State-wise; and

(b) whether Rajasthan Government has raised a demand before Government to increase the latter's share of contribution in view of providing drinking water to every household, in the State under JJM, if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

National project sanctioned under the Ministry

88 Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:

Will the Minister of ***Jal Shakti*** be pleased to state:

(a) details of the national projects sanctioned under the Ministry from 2014 to 2021 till date;

(b) details of the projects implemented and pending till date in the State of Bihar;

(c) whether Government has conducted any assessment regarding works and performance of the national projects during the last three years and if so, details and outcome thereof;

(d) whether Government has developed a central monitoring system to implement its projects properly and if so, details thereof; and

(e) the steps are taken/being taken by Government to enhance efficiency and reduce the cost of projects undertaken across the country, State/UT/year-wise since 2014 to till date?

Pure drinking water for every villages

89 # Shri Surendra Singh Nagar:

Will the Minister of ***Jal Shakti*** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages where pure drinking water is available for 365 days in the country as on date;

(b) the number of villages where pure drinking water is still not available;

(c) whether Government has formulated any plan to provide drinking water for 365 days in every village across the country; and

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

Funds released under SBM

90 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of works done under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) in all the districts of Maharashtra;
- (b) the amount of funds released and utilised under this campaign from the day of enactment;
- (c) the estimated number of people benefitted under the SBM in Maharashtra, district-wise; and
- (d) the names of agencies through which amount released under the SBM has been spent in Maharashtra including the Parbhani district, district-wise?

Safe drinking water to households under JJM

91 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of households which have been provided with safe drinking water during 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), so far, State-wise;
- (b) the details of targeted households to be provided with safe drinking water during financial year 2021-22, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of target fixed to provide safe drinking water during financial year 2020-21 and the details of households actually provided with safe drinking water, State-wise?

Survey on drinking water by CPCB

92 **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and other agencies have conducted any survey to assess the situation of drinking water in the country during the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details along with the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government thereon?

Water scarcity

93 **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is huge scarcity of water in various parts of the country;
- (b) whether any survey has been carried out to measure the total demand and the existing supply of water in big cities of the countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures being taken by Government to restore ground water level and ensure adequate supply of drinkable water?

Potable water problem in rural areas

94 **Dr. Ameer Yajnik:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the data of depleting ground water level percentage per year for the last three years,

State- wise;

- (b) whether there are any Government initiatives to tackle the situation of potable water problem in rural areas;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has allocated any fund to States as per their ground water level status to take appropriate measures, if so, the details thereof?

Encouragement to MSMEs

95 # **Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of economic package given by Government to restart Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and outcome thereof;
- (b) whether the amount fixed by Government to revive the MSMEs sector is too less due to which there would be uncertainty in the said sector for a long time; and
- (c) whether any study has been conducted to fix the amount of finance needed for the recovery of MSMEs sector and the details of resources that will have to be made available for the same?

Setting up new units of MSMEs

96 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Shri Sanjay Seth:

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether setting up of new units of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) has been severely affected due to second wave of COVID-19 pandemic and if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken in this regard;
- (b) whether Government is planning to simplify the process for registration of MSMEs and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the funds allocated/released by Government for setting up of new units of MSMEs after the spread of COVID-19 pandemic and the number of jobs generated therefrom including in backward and rural areas of the country?

Loans to MSMEs industries under CGS

97 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) industries eligible to get a loan under Credit Guarantee Scheme (CGS);
- (b) the amount of money released to the eligible MSMEs industries in Telangana State during the first wave of COVID-19; and
- (c) whether any scheme was announced by Government to boost MSMEs industries to get out of pandemic in the second wave of COVID-19?

World Bank funds for MSMEs

98 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

Will the Minister of ***Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that World Bank sanctioned Rs.3,640 crore to strengthen/revive Micro,

Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Sector in the country as it was badly affected during pandemic; and
 (b) if so, the details of allocation and funds released, State-wise?

Jobs generated under PMEGP

99 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Will the Minister of *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises* be pleased to state:

- (a) the micro enterprise jobs that Government planned to generate under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) in the financial year 2020-21;
- (b) whether Government managed to reach its target, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the total number of jobs generated by PMEGP since its introduction till the present date, State wise?

Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) scheme

100 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Will the Minister of *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises* be pleased to state:

- (a) total number of beneficiaries of Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) scheme in the financial year 2020-21, State-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to increase beneficiaries in the ISEC scheme; and
- (c) if no steps are taken, reasons therefor?

Beneficiaries under CGT MSE

101 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Will the Minister of *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises* be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of beneficiaries of Credit Guarantee Trust Fund for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGT MSE) in the financial year 2020-21, State-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to increase beneficiaries in the Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (SEC) scheme; and
- (c) if no steps are taken then the reasons therefor?

Benefits of policies relating to MSMEs

102 Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy:

Will the Minister of *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises* be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of benefits announced by Government for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector which are or not percolating to the beneficiaries and the steps being taken by the Ministry to address this issue;
- (b) whether the benefits are mostly given to the 'Micro' and 'Small' category only, whereas the benefits should also be extended to the 'Medium' category; and
- (c) whether these benefits are not percolating to the beneficiaries as intended by the policy makers, as the banks are not proactive and supportive enough to help the beneficiaries?

Challenges in MSMEs sector

103 Shri Binoy Viswam:

Will the Minister of *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the fact that definition of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) has been a constraint for many SMEs to access

institutional support;

(b) mechanism Government uses to differentiate MSMEs from other corporate entities, in light of no separate registration of MSMEs under Companies Act;

(c) whether Government is considering an increase in the size and extension of the period of availability of Emergency Credit line mandated for providing collateral free loans to MSMEs; and

(d) challenges identified by Government relating to the MSMEs sector and the manner it proposes to resolve these challenges?

World Bank programme to support MSMEs

104 **Shri Sanjay Raut:**

Will the Minister of *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises* be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Small Scale Industries have collapsed during the last two years due to COVID-19;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating situation and Government's response thereto, State-wise;

(c) whether the World Bank has approved a \$500 million programme to support Government of India's nationwide initiative to revitalize the MSMEs sector, which has been heavily impacted by the COVID-19 crisis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and details of programme initiated by Government to utilize this fund to improve the MSMEs sector in the country?

Direct and indirect employment in MSMEs

105 # **Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

Will the Minister of *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises* be pleased to state:

the number of units which are operational under Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) at present and the number of people who are getting direct and indirect employment due to the industry?

Closure of MSMEs

106 # **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises* be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) closed during the last three years;

(b) the details of the impact caused by incessant lockdowns;

(c) the loss suffered by such industries during the last three years;

(d) the number of industries which have been closed, sold out and are repaying their installments by taking loans from banks due to said loss; and

(e) the number of closed industries which have been re-operationalised?

Loans under 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'

107 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

Will the Minister of *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises* be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) registered in financial year 2020-21; and

(b) the number of MSMEs that have availed loans under 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'?

Economically assist MSMEs initiative by Government

108 **Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether credit exposure to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are a major challenge;
- (b) if so, whether MSMEs do not have the ability or the money to develop much needed finance vertical within their organization and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a need to offer them the right products and funding at the right time and help them grow and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the type of initiative taken by Government to assist the MSMEs in economically backward areas including Karnataka?

Disbursal of loans to MSMEs under ECLGS

109 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) who got the benefit under 100 per cent Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS);
- (b) whether any target has been given to banks to disburse loans to MSMEs under the above scheme;
- (c) conditions put to get loan under the above scheme;
- (d) total amount of loan sanctioned and the amount so far disbursed;
- (e) whether the scheme excludes first time borrowers and those accounts which turned bad due to COVID-19; and
- (f) if so, the reasons thereof and steps taken by Government to extend loan to the above MSMEs also?

Jobs lost due to sudden shutdown of MSMEs

110 **Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises which stopped operating due to COVID-19 crisis in the country, State-wise;
- (b) number of employed persons who lost their job due to sudden shutdown of these enterprises in the country, State-wise;
- (c) whether any scheme has been introduced by Government to support the workers who became unemployed due to lockdown and sudden shutdown of these enterprises; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Expansion and increase in capacity of MSMEs

111 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to infuse ₹ 50,000 crore into Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in these COVID-19 times as equity through fund of funds;
- (b) if so, highlights thereof and number of MSMEs likely to be benefited;
- (c) to what extent this helps in expansion and increase in capacity of MSMEs; and

(d) the amount so far infused under the above fund and number of MSMEs benefited out of it, State-wise?

