

Rajya Sabha

**List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS**

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Tuesday, August 3, 2021/ 12 Sravana, 1943 (Saka)

**(Ministries : Ayush; Corporate Affairs; Culture; Earth Sciences; Finance; Health and Family Welfare; New and Renewable Energy; Power; Science and Technology; Tourism)**

Total number of questions -- 160

**Funds allocation for AYUSH Schemes in Darjeeling District in West Bengal**

1601 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

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

- (a) the details of funds allocated/ granted/released under various AYUSH schemes in Darjeeling district and the State of West Bengal in general during the last three years; and
- (b) the time by when Government is likely to release the remaining funds to the State of West Bengal and the details thereof?

**Research on AYUSH medicine system for treatment of COVID-19**

1602 # **Shri Vinay Dinu Tendulkar:**

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

- (a) whether any research work has been undertaken in Ayurveda medicine system also to develop a proper medicine for COVID-19, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether any Government or private institutes are conducting research in this regard, if so, the details thereof along with the outcome thereof?

**Development of effective AYUSH medicines against COVID-19**

1603 **Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

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

- (a) whether any effective AYUSH medicines could be developed in the country to control the ill effects of COVID-19 in the last 18 months;
- (b) if so, the progress made so far by Government and private institutions in the country; and
- (c) whether the medicine(s) found effective in the cure of COVID-19 affected persons has been given national and international level recognition?

**Laboratory research on development of effective medicines under Ayurveda**

1604 **Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

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

- (a) whether Government has encouraged the research laboratories to develop Ayurvedic medicines for different diseases in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of ongoing projects in different laboratories and progress made so far in each case; and
- (c) the steps Indian laboratories are proposing to take to get international recognition of Ayurvedic medicines being developed in India?

#### **Approval of COVID-19 related medicines under AYUSH**

1605 **Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has approved any AYUSH drugs for combating COVID-19 and, if so, the list of the same;
- (b) whether the Ministry has allowed private companies to sell AYUSH based COVID related drugs and, if so, the list of the same;
- (c) the total amount of funds the Ministry has spent on advertising AYUSH alternatives during the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (d) whether any AYUSH medication is currently being tested as a means to combat COVID-19 and, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Opening of Ayurveda colleges in MP**

1606 # **Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:**

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

whether Government proposes to open Ayurveda colleges in Madhya Pradesh to promote Ayurveda Medicine System as it has opened medical colleges for the expansion of medical services in the State, if so, by when the decision would be taken in this regard?

#### **Yoga awareness programme**

1607 # **Shri Neeraj Dang:**

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

- (a) whether Government is organising any special scheme/programme in order to spread awareness about Yoga among people in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that complete cure of diseases like COVID-19 is possible with Yoga;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the studies carried out; and
- (e) the details of the funds spent in this regard, institute/institution-wise?

#### **Agreement for R&D on traditional medicines**

1608 # **Shri Rajendra Gehlot:**

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

- (a) whether Government has entered into any agreement with other countries for research and development of traditional medicines, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has any scheme to promote traditional and ethnic pharmaceuticals in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the locations where ethnic and conventional medicines are found in the country, State-wise?

### AYUSH medicines to counter COVID-19

1609 **Dr. Sonal Mansingh:**

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

- (a) whether the Ayurvedic medicines proposed by the Ministry of AYUSH have proved to have enough resistance power to counter COVID-19;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to distribute the AYUSH medicines among children of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### AYUSH hospitals/ dispensaries operating across Maharashtra

1610 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

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

- (a) the details of AYUSH hospitals or dispensaries operating across Maharashtra, especially in the remote areas;
- (b) the details of steps taken or being taken by Government to get AYUSH medicines recognised abroad;
- (c) whether Government proposes to standardise medicinal herbs with any kind of collaboration; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time likely to be taken to implement the same?

### Campaign to spread awareness regarding Ayurveda in fight against COVID-19

1611 # **Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha:**

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any awareness campaign or programme to make the public aware about the importance of Ayurveda in the fight against COVID-19;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### Appointment of independent directors

1612 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

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

- (a) whether there is any policy regarding appointments of independent directors in PSUs and other companies;
- (b) whether there are many complaints raised that inexperienced persons are appointed as independent directors; and
- (c) if so, the number of independent directors appointed during the last three years in PSUs along with their qualifications?

### CSR recommending procedure

1613 # **Shri Deepak Prakash:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any record of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds spent by the companies during the last four financial years and the current year, if so, the details thereof, State-wise, especially the funds spent for the development of Jharkhand;
- (b) whether a District Collector/ MLA/ MLC or Member of Parliament can officially

recommend to the institutions under the CSR fund for the development of their area; and  
 (c) if so, the details thereof and the official procedure of the same?

#### **NAP-BHR and NEP/NHP**

1614 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that education and health are very important functions of the State and the National Education Policy (NEP) and National Health Policy (NHP) have sections on the role of businesses;
- (b) if so, whether the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP-BHR) is having provisions to ensure that the businesses help achieve the national goals as enshrined in these policies and, if so, the details in this regard and, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures taken by Government to include the same in the NAP-BHR?

#### **Organisations associated with CSR projects**

1615 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

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

- (a) the number of organisations working in social sectors including Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) which are associated with Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects such as environment, skill development, water and cleanliness through CSR activities in the country, the details thereof, State/Union Territory-wise; and
- (b) the details of the sanctioned/allocated/utilised funds?

#### **Insolvency and bankruptcy of MSMEs**

1616 **Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that MSMEs are likely to face severe solvency issues due to COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken to make insolvency resolution more MSME friendly;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to amend Chapter IV of Part II of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) to make it more debtor-friendly for MSME insolvencies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government has plans to facilitate a debtor-in-possession model during pendency of the resolution process in MSMEs; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **New Guidelines for operation of shell companies**

1617 **Shri Hishey Lachungpa:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to devise some new guidelines for the operation of shell companies in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of shell companies identified in the country in the last three years, year-wise and State-wise?

### **Recognition of frontline workers amid pandemic**

1618 **Shri Surendra Singh Nagar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to create any award/medal for health workers and other frontline people to recognize their distinguished service in the work against COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the data of such frontline workers being honoured by Government in the past, if any?

### **Degeneration of arts and crafts in the country**

1619 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that arts and crafts in the country, including in Andhra Pradesh, is struggling for survival;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that it is due to lack of having single guiding principle or a single centre for coordination, promotion, marketing, etc., crippling arts and crafts in the country, particularly from Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) if so, whether Government will consider setting up a single centre of excellence for arts and handicrafts; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Setting up Tagore Cultural Complex in Odisha**

1620 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to set up Tagore Cultural Complex in Odisha under Financial Assistance for Tagore Cultural Complexes(TCC) Scheme; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Kala Sanskriti Vikas Yojana**

1621 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

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

- (a) whether Government has cancelled any grants under Kala Sanskriti Vikas Yojana due to the pandemic, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government guidelines for holding cultural events virtually have been successful in organising online events, if so, the details thereof?

