

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, July 23, 2021/ 01 Sarvana, 1943 (Saka)

(Ministries : Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Commerce and Industry; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; Food Processing Industries; Panchayati Raj; Railways; Rural Development; Skill Development and Entrepreneurship)

Total number of questions -- 160

Protest by farmers against farm laws

481 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

Shri Binoy Viswam:

Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

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

- (a) the position of Government on protesting farmers' demands regarding three farm laws introduced last year and demanding for a new law to guarantee MSP for their crops;
- (b) whether Government is holding any talks/deliberations with the protesting farmers, if so, the details of all meetings held with farmers and their representatives;
- (c) whether Government is aware of the total number of farmers who have died during farm protest since 2020;
- (d) if so, the steps Government has taken to address the grievances of farmers; and
- (e) whether Government has considered repealing or to keep in abeyance these three farm laws?

Development of horticulture and setting up of cold storages in Andhra Pradesh

482 **Shri Y. S. Chowdary:**

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

- (a) whether Government has provided any assistance to Andhra Pradesh during the last three years under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for development of horticulture and establishment of cold storages to save foodgrains, fruits and vegetables from deteriorating;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the role of APEDA or any other agency in assisting growers and producers to store their produces in cold storages for better remunerative price including exports, the details thereof?

Increase in area under summer crops

483 Shri Sanjay Seth:

Shri K.C. Venugopal:

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

- (a) whether the area under summer crops has doubled during the last one year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of States that have reported increase in summer crops;
- (d) the quantum of increase in terms of yield shown by each summer crop during the last one year;
- (e) whether Government has taken steps to increase the summer crop production in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the other steps taken by Government to enhance crop production in the country and also improve the wealth of farmers?

Resolving farmers' apprehensions

484 # Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering to withdraw/amend the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020, the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation), Act, 2020 and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020;
- (b) whether any study has been undertaken to ascertain the reasons for apprehensions created in the mind of farmers on account of these farm laws; and
- (c) whether Government has not been able to bring out a solution by holding discussion with the farmers who have been protesting against these laws for more than seven months?

Increase in the production cost of farmers

485 # Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

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

- (a) whether Government would consider declaring the Minimum Support Price (MSP) on the crops of farmers at the rate of per kg so that the day by day increase in price of petrol, diesel and LPG can be included;
- (b) the increase in the production cost to farmers in the last five years due to the ever increasing petrol, diesel and LPG prices; and
- (c) the manner in which the increase in production cost to farmers is assessed in the announcement of MSP so that the increase in price of petrol and diesel can be properly assessed?

Payment of claims to farmers under PMFBY

486 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was launched in the year 2016 with the objectives to provide insurance to the farmers for their crops and also in case of crop failure, and to provide subsidy on premium;

- (b) if so, the details of the total number of farmers covered and the amount of insurance claimed under the scheme during the last three years, year-wise; and
 (c) the details of insurance companies registered under PMFBY and claims paid by each of them since 2016, company-wise and year-wise?

Indian Digital Ecosystem of Agriculture

487 Shri Binoy Viswam:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry/Department has entered into any MoU with private companies under Indian Digital Ecosystem of Agriculture, if so, the details thereof;
 (b) the basis on which these private companies have been selected for these projects;
 (c) the details of all pilot projects being undertaken under this initiative;
 (d) whether there is any representation of farmers or their representatives in these pilot projects;
 (e) the manner in which the interests of farmers are being taken into account, while developing this digital infrastructure; and
 (f) whether Government or private companies will own the digital infrastructure being created under this initiative?

Doubling farmers' income

488 Shri Binoy Viswam:

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

- (a) the base income of farmers that has been considered in order to evaluate the doubling of their income;
 (b) the method adopted and factors considered to arrive at the base income;
 (c) if no base income has been taken, the manner in which Government would evaluate the doubling of farmers' income; and
 (d) the definition of "farmer" that Government has adopted while aiming for the doubling of their income?

Losses to farmers due to price fluctuations of agricultural produces

489 Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder:

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

- (a) whether Government has evolved any mechanism to assess losses to farmers on account of price fluctuations of agricultural produces; and
 (b) if so, the details thereof?

Compensation to farmers for losses to crops due to electric fire

490 Shri Ramkumar Verma:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that every year the farmers of the country are facing huge losses due to fire in the fields because of loose high-tension wires, if so, the details of incidents reported in the last five years, State-wise including Rajasthan; and
 (b) whether it is a fact that Government gave compensation to the farmers for loss due to electric fire, if so, the mechanism of the calculation of loss and the amount of compensation paid so far in the last five years, State-wise, including Rajasthan?

Promotion of cooperative farming

491 **Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:**

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

- (a) landholdings in hectares per farmer households, State-wise, including Punjab;
- (b) average incomes earned from land less than 0.5 hectares, between 0.5 and 1 hectares, between 1 and 2 hectares and greater than 2 hectares, State-wise, including Punjab;
- (c) whether Government has any action plan to promote cooperative farming to make farming financially viable;
- (d) if so, details thereof, including manner in which the plan aims to tackle shortcomings in previous cooperative farming plans such as corruption, poor governance and capital shortages; and
- (e) detailed steps taken by Ministry to promote cooperative farming and funds released for the same, State-wise?

Impact of delayed monsoon on agricultural production

492 **Shri Anand Sharma:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to delayed onset of South-Western monsoon, sowing of major crops such as paddy, pulses, cotton, oilseeds etc. may also get delayed;
- (b) if so, whether Government has assessed its impact on the agricultural production; and
- (c) the steps Government contemplates to minimize the loss in agricultural production during the Kharif crop season and resultant loss to the economy?

Doubling farmers' income

493 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that multiple reforms have been initiated by Government to double the income of the farmers of the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reforms initiated by Government to double the income of farmers during the last two years; and
- (c) whether Government is proposing any changes in the reforms initiated to accomplish the desired results along with the action that has been taken by Government to resolve the present situation that has arisen due to continuous agitation by farmer community of the country?

MoU with private entities

494 **Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

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

- (a) whether Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Microsoft Corporation, Star Agribazaar, Patanjali Organic Research Institute for agricultural management and services, Amazon Internet Services and Esri India for building various 'AgriStacks', a collection of technology-based interventions in agriculture;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) the details of basis on which these private companies were selected for the project;
- (d) whether MoUs were signed before the consultation process began and if so, reasons

therefor; and

(e) whether proposed farmers' database will be based on the digitized land records and if so, the details thereof?

Participation of women farmers in agriculture

495 **Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

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

(a) whether Government has launched any scheme to provide facilities to women farmers for the development of agriculture areas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated and spent for the said purposes in the country during the last three years, State-wise and UT-wise including Bihar;

(c) whether Government proposes to provide training to woman farmers to make them updated with latest farming technologies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by Government to increase the participation of women farmers in agriculture sector?

Suicide by farmers

496 **Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of suicides by farmers has increased during the last two years;

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

(c) the action taken by Government to prevent suicide by farmers?

Share of agriculture in GVA of the country

497 **Shri Ripun Bora:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that share of agriculture and allied sectors in Gross Value Added (GVA) of India at current prices dropped to 17.8 per cent in Financial Year 2020 and has further dropped over another 1.5 per cent in June 2021;

(b) if so, whether GVA by agriculture and allied agri sectors was 283.68 billion US Dollar and has dropped to 267 billion US Dollar in 2019 Financial Year and stood below 260 billion US Dollar in 2020-21 therefor; and

(c) if so, the action taken and or proposed to be taken by Government therein?