Inclusion of retail/wholesale business in MSMEs

112 # **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has included retail and wholesale business also in the category of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and if so, whether this move is intended to provide priority loans to them only under priority sector lending or they will be provided with the priority in Government procurement like other MSMEs and arbitration facility in recovery of dues;

(b) whether under the MSMEs Act, 2006, it is mandatory to respect the provision of protection of payment for Small Scale Industry (SSI) under IBS laws also; and

(c) whether this protection of payments will be made available to medium scale industries also?

Funds released under MCY

113 **Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released under Mahila Coir Yojana (MCY) and skill upgradation projects to various States including Kerala during the last two years; and

(b) whether any package has been provided by Government for the export of coir products and if so, the details thereof including the volume of exports from Kerala?

Utilisation of funds of District Mineral Foundation

114 **Shri Prasanna Acharya:**

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

(a) whether District Mineral Foundation (DMF) has been constituted in every district having mines and minerals, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the guidelines for utilisation of funds of DMF and the expenditure position, so far; and

(c) whether Government will consider utilising a particular portion of the funds in some priority sector in other parts of the same mines bearing State?

Reforms in mining sector

115 # **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

(a) whether Government proposes to allot all the private-public mines of all minerals in the country, through auction only and whether any timeline has been fixed for the same;

(b) whether Government is planning to reallocate the mining projects related to cancelled/surrendered leases of the mining lessees, who have not produced anything even after the auction, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is a huge difference between the price fixed by Indian Bureau of Mines for minerals and market price, and it results in loss to Government and the initiatives that would be taken by Government to remove this discrepancy?

Formula to accord minority status

116 **Shri Prasanna Acharya:**

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) Government formula to accord minority status to any religious community in the country;
- (b) whether there are several religious communities in States who are in minority but are placed in the majority categories and are deprived of the rights and privileges entitled to minority communities; and
- (c) whether Government will consider granting minority status to those religious communities who are in minority as per last census?

Status of Parsis and Jews

117 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of two smallest communities, Parsis and Jews in India;
- (b) whether it is a fact that their population is declining;
- (c) if so, steps being taken to protect declining population of these two communities in India; and
- (d) whether the Ministry will publish a monograph elaborating the contributions of these two communities in social, cultural and economic life of the country?

Economic package for minorities

118 # **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has granted any economic package for the employment and entrepreneurship of the minority community and also for the very poor from these communities in view of COVID-19 and lockdown during last the two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount received by the people belonging to minority communities on account of the schemes implemented for them during the last two years, so that the effect of pandemic on their life can be minimized?

Welfare schemes for minorities

119 **Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:**

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the welfare schemes for minorities introduced by Government during the last year;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any review of the implementation of these schemes;
- (c) if so, the finding thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Permission to operate seaplanes

120 # Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the name of cities in which the 'Inland Waterways Authority of India' has sought permission to operate seaplanes so far, to make inroads into transportation in the country;
- (b) the names of cities from which seaplanes are targeted to operate and since when and whether the work is being completed as per the target or is likely to be delayed; and
- (c) the names of companies which have sought permission to operate seaplanes?

Livelihood support for Sagarmala affected fishermen

121 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of district/project-wise beneficiaries and benefits accrued by fish workers and fishing communities under Government's coastal community development;
- (b) the number of fishermen whose livelihoods have been affected or who have been displaced by projects under Sagarmala;
- (c) the number of direct and indirect jobs created for them;
- (d) the programmes for livelihood support other than skill development, coastal tourism and research and development being offered to them; and
- (e) whether any assessment/feedback of the actual support provided by the schemes to fishworkers and fishing communities has been conducted and if not, the reasons therefor?

Handing over of fast patrol vessels to other countries

122 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken for handing over fast patrol vessels to the countries including Seychelles Coast Guard as part of a high level virtual event of India's policy for the Indian Ocean region and the details of gifts of similar vessels to the countries including Seychelles; and
- (b) the details of present status of the policy during the last five years?

National waterway in Kerala

123 Shri John Brittas:

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any proposal/representation from Kerala Government to declare Calicut – Neeleswaram and Kovalam - Quilon waterway stretches as National Waterway; and
- (b) if so, the response of Government thereof?