### **Traditional culture and lifestyle to tackle pandemic**

1622 **Dr. Sonal Mansingh:**

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

- (a) whether Government will take steps to create awareness among the people of the country to follow our traditional culture and lifestyle to counter the pandemic; and
- (b) if so, the details of steps taken in this regard?

### Return of paintings and sculptures by foreign countries

1623 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that large number of paintings and sculptures were taken by the imperialists, Britain and Portuguese during colonial period;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that some of them are of historical importance;
- (c) if so, whether Government has taken any efforts to take back Indian legacies from these two and other countries; and
- (d) the names of such paintings and sculptures of historical importance taken from India?

### Classical status to Kannada Language

1624 **Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a demand from the State Government of Karnataka to accord classical language status to Kannada language and this proposal is still pending with Government;
- (b) if so, the efforts made by Government for an early approval of said proposal; and
- (c) the reasons for pendency of said proposal?

### Dignified livelihood for folk artists amid COVID-19

1625 # **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the livelihood of folk artists of various arts, especially performing art artists like Chhau artists of Jharkhand is in danger due to COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown since one and a half year in the country;
- (b) whether Government has made any special provision for improving the financial condition of these artists and their livelihoods;
- (c) if not, whether Government would make any special provision to provide them financial assistance without any delay; and
- (d) whether Government will consider making films with these artists performing in them to provide them dignified employment and broadcast them on various platforms to make their art accessible to people?

### Automated Weather Stations

1626 # **Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

Will the Minister of **Earth Sciences** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up new Automated Weather Stations with a purpose to provide exact weather forecast to the people, especially the farmers;
- (b) if so, State-wise and location-wise details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details regarding the system in place for access of weather forecast to the farmers;
- (d) whether communication technology is being used by Government to provide exact weather forecast to the farmers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

### Producing potable water from sea water

1627 **Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

Will the Minister of **Earth Sciences** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of production of desalination technology plants in the country for conversion of sea water into potable water based on Low Temperature Thermal Desalination (LTTD) technology producing drinking water from sea water;
- (b) whether Government has formulated any scheme to establish a large number of plants in the coastal areas of the country for producing drinking water from sea water;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the per litre cost of drinking water so produced from these plants; and
- (d) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented?

### Deep ocean mission

1628 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Earth Sciences** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has approved the long-pending deep ocean mission, which among other things involves developing a submersible vehicle that will allow a crew to plunge 6,000 metres into the ocean and hunt the floor for precious metals to be able to launch an underwater mission at such depths; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and present status thereof?

### Strengthening agricultural weather forecast

1629 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

Will the Minister of **Earth Sciences** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to strengthen the agricultural weather forecast services to utilize advanced information technology to address the risk in agriculture sector and to provide early weather information to farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the capacity of India Meteorological Department (IMD) to meet these challenges; and
- (c) the action taken by Government for modernization and development of devices and equipment for publishing accurate and region specific agricultural weather information at district level?

### Lapse of insurance policies during COVID-19 period

1630 # **Shri Vivek Thakur:**

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

- (a) whether the insurance policies of traders, employees and citizens got lapsed on a larger scale due to their poor financial condition during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) steps being taken by Government for those people whose insurance policies have lapsed due to their poor financial condition during the COVID-19 pandemic?

### Help to ease out loans of the common working class

1631 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that a Credit Information Company (CIC) report states

- that half of the country's working population is in debt, that roughly accounts to 20 crore;
- (b) whether Government considers debt a necessary good or evil;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to help ease out loans of the common working class; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Income Support Schemes and Monetary Compensation**

1632 **Shri Shamsher Singh Dullo:**

**Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:**

**Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

**Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

**Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the first wave, national lockdown and the second wave of COVID-19 have a significant impact on the middle class and lower middle class, leading to both loss of lives and livelihood;
- (b) if so, whether Government has formulated or has plans to formulate, specific steps in terms of financial assistance for the distressed middle class and lower middle class;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the mechanism of identifying this group and distributing the package; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Fall in Forex reserves**

1633 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

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

- (a) whether the foreign exchange reserves of India have fallen significantly in the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken any measure to increase the foreign exchange reserves of India; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon?

### **India's debt data**

1634 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

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

- (a) the details of debt burden of the country at present taken from both foreign and domestic institutions;
- (b) whether India's external and internal debt have witnessed a rapid increase during the recent time;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of the amount of money borrowed from major international institutions during the last five years; and
- (e) how much foreign debt has been repaid by Government since 2014?



**Projects undertaken in Northeast India under the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund**

1635 **Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:**

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

- (a) the details of projects undertaken in Northeast India under the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund, including Assam;
- (b) the status of implementation of these projects; and
- (c) the timeline by which these projects would be completed?

**Cairn Energy case**

1636 **Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Cairn Energy has claimed that it won a case against India enforcing \$1.2 billion award relating to retrospective taxation laws in India and, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken/is taking steps to deal that case, if so, the details thereof along with the extent to which Government is going to be benefited by the steps and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether India will take a pragmatic stance and desist from filing an appeal on Cairn Energy case as it may adversely affect the foreign investment scenario in India and, if so, the details thereof?

**Foreign financial assistance**

1637 **Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether a few foreign countries are providing financial assistance to India for the socioeconomic development of the country;
- (b) if so, the details of financial assistance received during the last two years and the current year, year-wise and country-wise;
- (c) whether India is also providing financial assistance for the socio-economic development of other countries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the last two years and the current year, year wise and country-wise?

**Merger of nationalised banks**

1638 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

**Shri Vaiko:**

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

- (a) the number of nationalised banks merged in the years 2019-20 and 2020-21 separately, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any proposal was received from NITI Aayog for merger of some more banks in the coming years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any retrenchment of employees took place in the last two years due to merger of banks; (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether Government would assure the stakeholders that the employees' terms of service would not be adversely affected and their job security would be protected?

### Grameen Banks under one Umbrella

1639 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

whether Government has taken a decision to bring all the grameen banks in the country under one umbrella, if so, the details thereof?

### Tax exemption on donations of non-profitable hospital organisations

1640 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any plan of extending 100 per cent tax exemption on the donations of Non-profitable Hospital Organisations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the NITI Aayog has recommended for implementation of the same;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the stand of Government in this regard?

### Privatisation of two banks and one insurance company

1641 **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

**Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

**Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

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

- (a) whether Government has identified two public sector banks (PSBs) and one general insurance company which are going to be privatised as per the announcement made in the Union Budget;
- (b) if so, the basis of the selection of those public sector banks, which shall be privatised;
- (c) whether there would be competitive bidding while privatising public sector banks or there would be strategic sale; and
- (d) the need to privatise when the PSBs are giving healthy returns to Government by way of dividend and taxes?