Direct Benefit Transfer in farm mechanization

498 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

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

(a) the procedure for availing benefits under Farm Machinery DBT system, the details thereof;

(b) whether the system allow for both online and offline registration of farmers, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to assist the farmers in online registration, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the targets set by the Ministry under this initiative, the details thereof; and

(e) to what extent the targets have been achieved, the details thereof?

Privacy concerns with Agristack

499 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

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

- (a) the basis on which the private companies were selected for building AgriStack, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for signing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with private companies before consultation process could take place the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry has planned any steps to protect the data relating to farmers, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the manner in which Ministry plan to make the project accessible to all farmers, given the huge digital divide in India, the details thereof?

Damage of crops by stray animals

500 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

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

- (a) whether Government has implemented any policies for the prevention of crop damage by stray animals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the animal welfare boards of the concerned States are empowered with any special authority pertaining to the prevention of such damage; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Enrollment under PMFBY

501 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

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

- (a) the total premium collected under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) over the last five years;
- (b) the total beneficiaries under the scheme in the last five years, State-wise;
- (c) the enrollment numbers under the scheme over the last five years, year-wise;
- (d) whether there has been a decline in the enrollment over the last few years;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps being taken to increase enrollment under the scheme?

Utilisation of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund

502 **Dr. Ameer Yajnik:**

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

- (a) the details of disbursed amount under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund, State-wise;
- (b) the amount of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund utilized to build food storage and warehousing in rural areas, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any training programme for farmers to protect their yield in case of delay in purchase by Government agency; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Direct income support to farmers

503 # **Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

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

- (a) whether Government is contemplating to give direct income support in place of Minimum Support Price to give direct benefit transfers to the farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

Creation of uniform marketing arrangement across the country

504 # **Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

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

- (a) the efforts made by Government to create a uniform marketing arrangement across the country to ensure that agricultural commodities get better prices;
- (b) whether the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection and the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing are providing technical and other advices/suggestions to the States on matters of agricultural marketing; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Engagement of consultancies in the Ministry

505 **Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has evolved any policy for the engagement of established consultancy agencies for the assignments to be carried out by the Ministry and its autonomous bodies during the last three years, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of established consultancy agencies which have been involved by the Ministry and its autonomous bodies during the last three years along with their names and the details of the assignments given to them; and
- (c) the charges that have been paid to them for these assignments?

Loan burden on farmers

506 # **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

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

- (a) the data of average increase or decrease in loan per farmer in the country during the last five years, year-wise; and
- (b) the reasons for the average increase or decrease in the loan per farmer per year during the said period?

Identification of sharecroppers and landless farmers in the country

507 **Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated guidelines for the identification of sharecroppers and landless farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of sharecroppers and landless farmers who have been identified so far through these guidelines?

Promoting organic farming under PKVY

508 **Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

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

- (a) the details of funds released under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) in the last four years, State/UT-wise with details of funds allocated for technical training in organic farming, especially of regional councils;
- (b) the details of steps taken to enable farmers for diversion from chemical farming to organic farming, including funding for construction of storage facilities and livestock upkeep, providing organic inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and technology under PKVY; and
- (c) the details of unconditional direct benefit transfers to farmers that are undertaken to promote organic farming under PKVY, and if not, the reasons therefor?

MSP of cotton, jute and sugarcane crops

509 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

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

- (a) whether the farmers across the nation are suffering losses in the sale of cotton, jute and sugarcane in the market;
- (b) if so, whether Government propose to revise the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of the said crops in order to provide relief to the farmers producing these crops; and
- (c) if so, the extent of relief likely to be released?

Losses inflicted due to agitation against farm laws

510 **Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

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

- (a) whether the agitation against the farm laws for more than three months have resulted into loss to the Government;
- (b) if so, the estimated value of loss incurred so far;
- (c) whether any action has been initiated against the mischievous persons against the garb of agitation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Setting up of cold storages

511 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

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

- (a) the details of the procedure for setting up of cold storage by Government;
- (b) the number of cold storage being operated in Uttar Pradesh, district-wise;
- (c) the details of financial assistance provided to set up cold storages in various States of the country during the last three years and the current year, till date under various schemes being run by Government, State-wise, scheme-wise and year-wise; and
- (d) the manner in which assistance is provided by Government to a person or any organization which intends to set up cold storage?

Harmful effect of pesticides

512 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has appointed an Expert Committee to ban 27 pesticides which are harmful to humans and animals;
- (b) if so, the details of each of 27 pesticides under consideration;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that there are 40 more pesticides which are also harmful for

humans and animals;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Ministry in this regard; and

(e) whether any consultations have been held with pesticide manufacturing companies on this issue and, if so, the details of scientific and other evidence submitted by the companies?

Organizing seminar for promoting organic farming

513 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to organize a seminar with the aim of promoting organic farming in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to include experienced farmers, experts etc. involved in organic farming in the seminar?

Access of organic production centre to the organic food market

514 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

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

(a) whether Government has any plan to identify the organic sectors in the country and convert them into certified organic production centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to provide direct access to such organic production centres to the emerging organic food market in the country?

Use of e-NAM platform by farmers

515 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

(a) the number of farmers who used e-NAM platform to sell their agricultural produces in the financial year 2020-21 and 2021-22 till date;

(b) the major crops for which e-NAM platforms have been used the most by the farmers; and

(c) the difference between the price received through e-NAM and the price received from the nearest mandi by the farmers?

Adverse impact of pesticides

516 **Shri K. Somaprasad:**

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

(a) whether Government has banned 27 insecticides which are already banned in the world, but they are still in widespread use in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has assessed or examined the environmental impact of such pesticide usage in the country with any expert committee; and

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

Agricultural mechanization in inaccessible regions

517 # **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a sub mission has been launched for agricultural mechanization in order to increase agricultural mechanization for small and marginal farmers and for less fertile and inaccessible regions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has received any proposal from Uttar Pradesh regarding agricultural modernization, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the said proposal is pending for approval with Government, if so, the reasons therefor and by when the said proposal would be approved?

Benefits to farmers under PMFBY

518 # **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

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

- (a) the salient features of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY);
- (b) the number of farmers who benefitted from PMFBY in the country during the last three years and the details of beneficiaries from Uttar Pradesh, district-wise; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any measures to give concession in the amount of premium to be paid by small farmers, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and bio-fertilizers in agriculture

519 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to promote the use of bio-fertilizers in view of the adverse effect of chemical fertilizers and pesticides on human health and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government proposes to promote production/research work on such bio-fertilizers so as to ensure that there is no shortage of bio-fertilizers and their production remains unaffected and cost-effective and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount of consumption of chemical fertilizers for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021?

Implementation of PMFBY

520 **Shri Rajmani Patel:**

Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:

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

- (a) the number of public and private insurance companies which have been empanelled for the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) in 2020-21;
- (b) whether certain major private insurance players have not bid for PMFBY during 2021-22;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that premiums, assessments of loss and payment of compensation under PMFBY work satisfactorily for all stakeholders?