Indian Ports Amendment Bill

124 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the uproar over the proposed Indian Ports Amendment Bill to be introduced in the Parliament;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for the objections being raised on the issue;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the bill is encroaching upon the powers of State Governments; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government to modify the bill for it smooth passing in the Parliament?

Implementation of MARPOL

125 Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy:

Will the Minister of ***Ports, Shipping and Waterways*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) is the main international convention covering prevention of pollution of the marine environment by ships from operational or accidental causes and in spite of a coastline of more than 7500 Km, India has negligible presence and interventions in the International Maritime Organization (IMO);
- (b) whether it is also a fact that India's permanent representative post in the IMO has remained vacant for more than 25 years; and
- (c) detail of the status of implementation of MARPOL Convention in India?

Draft Indian Ports Bill, 2021

126 Shri Sujeet Kumar:

Will the Minister of ***Ports, Shipping and Waterways*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has considered and addressed the concerns raised by Odisha Government regarding the Draft Indian Ports Bill, 2021 with a specific focus on centralized Maritime States Development Council (MSDC);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Capacity utilisation of major ports

127 Shri Iranna Kadadi:

Will the Minister of ***Ports, Shipping and Waterways*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the freight handling capacity of the major ports of the country during each of the last five years, port-wise;
- (b) the details of the freight traffic at each of the major ports during the said period, port-wise;
- (c) the average capacity utilisation of major ports during the last five years, port-wise; and
- (d) the expenditure incurred by Government to enhance the capacity of the major ports during the said period, port-wise?

Training to HMV drivers

128 Smt. Ambika Soni:

Will the Minister of ***Road Transport and Highways*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any institutional mechanism to provide training to drivers having Heavy Motor Vehicle (HMV) licence in handling hazardous chemicals/cargo;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to create a pool of skilled drivers with training in handling hazardous chemicals/cargo?

NH sanctioned in Andhra Pradesh

129 **Shri Y. S. Chowdary:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of new National Highways (NHs) sanctioned for construction in the State of Andhra Pradesh in the last three years;
- (b) whether Government has received any proposal for construction of new NHs from the State Government in the said period;
- (c) if so, the action taken thereon; and
- (d) the funds allocated, released and utilised for development and construction of NHs in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise?

Status of NH Projects in Kerala

130 **Shri John Brittas:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the total number of National Highway (NH) development projects/works taken up in Kerala;
- (b) the status of various projects along with progress and the targets; and
- (c) the details thereof?

Roads made of plastic waste

131 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to inculcate the usage of plastic waste in construction of roads at a larger scale following the example of State of Tripura;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including estimated costs and time frame;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has commissioned a study into the impact of plastic in road construction; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Green Tax on older vehicles to curb air pollution

132 **Dr. Banda Prakash:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to impose Green Tax on older vehicles to curb air pollution and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of estimated number of older vehicles plying on roads in the country, State-wise;
- (c) whether the said Green Tax will vary from State to State and if so, the details of rates, State-wise;
- (d) whether Government has information regarding rate of Green Tax levied by major developed and developing countries and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government has made any impact assessment of imposing Green Tax and if so, the details thereof?

Exemption of registration for electric vehicles

133 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on registration-less and licence-less electric vehicles in the country; and
 (b) if so, the details thereof?

Status of Expressways to be constructed

134 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of Expressways to be constructed in the country;
 (b) whether any measures are being taken by Government to remove the delay caused in construction of these routes due to COVID-19; and
 (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Current status of Delhi-Mumbai Expressway

135 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of Delhi-Mumbai Expressway being constructed in the country;
 (b) whether it is a fact that the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway is running far behind its scheduled date of completion;
 (c) the amount of increase in the cost of construction of the said expressway due to the delay; and
 (d) the plan of Government to complete the construction within scheduled time?

Status of automated fitness test centres and scrapping centres

136 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the total number of automated fitness test centres and scrapping centres in the country till date;
 (b) whether Government has set up any new Integrated Scrapping Facility centres;
 (c) whether Government will provide scrappage incentives to commercial and personnel vehicles;
 (d) whether Government will be taking any substantial steps apart from incentives to encourage old vehicle- owners to volunteer; and
 (e) the details of any infrastructural facility designed to dispose of the non-recyclable auto parts?