### Credit Card fraud cases

1642 **Shri Subhash Chandra Singh:**

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

- (a) whether credit card fraud cases have increased manifold in the country during each of the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of bank employees found involved in such cases and the action taken against them so far, bank-wise;
- (c) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed all banks to add security features, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the cases of non-compliance of such directions by banks have come to the notice of Government during the said period, if so, the details thereof?

### GST clarification regarding services provided by ITES Industry

1643 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

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

- (a) whether Government will issue the revised circular that was approved by the GST

Council during its 37th meeting held on 20.09.2019, to clarify doubts relating to the supply of Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES), as in the absence of such a clarification, interpretations by GST authorities treating ITES services to be intermediary services under GST continue to adversely affect the USD 38 billion industry's exports competitiveness; and

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

### **GST collection from States**

**1644 Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

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

the details of the GST collected in the last two years from States, year-wise and State-wise?

### **Failure of credit card companies to comply RBI's directive**

**1645 Shri Sanjay Raut:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that many credit card companies / operators like American Express, Diners Club, VISA, Mastercard etc. have failed to comply with RBI's directive on storing card and customer-related data on servers physically present in India;

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

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to protect consumer data only in India and not available to other countries;

(d) whether Government is considering to encourage domestic players to run credit card business in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

### **Tax fraud under GST**

**1646 Shri Sanjay Raut:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the GST authorities have unearthed over ₹35,000 crore of tax fraud committed by misuse of input tax credit (ITC) provision under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime during the financial year 2020-21 and booked about 8,000 cases involving fake ITC;

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

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to catch the culprit by making stringent rules and regulations to stop such frauds in the future?

### **Complaints of mistakes by banks in approving loans**

**1647 # Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that complaints have been received about mistakes made while approving loans by Public Sector Banks (PSBs);

(b) if so, the details of such complaints received during the last three years, bank-wise, and the number of such cases under cognizance; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by Government in this regard?

**Excluding small ice cream manufacturers from Composition Scheme**

1648 **Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of judgment of Delhi High Court which has directed GST Council to reconsider decision to exclude small ice cream manufacturers from Composition Scheme in Small Ice Cream Manufacturers Welfare Association v. Union of India;
- (b) whether the judgement of the High Court had to be complied within 90 days;
- (c) if so, the steps taken to comply with the directions of High Court even though 90 days have already passed; and
- (d) whether GST Council has reconsidered and taken steps to include small ice cream manufacturers in Composition Scheme, if so, the details thereof?

**Transport allowance to Government employees**

1649 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has increased the Dearness Allowances to Government employees;
- (b) whether Government will implement other amenities mentioned in 7th Pay Commission Report;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to revise transport allowance to Government employees; and
- (e) whether there is any proposal to get refund of transport allowance to those employees who worked from home?

**Salient features of PMGKY**

1650 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

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

- (a) the salient features of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana;
- (b) the details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under this scheme so far in Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) whether Government has received any information with regard to misutilization of funds allocated under the scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and measures taken by Government to deal with this problem?

**Stress on bank business due to COVID-19**

1651 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

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

- (a) whether banks in the country have drawn attention of RBI that extended restrictions due to the re-surgence of COVID-19 pandemic have caused significant stress on their business, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken by the RBI in this regard; and
- (c) whether RBI is contemplating re-structuring window of the banks and increase existing loan facility, if so, the details thereof?

### **Decline in growth of GST revenue from imports**

1652 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

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

- (a) whether growth in GST revenue from imports declined recently after three straight months of growth, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (b) the manner in which Government is going to cope up with some sectors which have been badly hit such as services, hotel, travel and auto due to COVID-19 pandemic and the details thereof?

### **Disinvestment of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam limited**

1653 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry remained silent when Cabinet took a decision to privatise Rashtriya Ispat Nigam limited (RINL);
- (b) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has requested not to privatise RINL and has written a letter in this regard to Prime Minister;
- (c) whether Government considers allotting captive mines and takeover debt and let the company function for 3-4 years and see its performance;
- (d) whether Government will also consider selling a few thousand acres of RINL land and serve its debt thereby plant becomes debt-free and with captive mines it can again be a leader in steel sector; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Disbursal of loans in Odisha under PM Mudra Yojana**

1654 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any step to improve the disbursal of loans in the State of Odisha under PM MUDRA Yojana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Recommendation of 15th Finance Commission to rationalise CSSs**

1655 # **Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the 15th Finance Commission has recommended to rationalise Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) and reduce their number;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any initiative in pursuance of the recommendations; and
- (d) if so, the details of centrally sponsored schemes which were discontinued or proposed to be discontinued in pursuance of the same?

### **Privatisation of PSBs**

1656 **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

**Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

**Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

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

- (a) whether Government wants to improve efficiency of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) by privatising them;
- (b) if so, the reasons for Yes Bank being bailed out by SBI;
- (c) when more than 95 per cent of the schemes to boost the economy have been implemented by PSBs during this crisis, what purpose would be served by privatisation;
- (d) whether such privatisation will reduce employment opportunities of SC/ST/OBCs in banks; and
- (e) whether the so called Bad Bank-National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL), will be out of purview of RTI?

### **Role of RBI and Government regulation**

1657 **Shri Anil Desai:**

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

- (a) the role and function of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in national economy;
- (b) the methods adopted by RBI to control and regulate functions of Government banks;
- (c) whether the same methods are applicable to regulate functioning of private sector banks; and
- (d) upto what extent the Finance Ministry can regulate functions of RBI?

### **Stacking of money in Swiss Banks**

1658 **Shri Anil Desai:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are several Indian nationals who have deposited huge money in various banks outside the country – specially in Swiss banks;
- (b) if so, the details of such accounts since 2010;
- (c) whether Government has obtained details of such accounts from the banks/Governments of these countries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons for not having such information?

### **Freezing of Government of India's property**

1659 **Dr. Subramanian Swamy:**

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

- (a) whether a court in France has ordered the freezing of some Government of India's property for failure to pay the Cairn Energy its dues;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) any action initiated by Government?

### **Amendment in FRBM Act**

1660 **Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

**Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

**Shri Rajmani Patel:**

**Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

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

- (a) whether Government has estimated the debt to GDP ratio for financial years 2020-21 and 2021-22;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government intends to amend the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget

Management (FRBM) Act;

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

(e) whether Government is considering revising debt to GDP ratio targets, as stipulated in the FRBM Act, from target figure to a target range; and

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

### **Loans sanctioned under PMMY**

1661 **Shri Rajmani Patel:**

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

(a) the details of loans sanctioned, the amount sanctioned and amount disbursed under the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) in the last five years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY), as envisioned, achieved an inclusive, sustainable, and value-based entrepreneurial culture;

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

(d) the steps being taken by Government to increase sustainable entrepreneurial culture in India?

### **Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs)**

1662 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekar:**

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

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance that Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) are also inadequate and ill-equipped to deal with loan defaulter cases, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken or being taken by Government to set up more DRTs and allowing them to function effectively and strengthening them and also for improved functioning of the banks?