Self sufficiency in production of oilseeds

521 **Smt. Ambika Soni:**

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

- (a) the present quantum of the production of various oilseeds in the country vis-a-vis estimated consumption in the country;
- (b) whether Government has formulated any plan to enhance the production of oilseeds in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to adopt multi-pronged strategy to achieve self-sufficiency in production of oilseeds?

Achievements under National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm

522 **Smt. Ambika Soni:**

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

- (a) the target date fixed vis a vis achievement made under National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government has formulated any plan for creation of oilseeds hubs with a focus on regional approach for larger availability of high yielding quality seeds as well as for training of farmers and extension officials in this field and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to increase the production and productivity of Oilseeds and Oil Palm in the country?

Setting up of mobile labs for soil testing

523 **Dr. Banda Prakash:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any plans for setting up of mobile labs in district/tehsil level for soil testing across the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has received any proposals from various States in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to start a programme to improve soil health for increasing the production capacity of the farms; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and whether any guidelines have been issued to farmers regarding soil health, if so, the details thereof?

Guarantee of MSP to farmers

524 **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

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

- (a) whether Government would bring legislation to ensure that no private companies or any other buyers buy farm produces from farmers below the MSP declared by Government and would provide for criminal action against defaulting buyers/companies to ensure guarantee of MSP to farmers;
- (b) if so, by when; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for protection to private companies and deception with farmers?

Disbursement of claims under PMFBY

525 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

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

- (a) the details of success achieved by Government in the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) the number of insured farmers under the said scheme in Uttar Pradesh; and
- (c) the varieties of crops for which insurance has been demanded and the amount of insurance claims disbursed till date?

Replacing ammonia with green hydrogen

526 # **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

Will the Minister of ***Chemicals and Fertilizers*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to replace the use of imported ammonia with green hydrogen in fertilizer industry;
- (b) the kinds of benefits which are likely to result by using green hydrogen instead of ammonia in fertilizers; and
- (c) the manner in which Government is planning to implement this initiative and promote the production and sale of green hydrogen in the country?

Allocation of Amphotericin-B to State of Tamil Nadu

527 **Shri P. Wilson:**

Will the Minister of ***Chemicals and Fertilizers*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any requests from Government of Tamil Nadu to increase the supply of Liposomal Amphotericin- B vials to the State and action taken thereon to supply these vials based on the request made by State Government;
- (b) the details of the number of vials of Liposomal Amphotericin- B supplied to State of Tamil Nadu;
- (c) the details of the number of Mucormycosis cases reported in States/UTs, especially in Tamil Nadu, district wise; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any action on the creation of artificial demands , hike in price for sale of Remdesivir drug in Tamil Nadu?

Permission to manufacture Amphotericin

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

Will the Minister of ***Chemicals and Fertilizers*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that Government has given permission to new pharma companies to manufacture Amphotericin medicine for use in the treatment of Black Fungus patients;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has extended any financial support to existing manufacturing companies to enhance their production capacity to meet the requirement; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Supply of fertilisers to different States of India

529 **Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

Will the Minister of ***Chemicals and Fertilizers*** be pleased to state:

the total quantities of fertilisers provided by Government to the different States of India

over the last two years, year-wise and State-wise?

Buffer stocking of life-saving drugs

530 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any effort to make buffer stock of life-saving drugs in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of medicines that are stocked and released during shortage in the country?

NPPA guidelines for discontinuing medicines

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

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) has given any guidelines for discontinuing the medicines manufactured by the pharma companies, especially the essential drugs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any specific proposal to bring guidelines for the uninterrupted supply of essential drugs in the interest of the general public and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the number of pharma companies producing essential drugs in Karnataka State along with the details of their discontinuance of production, if any?

Fertilizers imported from abroad

532 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of fertilizers which are being imported from abroad during the last three years; and
- (b) whether Government has delegated some private organizations to import fertilizers and the criteria adopted to select such private organizations and the period of such engagement, the details thereof?

Implementation of ODOP in Rajasthan

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

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has implemented the "One District, One Product" (ODOP) scheme in different States of the country, if so, the product-wise and district-wise details of the scheme implemented in Rajasthan;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that under the said scheme, export plan has been prepared in the Export Promotion Committee for all 33 districts of Rajasthan; and
- (c) if so, whether State Government has submitted the report to the Central Government, if so, the details thereof?

Closure of industries due to COVID

534 **Shri P. Wilson:**

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

- (a) the details of number of industries closed due to COVID-19 lockdown in the country, especially in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the details of the schemes / financial assistance provided to industries during lockdown, especially in Tamil Nadu during COVID-19;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to set up new industries in Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the steps taken by Government to increase the employment rate in industrial sector, especially in Tamil Nadu;
- (e) how many SEZs are there, especially in Tamil Nadu, district-wise; and
- (f) whether Government has any plans to establish new SEZs in Tamil Nadu?

Initiatives under Make in India and startup programmes

535 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

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

- (a) the status of initiatives of Make in India and Startup India during the last five years;
- (b) the details of the funds allocated and utilised and the targets set/achieved thereunder so far, State-wise and year-wise; and
- (c) the employment opportunities the schemes created for the unemployed youth in the States, particularly in Tamil Nadu, in the last three years, year-wise?

Progress of Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor

536 **Shri Vaiko:**

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

- (a) the progress of Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor, the details thereof;
- (b) the total estimated amount and the amount spent so far, year-wise, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the Industrial Corridor would be operationalized, the details thereof?

Funding assistance under Startup programme in Tamil Nadu

537 **Shri Vaiko:**

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

- (a) the main objective of Startup programme;
- (b) the manner in which traders and entrepreneurs are provided funding assistance and incentives under the said programme in the last three years;
- (c) the number of traders and entrepreneurs in Tamil Nadu who have been provided assistance under the said programme in the last three years, the details thereof; and
- (d) the volume of employment opportunities it created in the State for the last three years, year-wise?

Foreign exchange earned by SEZs

538 **Shri John Brittas:**

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

- (a) the number of units registered in various SEZs across the country and the foreign exchange earned by them during the last three years, SEZ-wise;
- (b) the number of companies that wound up their operations during the last three years;
- (c) whether Government has gone into the reasons of such winding up of operations and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the objectives of setting up of such SEZs have been met and whether Government intends to grant additional fiscal incentives in case of exemplary and incremental foreign exchange earning companies in the SEZ year after year?

Status of draft National eCommerce Policy

539 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) the current status of the draft National eCommerce Policy;
- (b) whether the said policy is going to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the eCommerce Sector; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Export of indigenous Sabai goods

540 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

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

- (a) the official figures of the export of indigenous Sabai goods to foreign nations, so far, in this financial year, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the steps undertaken by the Central Government to promote the internal retail trade of Sabai grass commodities under the 'Vocal for Local' initiative; and
- (c) whether any ongoing or proposed scheme exists under the Central Government to promote and infuse technology in the production of Sabai goods in low-income districts like Mayurbhanj, Odisha?

Revision of eCommerce draft rules

541 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to revise the eCommerce draft rules on the requests of foreign-funded firms, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is facing objections from domestic commerce entities, asking not to undertake any changes in the draft rules;
- (c) whether Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) has urged Government not to succumb to the requests of foreign-funded companies and undertake any changes in the draft rules; and
- (d) the response of Government in this regard?