Full implementation of FASTags

137 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to fully implement the FASTag with effect from January 2021;
 (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) whether the hybrids lanes will be operational in such a scenario and timeline set for operationalisation?

FASTag coverage and collection

138 Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of FASTag coverage and collection so far, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is aware that truck and commercial vehicle drivers are using novel tricks to skip/evade toll tax;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the number of toll tax evading trucks and commercial vehicles identified by Indian Highways Management Company Limited (IHMCL) so far, State/UT-wise and the details of action taken against them?

Adoption of innovative solutions for preventing road accidents

139 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that some infrastructure firms are providing innovative solutions that offer technical expertise to deliver versatile, cost-effective, and environmentally sound solutions for preventing road accidents in future;
- (b) if so, the measures taken to encourage such firms towards making roads, particularly in hilly areas, safer for their users; and
- (c) steps taken to adopt alternative technology which helps in the reduction of natural resources for road construction?

Status of Green NHs Corridor Project

140 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government had signed an agreement with the World Bank to develop a Green National Highways (NHs) Corridor Project;
- (b) if so, the present status of progress of this project and timeline for completion; and
- (c) the names of the States to be covered under it?

Conversion of roads in Chhattisgarh into four/six lane roads

141 # Shri Ram Vichar Netam:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of projects approved for converting the roads of Chhattisgarh State into four and six lanes, during last three years;
- (b) the details of projects where work has been completed along with the projects where work could not be completed within the stipulated time limit, despite grant of approval; and
- (c) whether Government is aware of the fact that work of Ambikapur-Pathalgaon National Highway could not be completed so far, if so, the steps being taken by Government for an early completion of this project?

Construction of roads in Karnataka

142 Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that recent construction activities and widening of roads were sanctioned for the Karnataka in 2020-21;

- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the expenditure incurred;
- (c) the details of rural road constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in Karnataka during last two years;
- (d) whether the Central Government has received any request from the Karnataka State Government for financial assistance for reconstruction of roads damaged due to recent flood; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Central Government?

Safety and security on newly constructed NHs

143 **Shri Anil Desai:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the main features of the newly constructed National Highways (NHs);
- (b) the number of Highways, Government has constructed during last five years; and
- (c) the safety and security gadgets and equipment installed at the newly constructed NHs?

Progress of Patna-Gaya-Dobhi road on NH-22

144 # **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Patna-Gaya-Dobhi 127 kms stretch of NH-22 is being constructed in three packages with the assistance of the Government of Japan at a cost of Rs. 1600 crore;
- (b) the status of land availability in each package;
- (c) the physical progress of each package and the amount of money that has been spent; and
- (d) the targeted timelines given to the contractors for completion of the said project?

Deaths due to road accidents

145 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country accounts for more than 2,00,000 deaths per year because of road accidents, and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of measures taken to check accidental deaths; and
- (c) the steps taken to stringently enforce roads safety laws?

Survival rate of saplings planted along NHs

146 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that a large percentage of saplings planted by the sides of National Highways (NHs) is not able to survive due to lack of a proper system for looking after them and their maintenance and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government proposes to take any steps for the proper look after and maintenance of the trees including imparting training and seeking involvement of local communities in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

Solar energy potential of NHs

147 **Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:**

Will the Minister of *Road Transport and Highways* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to use the energy generation potential of National Highways (NHs) especially in Bihar, through the installation of solar panels along six-lane and wider highways in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the names of the routes proposed for the purpose in Bihar; and
- (d) whether any work has been done in this regard so far and if so, the details thereof?

Progress of NH-71 in Andhra Pradesh

148 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

Will the Minister of *Road Transport and Highways* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 70 per cent of land acquisition has been completed for Renigunta-Naidupeta Section of NH-71 in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that as per the guidelines, 80 per cent of land has to be acquired and only then the construction work has to be started;
- (c) whether the Ministry will consider starting construction work on NH-71 in view of the fact that more than 70 per cent land acquisition has been completed; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Progress of NHs under construction in the country

149 **Dr. Anil Agrawal:**

Will the Minister of *Road Transport and Highways* be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and names of the National Highways (NHs) projects under construction in the country, State-wise and the progress made so far; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government to complete these under construction/partially constructed NHs and by when these will be completed?