### **Relief to small trusts**

1663 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

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

(a) the details of progress made along with announcement/ implementation/ execution of the steps/ measures taken for relief given/ to be given to small trusts to reduce compliance burden and other steps being taken to solve the issues of small charitable trusts running educational institutions and hospitals, projects phase-wise and States covered/ beneficiaries listed and criteria adopted along with funds sanctioned/released and the results yielded so far, sector-wise in the last four years and the current year-wise as on date;

(b) the demands received/ action taken from States, year-wise; and

(c) future action plan in this regard?

### **Unsecured loans for treatment of COVID-19**

1664 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

**Shri Sanjay Seth:**

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

(a) whether Public Sector Banks (PSBs) have announced unsecured loans of up to ₹5 lakh rupees to individuals, to meet the treatment cost of COVID-19 in the second wave;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith tenure of repayment and interest to be charged;

- (c) the eligibility criteria for availing loan and whether Government has initiated awareness campaign regarding this loan scheme and, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there is increase in outstanding loan of PSBs compared to last year and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to recover outstanding loan of PSBs in a time bound manner?

#### **Decreasing share of women in purchasing/possessing insurance**

1665 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that as per the IRDAI's 2019-20 report, the share of women purchasing/possessing insurance in the year 2019-20 has decreased to 32 per cent in number of policies and 34 per cent in first year premiums as compared to 36 per cent and 37 per cent respectively in the year 2018-19;
- (b) if so, the reasons thereof and the reaction of Government thereto; and
- (c) the measures undertaken by Government to address gender gap in penetration of life insurance policies?

#### **Growth rate of the country**

1666 **Shri K.T.S. Tulsi:**

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

the growth rate of the country, year-wise, for the last five financial years upto first two quarters of 2021 and the details thereof?

#### **Financial assistance to farmers**

1667 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

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

- (a) the financial assistance provided by Government to farmers for tilling land and purchasing agricultural equipments and the agencies through which these assistance are provided to them;
- (b) the current rate of interest charged on short term and long term loans given to farmers;
- (c) whether Government proposes to waive the interest on the loans given to farmers; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Asset reconstruction company**

1668 **Smt. Ambika Soni:**

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

- (a) whether Government has decided to set up an asset reconstruction and management company;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the said company is likely to be in operation?

#### **Rising inequalities during pandemic**

1669 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

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

- (a) whether Government has considered the imposition of wealth taxes in any form;



- (b) whether during the pandemic the number and wealth of Indian billionaires increased by nearly double while the number of poor increased by over 75 million;
- (c) the proportion of direct and indirect taxes in gross tax revenue over the last four years, percentage proportion of various tax sub-categories under these two categories; and
- (d) the reasons for why there has been a steady rise in indirect form of taxation over the last four years and a decline in corporate taxes over the same period?

### **Privatisation of Public Sector Enterprises**

**1670 Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

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

- (a) the details of name, percentage of equity to be disinvested and proceeds to be realised from Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) that are to be privatised, under Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan in 2021;
- (b) the criterion for defining PSEs as strategic under new public sector policy; and
- (c) the details of roadmap and timeline of disinvestment of these PSEs?

### **Assessment of setback in the financial performance**

**1671 Shri Anand Sharma:**

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

- (a) whether Government has assessed the setback in the financial performance of MSMEs or small firms as compared to big firms during 2020-21 due to COVID-19;
- (b) whether Government has taken cognizance of RBI's analysis on decline in corporate sector's revenues and expenditure;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any steps to give economic stimulus to MSMEs to improve their financial stability and performance?

### **CAG audit of KIFB and KIAL in Kerala**

**1672 Shri K. Somaprasad:**

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

- (a) whether Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has conducted an audit of financial transactions of Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIFB) and Kannur International Airport Ltd. (KIAL) in the past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government of Kerala has allowed CAG audit of KIFB and KIAL ever since their commencement;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor including the actions taken; and
- (e) whether CAG is empowered under section 14(1) of CAG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 in conducting suo motu audit of KIFB and KIAL?

### **Tax evasion in GST**

**1673 Shri Vaiko:**

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

- (a) the total tax evasion detected in GST for the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the reasons for tax evasion, when GST is totally on digital platform and software-based;
- (c) whether evasions are taking place on account of human error or system failure; and

(d) the steps taken to fix these problems?

**Relief measures for common citizens due to COVID-19**

1674 **Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the economy has been severely affected due to COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to provide relief to the common man and economically backward citizens of the country and the details thereof?

**Fund allocation to the backward districts of the State of Andhra Pradesh**

1675 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has released sufficient funds to the backward districts of the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has initiated any independent audit to ascertain the utilisation of these funds; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

**Contribution of Rural Medical Practitioners during COVID-19**

1676 # **Shri Vivek Thakur:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Rural Medical Practitioner (RMP) doctors would be provided training by senior doctors at Central or State level through virtual medium, in view of future waves of COVID-19, given the fact that the contribution of RMP doctors in the prevention of COVID-19 pandemic in rural areas of the country was unforgettable; and
- (b) the steps being taken by Government for the proper training of RMP doctors?

**PHCs and Government hospitals in suburban areas**

1677 # **Shri Vinay Dinu Tendulkar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is shortage of healthcare workers, beds and ICU equipments, etc. in healthcare related facilities in public sector;
- (b) whether the services of Government hospitals are available in the newly developed suburban areas;
- (c) the grounds on which primary health centres and Government hospitals are assigned in suburban areas of Metropolitan cities;
- (d) whether the residents of the said areas have to rely on the expensive private hospitals due to lack of Government hospitals; and
- (e) the details of the plans of Government for establishment of Government hospitals in the suburban areas?

**Shortage of beds in hospitals**

1678 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is acute shortage of beds in the hospitals to accommodate patients across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, hospital and State/UT-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to increase the number of beds along with the funds allocated/utilised, State/UT-wise?

#### **Treatment of Drug Resistant TB cases**

1679 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a rise in Multi-Drug Resistant (MDR) TB cases in the country and, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken to combat Anti-Biotic Resistance as a phenomenon;
- (c) the measures taken by Government for preventing drug-resistant TB through timely intervention and awareness building; and
- (d) the measures taken by Government to ensure that patients complete the treatment of TB so as to reduce the lost to follow-up rates?

#### **COVID-19 Vaccines for Children**

1680 **Shri Shamsher Singh Dullo:**

**Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the safeguards that have been put in place, while conducting and approving vaccine trials on children, given that children's bodies are more vulnerable;
- (b) the date from which vaccines for children aged 12-18 years will be administered;
- (c) whether Government has considered the ramifications of schools and educational institutions opening without having vaccinated all school-going children;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government has considered that while many of the vaccines for adults have been approved for emergency use, parents want more rigorous testing for children's vaccines; and
- (f) if so, Government's response to the same?