Rise in agri exports

542 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that in spite of surge in COVID, there is nearly 20 per cent rise in agri exports from the country in 2020-21;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the commodities which have been exported during the above period; and
- (c) the efforts being made by the Ministry to consolidate the advantage that Indian agri exports have got during the last year and how it is planning to push agri exports in the current fiscal year?

Export of finished and intermediate goods

543 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

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

- (a) the details of 24 sectors identified to make India self-reliant;
- (b) the reasons for most of country's exports, particularly to China, being in the form of raw material while imports are in the form of finished and intermediate goods;
- (c) the reasons the country cannot itself export finished and intermediate goods to strengthen its exports and reduce imports to maintain trade balance with China;
- (d) how Ministry looks at huge imports from Hong Kong in 2020 which drastically improved its position from 19th position (in 2018) to 6th; and
- (e) whether it means that China is exporting its products through Hong Kong?

Push to food exports

544 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

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

- (a) the details of global food prices since April, 2020, till date, month-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that prices of cereals are also on the rise;
- (c) if so, how the Ministry looks at the rapid rise in global food prices and details of factors leading to this rise; and
- (d) the efforts being made by the Ministry to push our food exports which help to reduce excess stocks and also earn foreign exchange?

Steps for upliftment of startups and 'vocal of local'

545 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government to improve the quality norms of manufactured products under AatmaNirbhar Bharat campaign;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to uplift the startups and to promote 'vocal for local' campaign; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to help startups and other local manufacturers in using the eCommerce and online platforms?

Readiness of One Nation One Ration Card scheme

546 **Shri Sanjay Raut:**

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

- (a) whether One Nation, One Ration Card (ONORC) programme for distributing cheap foodgrain to the beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act is fully ready in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Distribution of foodgrains under PMGKAY

547 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

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

- (a) whether Government has extended Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana

(PMGKAY) till Diwali 2021;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the aims and objective behind the move;

(c) the number of beneficiaries who benefited under the scheme since its inception and the number of beneficiaries likely to be benefited this year; and

(d) whether most of the States have failed to distribute the free foodgrains under the scheme to intended recipients and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps taken by Government to ensure free distribution of ration to entitled recipients?

Pendency in disposal of cases related to real estate projects

548 **Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:**

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

(a) whether Government is aware that there are lakhs of property related cases under various Consumer Courts in Delhi pending for more than three to five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is also aware that several senior citizens of 70 years and above are facing hardship as their hard earned money has been stuck up in various real estate projects; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to set up Fast Track Courts to clear cases of persons above 70 years of age?

Wastage of food in the country

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

Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Waste Index Report, 2021 of the UN Environment Programme indicates that about 50 kgs of food is wasted in India per person per year;

(b) the efforts being made by Ministry to see that wastage comes to a minimum acceptable level so that more people can be fed, though India's food wastage is much less compared to other countries, including G-7 countries;

(c) the efforts being made by Ministry to bring awareness campaigns in this regard; and

(d) manner in which the Ministry is taking help from civil society to control the wastage of food?

Disposal of consumer grievances

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

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

(a) the details of grievances filed by the consumers over the last two years and the details of number of complaints addressed and complaints that are still pending, State-wise;

(b) the details of funds allocated and utilised for strengthening the consumer status in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the details of measures taken by Government to protect the interests of the consumers?

Supply of poor quality wheat and rice under PDS

551 **Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:**

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

- (a) whether Government has received several complaints and representations regarding supply of poor quality wheat and rice under PDS;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of steps taken by Government to improve the quality of wheat and rice under PDS?

Exclusions under PDS

552 **Shri Ripun Bora:**

Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:

Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

Dr. Ameer Yajnik:

Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the number of vulnerable population excluded from the public distribution system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is aware that data system to calculate State-wise PDS coverage is outdated and leads to exclusion of crores of beneficiaries;
- (d) if so, whether Government is taking steps to update the database to identify beneficiaries;
- (e) if so, the plan detail to formulate specific steps to address the issue of those without ration cards and left out in second round of PMGKAY; and
- (f) details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

Pilot project on One Nation One Ration Card

553 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

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

- (a) the number of beneficiaries who were affected during the first pilot project of One Nation One Ration Card;
- (b) the outcomes and problems faced during this project;
- (c) whether people were excluded from this pilot project, if so, the manner in which Government plans to ensure their inclusion in the actual programme; and
- (d) the five-year targets set by Government after the launch of the final programme in the State of Maharashtra?

Quality of foodgrains distributed at PDS shops

554 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

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

- (a) whether Government has carried out any survey to ascertain the quality of foodgrains given in shops under PDS scheme;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken to ensure that quality did not deteriorate during the lockdown period;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the number of PDS shop owners who have been caught distributing adulterated/low quality foodgrains since the last year, State-wise;
- (f) the action that has been taken against such shop owners; and
- (g) the steps being taken to ensure that the quality of foodgrains is not compromised, especially when free ration is provided to the poor?

Rise in prices of edible oil and pulses

555 Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a sharp increase in the prices of edible oil and pulses from 30 per cent to 77 per cent in metro cities for the last few months;
- (b) if so, the action being taken by Government to control prices and decrease the burden on common man;
- (c) whether it is fact the rural inflation remain high at 6.5 per cent while urban inflation was at 6 per cent; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Increase in the price of essential food products

556 # Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

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

- (a) the factors responsible for continuously increasing prices of essential food articles, including mustard oil and pulses in the country, along with the steps taken by Government to deal with those factors;
- (b) details of fluctuation taking place in prices of mustard oil during last five years, month-wise;
- (c) whether Government is aware that common man and labourer class is unable to earn two square meals due to extreme price rise; and
- (d) the system which is being adopted by Government to prevent hoarding to control price rise after amendment in Essential Commodities Act by which stock limit has been removed?

Distribution of essential food products during COVID-19 pandemic

557 # Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) the details of steps taken by Government so far towards the issuance of 'One Nation, One Ration Card';
- (b) the increase registered in the distribution of essential food products during COVID-19 pandemic across the country; and

(c) the arrangements made for providing ration to the migrants at their place of living so that they could have enough food during the lockdown?

Transparency in consumer courts

558 **Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe:**

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

- (a) the number of consumer courts that are operational across the country, State-wise;
- (b) the measures that have been adopted by Government to ensure transparency for smooth functioning of these courts, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of Judges that have been appointed to these courts, the details thereof?

Distribution of ration under PMGKAY to immigrant workers and persons belonging to BPL

559 **Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya:**

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

- (a) the action plan of Government in distribution of free rice and essential commodities to the immigrant workers and persons Below Poverty Line (BPL) under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) programme;
- (b) whether there is any consideration to increase ration limit to the beneficiaries during this pandemic crisis; and
- (c) whether any such support has been given by the Centre to the marginal labourers and BPL persons during this COVID-19 pandemic?

Shortcomings in PDS

560 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

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

- (a) the shortcomings identified by the National Council of Applied Economic Research and the Indian Institute of Public Administration in the Public Distribution System (PDS), the details thereof and the steps taken to remove them;
- (b) to what extent Targeted PDS and National Food Security Act are effective in mitigating hunger and malnutrition in the country; and
- (c) the percentage of rural and urban population covered under TPDS with monthly entitlement?