Insurance cover to athletes

150 **Smt. Ambika Soni:**

Will the Minister of *Youth Affairs and Sports* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to extend medical and accidental insurance cover to athletes, coaches and supporting staff;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to identify the athletes and supporting staff for inclusion in the insurance plan?

National Youth Development Fund

151 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

Will the Minister of *Youth Affairs and Sports* be pleased to state:

- (a) the total corpus of the National Youth Development Fund for the past three years;
- (b) the total amount spent out of the National Youth Development Fund in the past three years; and
- (c) the details of the activities on which money was spent out of the National Youth Development Fund in the past three years, State-wise?

Projects under Khelo India scheme in Kerala

152 **Shri John Brittas:**

Will the Minister of *Youth Affairs and Sports* be pleased to state:

- the total number of projects that have been undertaken as on date, under the Khelo India scheme in Kerala; and
- the funds sanctioned under this scheme in the last two years, category-wise?

Role of NSS and NYKS during pandemic

153 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

Will the Minister of *Youth Affairs and Sports* be pleased to state:

- National Service Scheme (NSS), Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and other organisations have an enormous volunteer base of young minds and whether the Ministry has deployed these organisations for outreach activities/distribution drives during national lockdown;
- if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor;
- whether the Ministry has setup health camps/COVID-19 checkup camps for screening the frontline volunteers; and
- if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

India in Tokyo Olympics

154 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

Will the Minister of *Youth Affairs and Sports* be pleased to state:

- the events in which India is participating in Tokyo Olympics starting from 23rd July, 2021;
- whether it is a fact that no special assistance has been provided by Government to the Indian sportspersons for their preparations for the Tokyo Olympics starting from 23rd July, 2021;
- if so, the reasons therefor; and
- to what extent Government is confident about the performance of Indian players in Tokyo Olympics?

'Khelo India' centres

155 # **Dr. Anil Jain:**

Will the Minister of *Youth Affairs and Sports* be pleased to state:

- the salient features of 'Khelo India' centres;
- whether it is a fact that 'Khelo India' centres have been opened in different districts of the country with an aim of establishing India among top ten countries in the olympic games to be held in the year 2028;
- if so, the details of 'Khelo India' centres established across different districts of the country, including the district of Firozabad, so far; and
- the details of the availability of trainers and equipment facility in the district level 'Khelo India' centres and the talented players selected, so far, district-wise?

Facilities for athletes and youth amidst the COVID-19

156 **Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

Will the Minister of *Youth Affairs and Sports* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken steps to ensure the facilities for continuing the training and practice of the athletes taking part in the Tokyo Olympics, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) whether any priority has been given to the sportspersons in vaccination drive, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether there has been any special projects and steps being taken by the Ministry to tackle multiple issues faced by the youth in the country during pandemic, if so, the details thereof?

Making sports federations transparent

157 **Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

Will the Minister of *Youth Affairs and Sports* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is working towards making various sports federations transparent;
- (b) if so, whether there is any definite qualification or criteria fixed in the selection of these officials in sports federations;
- (c) whether Government is aware that the office bearers of a certain sports association have been eminent players of the same sport; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to come up with any fixed guidelines in this regard?

Participation of rural youth in sports

158 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

Will the Minister of *Youth Affairs and Sports* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has started any policy/programme to promote sports among the rural youth in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the achievements thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken to increase the participation of rural youth in sports?

Construction of sports stadiums

159 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

Will the Minister of *Youth Affairs and Sports* be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of new sports stadiums constructed throughout the country, during the last five years with latest infrastructure for the benefit of sportsmen, sportswomen and youth; and
- (b) the details of fund allocated for the said purpose, fund spent so far and, status of stadiums which are under construction, State-wise?

Special provision for aspiring athletes

160 **Dr. Ameer Yajnik:**

Will the Minister of *Youth Affairs and Sports* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any sports institutions were opened in the last three years in the country, State-wise, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is any special provision for aspiring athletes coming from rural areas to support them, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has provided any financial assistance to schools, colleges/institutions under 'Khelo India' scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

New Delhi
The 12th July, 2021
21 Ashadha 1943 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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