#### **Implementation of Mental Healthcare Act**

1681 **Shri Elamaram Kareem:**

**Shri John Brittas:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of States that have framed rules for implementation of Mental Healthcare Act, 2017;
- (b) the name of the States that are yet to frame the rules; and
- (c) the measures that Government has taken for implementation of various provisions of the Act?

#### **Mandatory labelling of packaged foods**

1682 **Shri Elamaram Kareem:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal to make mandatory labelling of packaged food products as "Gluten Free" or "product contains/may contain traces of Gluten";

- (b) if so, the details thereof regarding the timeline;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether there is a proposal to make mandatory labelling of allergy information on all packaged food products, including ready to cook and ready to eat food products;
- (e) if so, the details thereof regarding the timeline; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Proposal to implement new family planning policy**

1683 **Dr. Anil Agrawal:**

Will the Minister of *Health and Family Welfare* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to implement any new family planning policy in the country to control the population; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

### **Doctors working as resident doctors in more than two hospitals**

1684 # **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

**Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

**Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Will the Minister of *Health and Family Welfare* be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of doctors having details of working or found working in more than two hospitals as resident doctors during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) the details of doctors working as resident doctors in more than two hospitals;
- (c) whether it is a fact that during the COVID-19 pandemic there has been a large number of hospital registrations; and
- (d) the details of registration of hospitals in the country during the last two years?

### **Social distancing as a measure to contain COVID-19 virus**

1685 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

Will the Minister of *Health and Family Welfare* be pleased to state:

- (a) the response of the Ministry at the finding of US Centre for Disease Control and Prevention that even six feet distance does not keep COVID-19 virus away;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the pathogen transmits through poorly ventilated and crowded indoor settings; and
- (c) if so, how does the present social distancing help to contain this virus?

### **Mix-and-match COVID vaccines**

1686 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

Will the Minister of *Health and Family Welfare* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether we can mix first and second doses of COVID vaccines and administer them on people who need it;
- (b) whether any studies have been carried out or is there any scientific evidence that such mixing would not have any adverse impact on people;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is a fact that researchers in Spain found that vaccinating people with both Oxford-AstraZeneca and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines is safe and producing potent immune system; and
- (e) if so, the details of such outcome?

### NRHM and NUHM in Jharkhand

1687 **Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the funds allocated/ released/utilised for various programmes running under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) for strengthening or upgrading of health sector of Jharkhand during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise;
- (b) whether Government has received the utilisation report from the State Governments during the above said period and, if not, the reasons therefor along with the corrective measures taken/being taken by Government in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

### Centralized Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for people with co-morbidities

1688 **Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has developed a centralised SOP during current pandemic for people with co-morbidities such as Cancer, Diabetes, Hypertensions etc. with specific instructions for treatment protocols during interaction and dosage, if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether people at high risk and living with Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) have been placed under health surveillance, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to ensure that chronic care is uninterrupted during the pandemic, if so, details thereof; and
- (d) whether any additional budget allocation has been made to control NCDs during present health crisis, if so, the details thereof?

### Accessible treatment for chronic diseases like hypertension and diabetes

1689 **Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any action taken by Government to ensure that patients with chronic diseases like hypertension and diabetes are able to access regular treatment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the efforts will be accelerated and augmented in all the States?

### Completing the vaccination drive in the country

1690 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) by when Government expects to completely vaccinate the people of the country;
- (b) whether Government has any road map or plan of action to successfully complete the vaccination drive in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the amount of money allocated for vaccination in the previous budget spent by Government; and
- (e) the details of expenditure incurred on the same?

### COVID-19 mental health isolation ward facilities

1691 **Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any COVID-19 mental health isolation ward facilities have been set up in the States; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

### Study on post COVID diseases

1692 **Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has carried out any study on the different post COVID diseases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any concrete measure or protocols established by Government to counter these different post COVID diseases; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### Data on death and compensation of ASHA Workers

1693 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of total number of ASHA workers who died on duty since the onset of the pandemic, State-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government has promised ₹50 lakh insurance cover for the nation's frontline workers under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package; and
- (c) if so, the details of ASHA workers and their families who have received these benefits till now?

### GMCs upgradation projects under PMSSY

1694 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

**Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of completion of 23 Government Medical Colleges (GMCs) up-gradation projects sanctioned for 2020-21 under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) scheme;
- (b) whether the targeted output of adding 280 speciality departments across all the new and existing institutions, in particular AIIMS Bhubaneswar, under the PMSSY scheme has been met;
- (c) whether the targeted outcome of adding 7500 beds/bed capacity across 13 AIIMS, in particular AIIMS Bhubaneswar, has been met; and
- (d) if so, the data of these additions, speciality/super speciality-wise for all AIIMS?

### Vendor licensing for selling tobacco products

1695 **Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry will provide the report of compliance by States (Municipalities and States as a whole) to the advisory issued by the Ministry to States in September 2017 for introducing Vendor Licensing for selling of tobacco products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **National Task Force for COVID-19**

1696 **Shri Digvijaya Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details (including dates) of the meetings of the National Task Force for COVID-19 (NTF), set up to advise Government on its pandemic response, till date;
- (b) whether the NTF met during the months of February and March, 2021, when cases across the country were increasing;
- (c) if so, the details of the decisions taken at these meetings to prepare for and/or respond to the second wave of the pandemic; and
- (d) if not, the reason(s) why no meeting of the NTF was convened during this period despite a surge in cases in parts of the country, particularly Maharashtra?

#### **Under-counting of deaths due to COVID-19**

1697 **Shri Digvijaya Singh:**

**Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of COVID-19 deaths occurred between January 2021 to May 2021, State-wise;
- (b) the total number of deaths recorded in India between January and May for previous five years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether excess deaths recorded in 2021 (compared to previous years) can be and are attributed to deaths due to COVID-19 which were not registered as such; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, explanation for high number of excess deaths which are not attributed to COVID-19?

#### **Warnings by the INSACOG regarding COVID variant**

1698 **Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the precise date in March 2021 when scientists of the Indian SARS CoV 2 Genetics Consortium or INSACOG had warned Government about a new and more contagious variant of the virus;
- (b) the date on which Government took cognisance of the aforementioned warnings and made them public;
- (c) whether phrases like "high concern" were removed from the draft prepared by the INSACOG in the statement shared with the public; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### **Database of COVID-19 patients being declined treatment during pandemic**

1699 **Shri Rajmani Patel:**

**Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

**Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has collected and maintained data on COVID-19 positive patients who were turned away from Government hospitals between March, 2020 till date;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;

- (c) whether the Ministry has conducted an audit to ensure that hospitals are able to treat all patients who come their way during the impending third wave;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) if so, the time frame for implementation and completion of the same?