Ration cards issued under One Nation One Ration Card Scheme

561 **Shri Anil Desai:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to implement One Nation One Ration Card scheme;
- (b) if so, the total number of ration card issued so far and who are the beneficiaries of this scheme;
- (c) the issuing authority of such cards in various States; and
- (d) the reasons for implementing this scheme?

Introduction of biometric authentication of farmers for procurement of agriculture produce

562 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

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

- (a) whether Government is encouraging States for introduction of biometric authentication of farmers for procurement of products falling under MSP to eliminate middlemen;
- (b) if so, the States which have responded positively and have accepted to make online payment to farmers against the produces procured;
- (c) whether the online payments to the farmers would be released from the upcoming procurement season of 2020-21; and
- (d) whether Government would ensure that the payment to the farmers is not delayed, as is the current practice?

Storage capacity of FCI

563 Shri Neeraj Shekhar:

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

- (a) the details of foodgrains procured by Government from each State and the price paid to the farmers for each item during the last three months, State-wise;
- (b) whether as on date, FCI has sufficient storage capacity to store the foodgrains and other perishable items procured every year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to increase the storage capacity in each State during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise?

Damage of foodgrains

564 Shri Prashanta Nanda:

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

- (a) the total value of storage loss of Food Corporation of India (FCI) in 2020-21;
- (b) the total foodgrains damaged during 2020-21, as on date;
- (c) whether steps would be taken to reduce the storage losses, including, but not restricted to diverting all foodgrains to silos and linking farmers to supply chain; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Technology advancement of storage facilities

565 Shri Prashanta Nanda:

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

- (a) the proportion of total funds utilized in technology advancement of storage facilities in 2020-21;
- (b) whether the Ministry is considering proposals for piloting alternative storage structures like Mobile Storage Units (MSU), Prefabricated Flospan, etc;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Review of foodgrains procurement policy

566 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to review the open-ended foodgrain procurement policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the present stock position of foodgrains with Government agencies;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to put a cap on foodgrain procurement for the Public Distribution System (PDS); and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Procurement of paddy and wheat

567 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

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

- (a) whether any paddy and wheat procurement system exist in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether many of the Procurement Centres are purchasing from private vendors instead of farmers;
- (c) if so, the mechanism to curb such practice and the policies for purchase/procuring foodgrains only from farmers; and
- (d) whether large quantity of paddy has been damaged at procurement centre in Tamil Nadu due to lack of storage facility, if so, the details thereof?

Distribution of pulses and foodgrains at affordable price under PDS

568 # **Shri Surendra Singh Nagar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has asked the State Governments to provide pulses/grains at affordable rates through Public Distribution System (PDS) to consumers, particularly the weaker section of society, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government also asked the State Governments to indicate their requirements and control the price through PDS and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has received any demand in this direction from State Governments, if so, the details thereof?

Procurement of foodgrains at MSP

569 **Shri Rajmani Patel:**

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

- (a) whether Government has developed any procurement policy to ensure that farmers would get enhanced Minimum Support Price (MSP) on their surplus agricultural produces;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has taken or proposes to take action against the wholesale traders who do not purchase Kharif crops at the MSP;

- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether Government would procure surplus agricultural produces directly from farmers in case wholesaler do not purchase the said produces on MSP;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) if not, the reasons therefor?

Construction of godowns for hygienic storage of foodgrains

570 Dr. C.M. Ramesh:

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

- (a) whether Food Corporation of India (FCI) proposes to construct more godowns to keep foodgrains in different parts of the country on scientific lines, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government to modernize the existing godowns for hygienic storage of foodgrains and the amount spent so far during the last three years for such modernization, the details thereof?

Registration under One Nation One Ration Card scheme

571 Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

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

- (a) the number of households registered under the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) Scheme till date, State-wise;
- (b) the number of claims rejected due to the failure of the Electronic Point of Sale (EPoS) machines and biometric failures, State-wise;
- (c) whether Ministry is considering proposals to improve the scheme's functioning, including but not restricted to rectifying biometric verification and introducing divisibility of ration;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Hallmarking of gold jewellery

572 Shri K.C. Venugopal:

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

- (a) whether Government has made hallmarking of gold mandatory, if so, details thereof and objective of making it mandatory;
- (b) the percentage of gold jewellery that has been certified by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) under hallmarking scheme during last three years;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to protect interest of persons owning old jewellery that has not been hallmarked and if so, details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government plans to set up a committee constituting representatives of all stakeholders to look into issues that could emerge after the implementation of the scheme and if so, details thereof?

Problems faced by fisheries, animal husbandry and dairying farmers

573 Dr. V. Sivadasan:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the problems faced by fisheries, animal husbandry

and dairying farmers since the first lockdown; and
 (b) the steps taken by Government to help them?

Representation from fishermen against fishing ban period

574 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

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

- (a) the details of representations submitted by fishermen to Department officials, State-wise to defer the annual fishing ban period, which is usually imposed for conservation and effective management of marine resources and also for sea safety reasons including the traditional non-motorised craft which are usually exempted from the ban as associations said they had been badly affected due to lockdown in COVID-19 period and also other demands; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and State-wise/action taken thereon?

Impact of cyclones on fishing sector across States

575 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

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

- (a) the impact of the recent devastating cyclones (Amphan, Tauktae, Yaas) on the fishing sector across the States;
- (b) the estimated loss to the sector due to the devastation caused by the storms;
- (c) the support measures that have been declared by the Centre to support poor fishermen;
- (d) how much amount has been disbursed to fishermen under said schemes;
- (e) whether there is any scheme to offer subsidy on boat repair costs to the fishermen;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) how much financial assistance has been given to the affected States for the revival of the fishing sector?

Establishing a semen station in Western Odisha under Rashtriya Gokul Mission

576 Shri Sujeet Kumar:

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

the current status of the proposal sent by the State Government of Odisha to the Ministry to establish a semen station in Western Odisha (Chiplima, Sambalpur) under Rashtriya Gokul Mission?

Rudra Gangadharan committee report

577 Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:

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

- (a) whether National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) had commissioned a study for creating a national buffer stock of dairy commodities under a committee led by Mr. Rudra Gangadharan, former Secretary to Government of India, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying;
- (b) if so, the major findings and recommendations in the said report; and
- (c) whether Government or NDDB has put to use the recommendations contained in the said report, if not, the reasons therefor?

Formation of subsidiary companies by NDDB

578 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

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

- (a) whether under Section 43(1) of the NDDB Act, Government gave previous approval in writing to National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to form subsidiary companies other than as private limited company, if so, details thereof; and
- (b) if not, the reasons NDDB vitiated section 43(1) of the NDDB Act where, as 100 percent share holder of NDDB Dairy Services Private Limited, NDDB's nominees approved actions under Companies Act, 1956 and obtained a Fresh Certificate of Incorporation for NDDB Dairy Services Private Limited prohibiting payment of any dividend to its members?

Schemes to process farm produce

579 # **Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

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

- (a) whether Government has designed any scheme for the farmers in rural areas to process their produce, increase the price of their products and to increase the income of the farmers;
- (b) if so, the details of such scheme and the number of farmers who benefited from it till date; and
- (c) if not, whether Government would propose to prepare such an action plan?

New FPIs established

580 # **Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

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

- (a) the State/UT-wise number of new Food Processing Industries (FPIs) established in the country from 2016 till date; and
- (b) the number of people who got direct or indirect employment from the establishment of these industries and the details of the revenue received by Government?