### **Reduction in COVID-19 Testing**

1700 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

Will the Minister of *Health and Family Welfare* be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of tests conducted between October, 2020 to May, 2021, month-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether the Ministry had reduced the number of tests, after the first wave, when the number of COVID-19 infections were comparatively less;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether it is a fact that in spite of having daily capacity to conduct 33 lakh tests per day (as per ICMR data provided in May, 2021), the maximum possible number of tests have not been conducted even at the peak of the second wave; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

### **Special funds to States for COVID-19**

1701 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

**Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Will the Minister of *Health and Family Welfare* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has provided any special funds and multiple medical equipments to various hospitals and State/UT Governments across the country to fight against second wave of COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) the quantum of amount/funds spent on the purchase of ventilators and critical medicines since January 2020; and
- (c) the other steps taken by Government to improve oxygen production and set up more oxygen beds and ventilators to fight the coming waves of COVID-19?

### **Progress made under National Rural Health Mission**

1702 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

Will the Minister of *Health and Family Welfare* be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of implementation of IT backed procurement, management and logistics systems for provision of free drugs at public health facilities, under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), State-wise;
- (b) whether the quantitative outcome targets set for 2020-21 under Reproductive Child Health (RCH) flexipool of NRHM for maternal mortality rate, under five mortality rate, total fertility rate and neonatal mortality rate have been met, if so, the details thereof, State-wise, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the number of sub centres under NRHM with regular electric supply, regular water supply and accessible all-weather motorable approach roads respectively, State-wise?



**Compliance of provisions of Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) 2003**

1703 **Shri K.T.S. Tulsi:**

**Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps, if any, being taken to ensure compliance of Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) 2003 by Government;
- (b) the new measures, if any, introduced to track and penalize offenders; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**Usage of different vaccines in India**

1704 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the COVID-19 vaccines which are allowed for use in India along with a chronological account of approval granting process for these vaccines;
- (b) the per cent of India's rural population that has got vaccination doses, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the details of COVID-19 vaccine supplies received by Government and their dispatch to different States for inoculation;
- (d) whether Government monitors the inoculation numbers for each kind of vaccine in use; and
- (e) if so, the details on number of doses used, vaccine-wise, including centre of vaccination- Government or private, month-wise and State-wise?

**Gender gap in access to vaccinations**

1705 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the data on the number of males and females vaccinated, State-wise and month-wise, till date;
- (b) whether Government has taken note of the gap in access to vaccination among women as compared to men; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to address this situation?

**Setting up of medical colleges in U.P.**

1706 **Shri Syed Zafar Islam:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has identified certain places to set up medical colleges in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;
- (c) the details of the norms or criteria fixed to set up medical colleges; and
- (d) whether the said norms are being followed and, if not, the reasons therefor?

**Proposal to increase hospitals or medical colleges in the States**

1707 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

**Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

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

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposed to increase hospitals or medical colleges in various States of the country;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that there is shortage of doctors in the country;
- (c) if so, whether the number of seats for MBBS have been increased in the recent past, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) the number of registered MBBS doctors in the country, State-wise till date?

**Performance of the National AIDS Control Programme**

1708 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the performance of the National AIDS Control Programme has been unsatisfactory particularly owing to misuse of its funds;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any probe into it; and
- (d) if so, the details of the outcome thereof?

**Health programmes to curb COVID-19 in rural areas**

1709 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

**Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

**Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of various health programmes being run by Government to check the prevalence of COVID-19 virus in the country, especially in rural areas in view of the expecting third wave of COVID-19 in the country;
- (b) whether present programmes are enough to reduce the high prevalence COVID-19 virus in the county and avoid the risk of such life taking disease;
- (c) if so, the corrective measures taken by Government in this regard; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal to revise National Health Policy and a long term perspective plan to address such type of diseases in the country?

**Strategy to counter rise in maternal and children deaths during COVID-19 pandemic**

1710 **Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that according to "Direct and Indirect Effects of COVID-19 Pandemic and Response in South Asia', published by UNICEF, India is likely to register the greatest increase in the number of deaths among children below five years among six South Asian countries in 2020 and also the highest number of maternal deaths amid the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the strategy devised by Government to manage this situation; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for such delay?

### Vaccination for vulnerable populations

1711 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of policies and initiatives taken by the Central Government to ensure access to testing, treatment and vaccines for the people who lack ID cards, homeless people and those living in shelters, children in institutional care, prisoners, people under BPL, people with disabilities, sex workers, transgender community, foreign nationals residing in India and any other vulnerable group not mentioned here;
- (b) the information for the total number of deaths amongst the above mentioned categories due to COVID-19; and
- (c) the total percentage of these populations that have been administered either single dose or double dose of vaccine?

### Sale of medicines and pharmaceuticals on e-platforms

1712 **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the steps being undertaken by the Ministry to regulate the sale of medicines and pharmaceuticals on e-platforms; and
- (b) the details of the steps being undertaken to curb the problems, such as sale of counterfeit drugs, verification of drugs, online sale of psychotropic substances, improper use of medicine, etc?

### Increase in cases of COVID and Zika virus

1713 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

**Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of COVID-19 cases, Delta variant and Zika virus is increasing in various areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government to check this menace and measures taken by Government to provide adequate health related facilities to these affected and helpless people along with necessary arrangement made by Government to avoid expecting third wave of COVID-19 virus in the country?

### Fund allocation to Janani Suraksha Yojana

1714 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of budgetary allocation and expenditure on the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) from 2009-10 to 2019-20, year-wise;
- (b) whether the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) achieved the objective of increasing institutional deliveries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, year-wise, State-wise; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### Tuberculosis Mukht Bharat

1715 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

**Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has chaired meeting with various development partners on Tuberculosis Mukht Bharat and, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of TB cases reported during each of the last three years alongwith the States having high TB caseload;
- (c) whether Government has set any target of eradicating TB by 2025 and, if so, the steps taken to achieve the target; and
- (d) whether Government is taking steps to visit villages and slums with fully equipped testing machines and other services to help people suffering from TB and, if so, the details thereof?

### Pressure Swing Adsorption units in Bihar

1716 **Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of implementation of the sanctioned 162 Pressure Swing Adsorption oxygen plants with details on each unit including the funds disbursed as on date;
- (b) the timeline for the completion of installation of all sanctioned plants;
- (c) the details of plants that have been sanctioned, State-wise; and
- (d) whether Government has details of Pressure Swing Adsorption oxygen plants working or lying non-functional in the State of Bihar?

### Health Minister's Discretionary Grant

1717 **Shri Ramkumar Verma:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government provides financial support to those having annual family income up to ₹1,25,000/- and below under Health Minister's Discretionary Grant, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of patients who have been granted the aid under Health Minister's Discretionary Grant during the last three years, State-wise, year-wise; and
- (c) the number of applications that are pending before Government for sanction under Health Minister's Discretionary Grant, the details thereof and action taken by Government?

### National Telemedicine service

1718 **Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has started the National Telemedicine Service; and
- (b) if so, the steps that are being taken to increase its reach to rural areas?