Implementation of PMKSY in Karnataka

581 **Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

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

- (a) the details on the number of Mega and Mini Food Parks, Cold Chain Infrastructure and Food Testing Laboratories established under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY), State-wise including Karnataka;
- (b) the details of the financial allocation and the investment made to improve food processing infrastructure under the said scheme in Karnataka;
- (c) the details of the schemes under the Ministry for promoting processing of citrus fruits and details of the funds released to Karnataka under the same; and
- (d) whether Government has made any assessment of the number of farmers benefited/getting benefit from this scheme in Karnataka?

Food parks in Jharkhand

582 # **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

- (a) the latest update on food park being constructed with Central assistance at Sikidiri

(Rukka) in Ranchi, Jharkhand;

(b) the details of the promoters and investors of this food park, alongwith the amount of total investment and quantum of subsidy provided by Government;

(c) the amount of loans taken from the banks by the investors for this food park, alongwith the current status of the said loans; and

(d) whether Government has received any complaint about the irregularities in the construction and investment of this food park, if so, the action taken in this regard, so far?

Implementation of PMKSY

583 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

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

(a) State/UT/year-wise details of the following for Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY), since 2016 (i) the details of total beneficiaries, their farm size, funds allocated, sanctioned, disbursed and received by them (ii) number and proportion of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe/Other Backward Caste/women farmers who have received benefits; (b) the details of targets outlined, and those achieved specific to SC/ST/OBC/women farmers; and

(c) whether steps are taken to enable and create awareness regarding access to promoter's capital, institutional credit, technology/soft/entrepreneurship skills and registration of enterprises of farmers who are SC/ST/OBC/women farmers specifically and if not, reasons for the same?

Proposal to review functioning of proposed MFPs

584 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

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

(a) whether Government has any proposal to review the functioning of already proposed Mega Food Parks (MFPs) in near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether some regulatory mechanisms have been established to monitor these projects on regular basis?

GIS One District One Product (ODOP) digital map for Kerala

585 Shri John Brittas:

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

(a) whether Government has approved ODOP for 707 districts from 35 States and UTs, which also includes 137 unique products as per the recommendations received by States/UTs;

(b) the number of products approved for ODOP under the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme for the State of Kerala; and

(c) whether Government has introduced a GIS-ODOP digital map of India to provide details of ODOP products of all the States and UTs and whether the digital map also has indicators for tribal, SC, ST, and aspirational districts?

FPIs under PPP mode

586 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

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

- (a) whether Government is encouraging private participation in the establishment of Food Processing Industries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of such FPIs set up in the State of Andhra Pradesh, district-wise during the last two years?

Setting up and boosting of Agro-Processing/Food Processing Industries.

587 Dr. Banda Prakash:

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study in the context of developing agro-processing clusters and Mega Food Parks in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether some modern infrastructure has been provided for food processing units and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of schemes and projects which Government has proposed to boost the agricultural based food processing industries, including funds allocated, State-wise particularly in Telangana?

Qualifications for candidates of Panchayats

588 Shri Anil Desai:

Will the Minister of **Panchayati Raj** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any basic requirement for candidature of Sarpanch and members of a Panchayat;
- (b) whether having more than two children is a disqualification for contesting elections;
- (c) whether this policy has been implemented all over the country; and
- (d) the financial and other benefits available to Sarpanch and other Panchayat members?

New Panchayats under Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan

589 Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

Will the Minister of **Panchayati Raj** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Panchayat-wise, district-wise and State-wise expense for the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) from 2018 to 2020;
- (b) the details of the projects;
- (c) the steps taken under the scheme Panchayat-wise, district-wise and State-wise from 2018-2020;
- (d) whether any new Panchayats have been formed under this scheme; and
- (e) if so, the total number of Panchayats before the scheme and after the scheme and the details of the functioning of the new Panchayats?

Funds to Chhattisgarh

590 # Shri Ram Vichar Netam:

Will the Minister of **Panchayati Raj** be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds received by Government of Chhattisgarh from Central Finance Commission from 2019 to 2021, the year-wise details thereof;
- (b) the Panchayat Committee-wise, Gram Panchayat-wise and the work-wise funds sanctioned by District Council from 2019 to 2021, financial year-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether any criteria has been set for the allocation of funds by the Central Government, if so, the details of the criteria; and

(d) whether the allocation of financial assistance has been as per the rules during the said year?

Delay in railway projects in Maharashtra

591 **Shri Sanjay Raut:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that many railway projects are getting delayed in various parts of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the current status of various railway projects; and
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Ministry of Railways for the early completion of railway projects in Maharashtra?

Implementation of Constitutional reservation policy in Railway recruitment

592 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

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

- (a) whether Railways take cognisance of Constitutional reservation policy in recruitment process; and
- (b) if so, the number of employees recruited by Railways in all the employment categories like Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Other Backward Classes, Persons with Disability, etc since 2016?

Loss incurred by Railways

593 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

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

- (a) whether Indian Railways have incurred any loss or decrease in revenue generated in the last one year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways had made any cut in the incentives or other allowances given to the employees during the last one year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Cancelled trains

594 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Shri K.C. Venugopal:

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

- (a) the total number of passenger trains cancelled during second wave of COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) the total loss suffered by Railways during the period and total amount refunded by Railways to passengers due to cancellation of tickets;
- (c) the number of special trains run by Railways during second wave of COVID-19 to repatriate migrant labourers to their native places along with the number of migrant workers who have been repatriated to their native places, State-wise;
- (d) by when the Railways will restore complete passenger rail service in the country; and
- (e) the other steps taken by Government to boost passenger and freight revenue?

Railway infrastructure in Uttarakhand

595 # **Shri Naresh Bansal:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has succeeded in building railway infrastructure in Uttarakhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the present status in relation to Saharanpur-Harbatpur-Vikas Nagar and Saharanpur-Dehradun railway line?

Female employees in Railways

596 # **Shri Neeraj Dangri:**

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

- (a) the year-wise number of female candidates given employment in Indian Railways particularly in technical category during the last five years;
- (b) whether the number of female candidates applying for jobs in technical category is very low as compared to male candidates, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any step has been taken by the Railways to improve the current odd working conditions for the females engaged in technical jobs, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken to increase the employment of women in Railways?

Train connectivity to Jagannath Puri

597 # **Shri Brijlal:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is no direct train service for people of Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh and nearby districts to reach one of the four main Dhams of the country 'Jagannath Puri' and people here have to go through transshipment procedure to reach 'Jagannath Puri' which results in wastage of time and money;
- (b) whether there is any plan under consideration for direct train from Gorakhpur to 'Jagannath Puri'; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Problems faced by employees due to COVID-19

598 **Dr. V. Sivadasan:**

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

- (a) whether Government has the data of Railway employees who have been affected by COVID-19, if so, the zone-wise data;
- (b) whether Government has the data of Railway employees who have lost their life due to COVID-19, if so, the zone-wise data;
- (c) whether Government intends to conduct special vaccination drives for Railway employees, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government provided any kind of financial or recruitment help to the family members of Railway employees who have died due to COVID-19, if so, the zone-wise data?