### Contradictory views on vaccine dosage gap

1719 **Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is contradictory views on two vaccine dosage intervals and NITI Aayog is examining the time gap between the two doses;

- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the dose gap prescribed at present by Government and what is the time interval if a person gets COVID-19 virus after first dose of vaccine; and
- (d) whether some public health experts from AIIMS have suggested that there is no need to inoculate those who have documented COVID-19 infection after first dose and, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Remdesivir as a generic drug**

1720 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to consider Remdesivir as generic drug; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Medical colleges set up under CSSs**

1721 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of medical colleges under Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) which have been approved and functional in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of medical colleges under Centrally Sponsored Schemes which have been approved but still not functional, State-wise;
- (c) the details of medical colleges under Centrally Sponsored Schemes likely to be set up during current financial year, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of fund allocated, released and utilised for setting up of medical colleges under CSS during 2020-21 and 2021-22 till date, State-wise?

#### **Cornea donation and cornea transplantation**

1722 # **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cornea donation and cornea transplantation in last five years, State-wise;
- (b) the number of eye banks functioning currently, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government provides any kind of assistance to the States to encourage people for eye donation; and
- (d) if so, the details of such assistance provided in last three years, State-wise?

#### **Occupancy of beds in mental health facilities**

1723 **Shri John Brittas:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of beds available in mental health facilities in India, State-wise; and
- (b) the occupancy rate in these facilities?

#### **Deaths due to cancer**

1724 # **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken into cognisance the number of persons who got infected with cancer and the number of persons who died of this disease during last three years in the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether narcotic substances along with eating habits, daily routine and alcohol are main causes for the spread of cancer;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any concrete action plan has been formulated by Government to get rid of this lethal disease; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Vaccine drive for children below 18 years**

1725 **Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government in protecting children from third wave of COVID-19;
- (b) by when the vaccine drive for children below 18 years will commence; and
- (c) the measures taken by Government in creating resistance to tackle the third wave?

#### **Expert consultation for National Digital Health Mission**

1726 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the list of expert consultations done for National Digital health mission and the National Digital Health ID along with relevant documents;
- (b) the names of companies and firms consulted for National Health Data Management Policy along with relevant documents; and
- (c) the notification on the Health Data Management Policy with a copy of the notification as well?

#### **Capacity building in healthcare industry**

1727 **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

**Shri Shamsher Singh Dullo:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to increase the number of hospitals in each State including Punjab;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government plans to increase capacity of existing hospitals to accommodate more COVID-19 patients;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government is cognisant of bed allotment scandals in hospitals;
- (f) if so, the details thereof including corrective action taken and, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the details of the process followed to ensure beds are allocated to patients who are most in need?

#### **Promotion of solar energy**

1728 **Shri Irranna Kadadi:**

Will the Minister of **New and Renewable Energy** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government provides/proposes to provide any type of grant to Government/Non-Governmental Institutes and the common man to promote solar energy system;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is imparting training for installing solar pump and solar plant and the method of its utilization under 'KUSUM' scheme in the country especially in Karnataka and, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (e) whether Government has provided any grant/subsidy to farmers for the said purpose; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise/UT-wise?

### **Solar power generation in North Eastern States**

1729 **Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the targeted solar power generation in the country and the target set for Northeast India;
- (b) the status of implementation of the Solar Parks Scheme and Ultra Mega Solar Power Projects; and
- (c) the details of the Solar Parks Scheme and Ultra Mega Solar Power Projects implemented in Northeast India along with the funds allocated and spent, the implementing agencies, the power generated, and the status of their implementation, State-wise, and project-wise?

### **Solar parks in Jharkhand**

1730 # **Shri Deepak Prakash:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of solar parks approved by Government in Jharkhand;
- (b) the number of fully developed solar parks till date in Jharkhand;
- (c) the details of allocated funds by Government along with expenditure incurred during the last three years for developing solar parks; and
- (d) whether any time limit has been set by Government in order to complete the pending work of solar parks in Jharkhand?

### **Solarising agricultural feeders**

1731 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the proposal with the Ministry to provide ₹ 20,000 crores for solarising agricultural feeders in the country;
- (b) the details of installation capacity required for solarisation of agricultural feeders;
- (c) the contribution of States in this programme; and
- (d) the likely time by which the programme is going to be approved by the Cabinet for its launch?

### **Solar panel waste disposal and recycling**

1732 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of solar panel waste generated in the country in the last three years;
- (b) whether Government has implemented any legal or policy framework for ensuring proper solar panel waste disposal and recycling;

- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has conducted research/studies for developing efficient methods for solar panel waste disposal and recycling; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Disposal of solar waste**

1733 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of solar energy capacity in the country and the progress in furthering the same, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the issue of solar waste is being addressed, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any steps are being taken to ensure ease of availability of land as well as finance for solar waste disposal, if so, details thereof?

#### **Details of clean energy projects**

1734 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any data on Clean Energy Projects and the details thereof;
- (b) whether there are any schemes to promote Clean Energy Projects and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total funds disbursed for the same?

#### **Promotion of solar energy**

1735 # **Shri Brijlal:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government provides any training to set-up new industries with the help of solar energy and to encourage the concerned entrepreneurs, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether any scheme to setup more and more solar energy plants in rural areas is under consideration?

#### **Solar plants in Rajasthan**

1736 # **Shri Rajendra Gehlot:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) district-wise details of solar plants setup in the State of Rajasthan for solar energy in the field of electricity generation;
- (b) the details of schemes introduced/proposal to be introduced by Government to promote the solar energy generation in Rajasthan; and
- (c) the number of substations with the capacity of 720 kilowatt setup/proposed to be setup in the State of Rajasthan during the last three years?

#### **Underutilization of funds allocated to Grid Interactive Renewable Power**

1737 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

Will the Minister of ***New and Renewable Energy*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there continues to be consistent underutilization of funds allocated to Grid Interactive Renewable Power, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (b) the steps Government has undertaken to tackle this issue and ensure optimum



utilization of funds?

### **Domestic production of COVID vaccines**

1738 **Dr. Ameer Yajnik:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government intends to invoke the Patents Act, 1970 to increase the domestic production of COVID-19 vaccines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the anticipated timeline for such invocation and implementation of the same and, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the reasons why compulsory licensing has not yet been invoked to increase the domestic manufacturing of COVID-19 vaccines and other medical resources?