Auctioning land parcels**599 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of auctioning land parcels for many multi-functional complexes undertaken as on date; and
- (b) the response received, zone-wise and how Government utilised such amount and for what purpose?

Clearance of encroachment on Railway land**600 Shri Parimal Nathwani:**Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prepared any action plan for removal of encroachment from Railway land across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of times demolition drive was conducted by Railways under different zones during the last three years along with the area of land cleared from encroachers as a result thereof, zone- wise;
- (d) the total area still under encroachment along with the steps taken to clear encroachment; and
- (e) the action being taken by the Railways on priority basis for construction of boundary wall at railway stations located in densely populated areas?

Passenger fares**601 # Shri Sanjay Singh:**Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any data is available with Government to ascertain the average increase or decrease in passenger fares for various classes after the liberalization of Railways;
- (b) whether any study is available with Government to ascertain as to what extent the charges being recovered from train passengers for essential facilities like toilet, accessories, sanitization, platform ticket, etc would increase or decrease in addition to the passenger fares after liberalization of Railways; and
- (c) if so, the data for the period prior to and subsequent to liberalization including analysis of the same with reasons?

Electrification of rail lines by 2024**602 Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to electrify all rail lines by 2024 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the length of the entire railway network in the country and the length that Government proposes to add during the next three years;
- (c) the details, including location and length of railway tracks that have already been electrified and that are yet to be electrified;
- (d) the estimated cost of electrifying all railway tracks by 2024; and
- (e) the current annual consumption of electricity by the Railways and the estimated consumption once all the tracks are electrified?

Operationalization of SCoR zone with headquarters in Vishakapatnam

603 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that operationalization of the newly announced Railway zone with headquarters at Vishakhapatnam – South Coast Railway (SCoR) zone – has not yet commenced;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) by when the newly announced Railway Zone for the State of Andhra Pradesh will be operationalized?

Situation arising out of bifurcation of Waltair Division

604 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is widespread dissatisfaction among the people of the State of Andhra Pradesh due to the bifurcation of the existing Waltair Railway Division;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has received any representation from public and people's representatives to accommodate the Waltair Railway Division entirely in the newly created South Coast Railway (SCoR) Zone?;
- (d) if so, details thereof; and
- (e) if not, reasons therefor?

Railway printing presses

605 **Shri Elamaram Kareem:**

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

- (a) the number of printing presses under the Ministry at present their functions and how many of them are operating now;
- (b) whether their functioning is affected due to lockdown;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the closure of Railway printing presses is in active consideration of Government, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the Northern Railways has unilaterally released a notice claiming that the Northern Railway Printing Press has been closed down and the employees are redeployed, if so, the actions taken by Government on this?

Abolition of posts in Railways

606 **Shri Elamaram Kareem:**

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

- (a) whether the Railways have decided to abolish certain posts considering the technological advancements, if so, how many posts;
- (b) whether any new posts are being created to appoint employees with technical knowledge in new fields;
- (c) how many vacancies are there in Railways as on 1st July, 2021, the data of each category;
- (d) whether any operational difficulties were faced due to shortage of staff in any division recently, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when the existing vacancies will be filled?

Third line under Sagarmala project

607 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) when was the third line between Bhadra and Vizianagaram taken up under Sagarmala project;
- (b) the estimated cost of the project and when it was supposed to be completed;
- (c) whether there is time and cost overrun and if so, the reasons thereof; and
- (d) by when the project is likely to be completed?

Modernizing Ambikapur railway station

608 # **Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

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

- (a) whether Railways have decided to upgrade/ moderate Ambikapur railway station of Chhattisgarh;
- (b) whether the work of upgradation of Ambikapur railway station has been completed, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the work of high level platform, waiting room, lift, escalator, shading of platform, ramp, etc. has been completed at Ambikapur railway station; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and whether any timeline has been set by Government for the said upgradation work, if so, the details thereof?

Financial loss due to late running of trains

609 **Shri Prasanna Acharya:**

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

- (a) the average rate of punctuality of running trains in different routes;
- (b) the number of trains that leave the station of origin on time and reach their destination on time;
- (c) the amount of loss of time and financial loss to the Railways due to late running of trains in different routes; and
- (d) whether Government has assessed the cumulative financial loss to our economy due to late running of trains, both goods and passenger?

Modernization of existing rake points

610 **Shri Prasanna Acharya:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to insufficient number of rake points and non availability of required infrastructure at existing rake points in Odisha, supply of fertilizers and its distributions is seriously affected;
- (b) whether Railways would take steps for modernization of existing rake points and construct new rake points in various railway stations; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Improvement of infrastructure at Jalpaiguri station

611 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that improvement of infrastructure at Jalpaiguri station has not been done as on 3rd April, 2020;
- (b) whether Government is aware that there is an urgent need for improvement of infrastructure at Jalpaiguri station;
- (c) whether the Haldibari-Chilahati railway link project and introduction of additional coaches on the Haldibari-Kolkata Express have been carried out; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Privatization of railway stations

612 **Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

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

- (a) whether is it a fact that some railway stations in the country have been privatized;
- (b) if so, how many stations have been privatized;
- (c) the reasons for privatization;
- (d) the benefits for common travelers;
- (e) how will the daily life of common travelers not be affected; and
- (f) the details thereof?

Video surveillance system

613 # **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that four years ago under an agreement between Indian Railway and RailTel Corporation of India Ltd, video surveillance system was to be installed at 983 railway stations at a cost of ₹500 crores;
- (b) whether it is a fact that ₹500 crore was allocated for the same from the "Nirbhaya Fund" especially for the safety of women; and
- (c) if so, the status of the progress of the said project and the timeline by which it would be completed?

Railway track doubling

614 # **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the work of doubling of Digha-Sonepur railway track was to be completed by March 2020;
- (b) the quantum of funds to be spent alongwith the funds already spent on the said scheme; and
- (c) the budgetary allocation for the year 2021-22 for the said project and the timeline by which it is targeted to be completed?

Pending recruitment exams of Railways

615 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that even the first stage of recruitment exams of RRB, Non-Technical

Popular Categories (NTPC), Group-D for which notification was released in 2019 has still not been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that RRB has outsourced the work of conducting exams to some private vendor; and

(d) the tentative schedule of various stages of pending recruitment exams?

Loss of lives of Railway employees due to COVID-19

616 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that around 2,000 employees of the Railways have lost their lives due to COVID-19 since March last year;

(b) if so, the total financial assistance that has been provided to the families of the deceased employees;

(c) whether the Ministry has any plans to provide jobs to the family members of the deceased;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) how many employees of the Railways are yet to be fully vaccinated; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Ministry to ensure speedy vaccination of 100 per cent staff of Indian Railways?

Passenger fares of short-distance trains

617 **Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that passenger fares of short distance trains were increased in February, 2021;

(b) if so, the list of short distance trains that have been impacted;

(c) the details of change in rates with previous and revised fares of journey from station of origin to destination;

(d) whether it is also a fact that this has been introduced as a temporary measure to discourage unnecessary travel; and

(e) if so, whether Government plans to roll back the hike and if so, by when?

Monetisation of Railway assets

618 **Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways released a list of assets worth ₹54,000 crore for monetisation in February 2021;

(b) if so, whether the said disinvestment drive has started;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Rail Neer plants

619 # **Shri Surendra Singh Nagar:**

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

(a) the details of various 'Rail Neer plants' operational in the country and the profit made/loss suffered by Railways due to them;

- (b) the funds allocated and utilized for the same during the last three years;
- (c) whether Railways proposes to establish more 'Rail Neer plants' in various parts of the country including Maharashtra to supply water in all the important trains and various outlets;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) by when these plants are likely to be established?

Status of Bullet train projects

620 Shri G.C. Chandrashekar:

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

- (a) the status of Bullet train projects in action and planned, across India;
- (b) the reasons for the delay in implementation of these projects;
- (c) the cost incurred so far and the details thereof;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to implement a Bullet train project in South India connecting Chennai; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Privatisation of Railways

621 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has altered their timeline for privatization in view of the pandemic, if so, details of the new timeline; and
- (b) whether the Ministry will be retaining all its employees in the train routes which are to be privatized, if not, whether a plan for such employees has been made?

Survey to extend railway network to unconnected areas

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

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey on the areas that are not connected with railway network in the country so far, if so, the details and the outcome thereof, State/UT-wise and zone-wise;
- (b) the details of projects started by Government to connect such areas to the railway network during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise and zone-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to connect each and every area of the country to railway network along with the achievements thereof?

Integrated Watershed Development Programme

623 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of water harvesting structures created since 2017-18 till present;
- (b) the total number of water harvesting structures renovated since 2017-18 till present;
- (c) the total area brought under plantation since 2017-18 till present;
- (d) the total number of persondays generated by the scheme since 2017-18 till present; and
- (e) the State-wise details of the above mentioned works?

Provision of additional funds to States under MGNREGA

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

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of pending funds under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme to the State Governments by the Central Government;
- (b) the time by which the Central Government is planning to release all those pending funds, State-wise; and
- (c) whether Government has made arrangements for additional funds to meet the increase in demand due to rising unemployment on account of the COVID-19 pandemic and if so, the details thereof?

Progress of implementation of PMAY-G

625 **Shri Iranna Kadadi:**

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of number of houses constructed under Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin) (PMAY-G) during last three years and current year across the country, State/UT-wise including Karnataka;
- (b) funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under the scheme during the said period, State/UT-wise including Karnataka;
- (c) details of targets set and achievements made under the scheme, so far;
- (d) details of the number of houses allocated to the poor and people living below poverty line under the scheme, so far; and
- (e) whether targets set under the scheme have not been achieved, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Mission Antyodaya in rural health infrastructure

626 **Dr. Ameer Yajnik:**

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of planning and strategy formulated by Government as per Mission Antyodaya 2019 survey report in the field of rural health infrastructure;
- (b) whether Government has allocated any fund to develop health facility at Panchayat level, State-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether any strategy has been made for optimum use and management of resources allocated by 27 Ministries for Mission Antyodaya; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Steps to curb the increasing rural unemployment rate

627 **Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya:**

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether rural unemployment rate is increasing since the pandemic, monthly data since 2019;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to increase employment and skill development in rural areas; and
- (c) the steps that have been taken by Government to support the unemployed sectors of the rural background to meet their livelihood during the pandemic?

Watershed development projects for Karnataka

628 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 570 watershed development projects have been sanctioned for Karnataka under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY);
- (b) if so, the details of projects completed so far and projects that are pending for completion, district-wise;
- (c) the efforts being made by the Ministry to complete the left out projects; and
- (d) the amount spent so far on the above projects, district-wise?

Benefit extended to Scheduled Tribes under DDU-GKY

629 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Scheduled Tribes (STs) benefitted under the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) in the FY 2020-21;
- (b) whether the Centre is planning to extend more funds for the betterment of STs in Odisha under the same scheme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Skill development training for youth in Andhra Pradesh

630 **Shri Y. S. Chowdary:**

Will the Minister of **Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes being implemented by Government for skill development of youth during the last three years, including Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the details of funds allocated and released by Government to the States, including Andhra Pradesh, during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and scheme-wise;
- (c) whether any proposal has been sent to the Central Government by Government of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with action taken by Government thereon?

Training for setting up new business under PMKVY

631 # **Shri Naresh Bansal:**

Will the Minister of **Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any scheme for providing training to set up new business under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), the details of such a new centre in the State of Uttarakhand; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Apprenticeship training

632 # **Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

Will the Minister of **Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of industrial units imparting apprenticeship training in the country, the State-wise details thereof, including industrial sector-wise details particularly in Rajasthan;

- (b) whether Government proposes to make it mandatory to provide apprenticeship training in industrial units operational in metropolitan cities in the country; and
 (c) if so, the details of preparations in this regard?

Upgradation of Craft Training Centres and ITIs

633 **Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the Industrial Training Institutes and Craft Training Centres that already exist and need to be upgraded;
 (b) if so, the measures being taken in this regard; and
 (c) whether Government has any plan of training the informal workers through these Institutes?

Training of construction workers

634 **Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to train the construction workers to be able to use new machines and improved tools through short-term training courses; and
 (b) if so, the details thereof?

Skill development training in agriculture and ancillary sectors for farmers of Maharashtra

635 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes/programmes being run by Government for providing skill development training in agriculture and ancillary sectors to the farmers in Maharashtra;
 (b) the number of farmers trained through these schemes and the extent to which they are benefited;
 (c) whether Government has earmarked any fund for this purpose under different schemes; and
 (d) if so, the details of funds earmarked and utilized during each of the last five years and the current year?

Funds allocated to West Bengal under STRIVE project

636 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds allocated to the State of West Bengal under the STRIVE project;
 (b) the amount of funds released so far;
 (c) by when would the rest of the funds be released and the reasons for delay; and
 (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Job avenues for skilled workforce

637 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Kaushal Vikas training camps organised under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) in the country, till date;

- (b) the number of candidates enrolled under the scheme and the number of candidates who have been/are being given skill training, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to create job avenues in the country for this skilled workforce?

Study to assess the impact of training by Industrial Training Institutes

638 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Will the Minister of *Skill Development and Entrepreneurship* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that according to last PLFS survey in 2018, 33 per cent of formally trained 15-29 year olds were jobless, if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether Ministry/Department has undertaken any independent study to examine impact of training provided by ITIs and employment prospects of trainees;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to increase placements under PMKVY and whether these initiatives have shown any positive impact; and
- (d) official figures of number of skill development and vocational training institutes which did not receive funds due to non-placements of trainees, district-wise, since 2018?

Beneficiaries under Skill Development Mission

639 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

Will the Minister of *Skill Development and Entrepreneurship* be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of beneficiaries of Skill Development Mission from 2015-2020, the details thereof, year-wise; and
- (b) whether the proposed "seven sub missions" are still in use and the proportion of individuals benefiting from each of these sub missions since 2015?

Customised crash course for COVID-19 frontline workers

640 Shri K.C. Venugopal:

Shri Sanjay Seth:

Will the Minister of *Skill Development and Entrepreneurship* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched customized crash course programme for COVID-19 frontline workers under the central component of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 3.0;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the aims and objective behind the move;
- (c) whether Government has fixed any target to train youth to support the current task force fighting the pandemic and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of duration of course along with the benefits to be extended to youth on completion of the course; and
- (e) the total financial outlay for the programme along with the steps taken by Government to make it successful?

New Delhi
The 16th July, 2021
25 Ashadha 1943 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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