### **Promoting solar and wind energy**

1739 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

Will the Minister of **New and Renewable Energy** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes promoting solar and wind energy along with the funds allocated for them;
- (b) whether any study or survey has been conducted by Government to evaluate the total production capacity of solar and wind energy; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

### **Utilisation of renewable energy for household use**

1740 **Dr. Ameer Yajnik:**

Will the Minister of **New and Renewable Energy** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has policies to increase the use of solar energy to meet the day to day household demand;
- (b) the details of policies to promote the use of renewable energy resources;
- (c) whether Government has any policy to support citizens who want to establish mini solar grid for household use; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Solar power panels on schools rooftop**

1741 **Smt. Roopa Ganguly:**

Will the Minister of **New and Renewable Energy** be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise instalment of solar power panels under the National Solar Mission, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is any plan to provide for instalment of solar power panels on school rooftops; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

### **Biogas plants in Uttar Pradesh**

1742 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

Will the Minister of **New and Renewable Energy** be pleased to state:

- (a) the types of bio-gas plants established last year in the country;
- (b) the amount of subsidy being provided per year to bio-gas plants established in the country with special reference to Uttar Pradesh;

- (c) whether Government has any plan to produce bio-gas in proper scale and launch it commercially after purifying and bottling it; and  
 (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **LED distribution under UJALA Yojana**

1743 # **Shri Ajay Pratap Singh:**

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

- (a) the number of LED bulbs and fans distributed so far under Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LED for All (UJALA) Yojana for energy conservation and saving of electricity; and  
 (b) the details of LED bulbs and fans distributed in development block of Sidhi and Singrauli districts in Madhya Pradesh, village-wise?

#### **Stressed asset resolution in power sector**

1744 **Shri Prashanta Nanda:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that progress on stressed thermal power asset resolution remained slow as only a small per cent of affected generation capacity has witnessed resolution;  
 (b) if so, the details of the challenges faced during stressed asset resolution in the power sector;  
 (c) whether Government has taken any steps in this regard; and  
 (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Purchase of electrical meters for installation in Assam**

1745 **Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Power is purchasing electrical meters for installation in households for measuring of electricity consumption;  
 (b) if so, the details thereof;  
 (c) whether it is also a fact that in last ten years meter purchased has crossed more than double the number of consumers;  
 (d) if so, the details thereof and details of energy meter purchased by State Power Utilities under various schemes for consumers of Assam including make, capacity, rate, quantity etc.; and  
 (e) number of energy meters owned by consumers themselves at their cost and fitted in their premises in Assam?

#### **Reduced power plant functioning due to coal shortage**

1746 **Shri Ripun Bora:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that few units of various thermal power station in the country were forced to stop functioning and some had reduced production due to shortage of coal supply during the last two years; and  
 (b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon by the Ministry of Power with the Ministry of Coal, State-wise and the outcome result therein?

### Loss incurred by Power Discoms

1747 # **Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

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

- (a) whether power distribution companies are incurring heavy losses and, if so, State/Union Territory-wise details thereof during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government has formulated any plan or strategy to lessen the loss of power distribution companies and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any study on the losses incurred by power distribution companies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

### Science budget for COVID-19 research

1748 **Shri Surendra Singh Nagar:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to allocate science budget for COVID-19 related research; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

### Doctoral Education in Science and Technology

1749 **Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

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

the steps being undertaken to develop and support Doctoral education in the field of Science and Technology?

### Development of tourist spots in Chhattisgarh

1750 # **Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

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

- (a) the number of places identified as tourist spots in Chhattisgarh and the number of places for which proposals have been received to include them in the list of tourist spots along with State-wise details thereof;
- (b) the amount of funds allocated by Government during last three years and the current year for the development of said spots;
- (c) the project-wise and year-wise details of the funds utilized out of the funds allocated by Government and the amount of funds yet to be utilized; and
- (d) out of the said projects, the number of projects which have been completed as well as the number of incomplete projects, the details thereof, location-wise?

### Promoting sustainable tourism in the country

1751 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that with increasing commercialization of tourist places, the adverse effects of climate change is a serious concern, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government aims at introducing specific regulations to limit the exploitation of tourist places and introduce specific environmental controls for the businesses;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of the targets with respect to sustainable tourism and the expected revenue

generation in the next ten years; and  
 (e) the details of funds allocated to promote sustainable tourism, State-wise data for last five years?

### **Creation of employment at Tourist destinations**

1752 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

**Shri Vaiko:**

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

- (a) whether Government took note of abundant scope for creation of employment at tourist destinations and has undertaken any initiative to exploit the resources;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the names of tourist destinations where the local people have really been benefitted in the last three years; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to identify new tourist destinations in each State of the country particularly in Tamil Nadu, which could be promoted and developed as potential tourist destinations with basic tourism facilities based upon specially drawn- up master plans in the next three years?

### **Corporate Social Responsibility in PRASHAD Scheme**

1753 **Shri Subhash Chandra Singh:**

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

- (a) whether Government has been engaging with corporate CSR for the implementation of PRASHAD scheme during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Promotion of eco-tourism**

1754 # **Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

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

- (a) whether Government has developed any concept of eco-tourism in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of districts identified for the same in the country;
- (c) whether the State Governments are providing desired co-operation in promoting eco-tourism; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Swadesh Darshan scheme in Punjab**

1755 **Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

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

- (a) total number of projects sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan scheme for the years 2019-20 till present, State-wise;
- (b) total number of projects sanctioned in the State of Punjab under the scheme during the years 2017-18 till present, State-wise;
- (c) total employment generated in the identified circuits during the years 2019-20 till present, State-wise; and
- (d) total completion of projects under the scheme during the years 2019-20 till present and the average time for completion of a project under the scheme?

### **Revival of tourism and hospitality industry**

1756 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any details pertaining to the financial loss incurred and people unemployed in the tourism industry due to COVID-19;
- (b) efforts that have been made by Government to revive the tourism and hospitality industry;
- (c) whether Government is considering a special financial stimulus package to help the tourism and hospitality industry; and
- (d) whether Government will consider giving a tax concession or do away with multiple taxes for the revival of tourism and hospitality industry?

### **Financial aid by Tourism Finance Corporation India Limited**

1757 # **Shri Brijlal:**

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

- (a) the number of small scale industries which have been provided with financial aid under the project "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" by Tourism Finance Corporation India Limited (TFCIL) during last three years and the details thereof; and
- (b) the number of schemes which have been provided aid during last three years to attract foreign tourists and the key projects under consideration for future along with the details thereof?

### **Protection of natural environment of Andaman & Nicobar Islands**

1758 **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

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

- (a) whether Government has in place any existing policy to control/ manage tourist influx in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and
- (b) if so, what is the prevailing policy to ensure that the economic interests of the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands do not result in the destruction of its natural environment?

### **Public Private Partnership in PRASHAD Scheme**

1759 **Shri Prashanta Nanda:**

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

- (a) whether Government has followed a Public Private Partnership model in the implementation of projects under PRASHAD scheme during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the State of Odisha, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of achievements of projects being carried out under public private partnership model?

### **Tourism promotion funds for Uttar Pradesh**

1760 **Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

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

the allocation and utilisation of funds under different schemes of the Ministry for tourism promotion in Uttar Pradesh since 2017-18, year-wise including the present year?

New Delhi  
The 27th July, 2021  
05 Sravana, 1943 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,  
Secretary-General.

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