

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, March 31, 2022/ 10 Chaitra, 1944 (Saka)

(Ministries : Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Culture; Development of North Eastern Region; Earth Sciences; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; External Affairs; Information and Broadcasting; Labour and Employment; Law and Justice; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Science and Technology; Space; Tourism; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions -- 160

Steps to increase capacity of nuclear power generation

3201 # **Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of nuclear power generation capacity in the country at present, reactor-wise;
- (b) whether Government proposes to increase the said capacity, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to develop indigenous technologies for nuclear power generation?

Import of rare earth elements

3202 **Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India has the fifth largest reserves of rare earth elements but it imports most of its requirements from China;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the current status of the pact between India's Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL) and Toyota Group firm Toyota Tsusho Corporation; and
- (d) the quantity of rare earth elements mined in India since 2017, year-wise?

Status of under construction and planned nuclear power plants

3203 **Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of nuclear power plants with varying capacity are either under-construction or planned for construction apart from the nuclear power plants generating 7,480 MW energy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) timeline that has been fixed for completion of each of the under-construction nuclear power plants; and

(d) the current status of planned nuclear power plants?

Sectors benefitted by research and development in atomic energy

3204 **Dr. Ameer Yajnik:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of sectors that got benefitted by research and development in atomic energy during the last three years;
- (b) the details of initiatives taken to reduce the pressure on non-renewable sources of energy in the field of power generation; and
- (c) the details of technological advancement adopted or indigenous development in nuclear sector to reduce the impact of radiation?

Nuclear power plants in the country

3205 **Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of nuclear power plants and nuclear reactors operational in the country;
- (b) the number of nuclear power plants and nuclear reactors planned for construction in the country;
- (c) details of both (a) and (b) by location, capacity, investment made and planned, whether indigenous or imported reactors etc.;
- (d) the details of the planned power generation capacity of Kovvada plant in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh;
- (e) likely investment in Kovvada and likely employment generation by industry standards;
- (f) details of existing and planned nuclear power plants in Uttar Pradesh; and
- (g) investment and employment generation in Uttar Pradesh nuclear power plants?

Uranium as fuel for nuclear reactors

3206 **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) number of nuclear reactors using uranium as fuel;
- (b) amount of uranium demand in India for producing nuclear energy;
- (c) number of indigenous uranium mines and reserves in the country, State-wise details of mine output;
- (d) whether India imports uranium from other countries to meet energy needs, if so, the country-wise details thereof during the last 3 years; and
- (e) whether Government has taken necessary steps to ensure supply security of nuclear fuel and reduce dependency on imported uranium, if so, the details thereof?

Protected monuments and archaeological sites in Tamil Nadu

3207 **Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu :**

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

- (a) whether Government has directed the Archaeological Survey of India to prepare the complete status report and inventory of detailed list of protected monuments, archaeological sites, ancient temples, archaic buildings of secular and religious nature in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the inventory of archaeological monuments available at O/o Superintendent of Archaeology, Chennai Circle, Temple Survey, Chennai Circle and O/o

Superintendent of Archaeology, Trichy Circle, Tamil Nadu;

(c) whether the archaeological evidences collected from the excavations of archaeological sites and photo documents are digitalized; and

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

Sites of national importance in Rajasthan

3208 # **Shri Rajendra Gehlot:**

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

(a) the number of forts, monuments and ancient sites identified to be recognised as the sites of national importance during the year 2020-21 in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has also identified ancient forts, heritage sites and archaeological sites in Rajasthan to be declared as sites of national importance during the last three years, if so, the district-wise details of the sites identified; and

(c) the details of the targets set to declare the identified sites as the sites of national importance?

Assistance to folk performers of Maharashtra during COVID-19 pandemic

3209 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

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

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey to determine the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on folk artists;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating Government as well as non-Governmental support given to the folk artists;

(c) whether Government is organizing cultural programs to promote folk dances and arts of Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) details of measures taken to provide assistance to folk artists in view of the pandemic?

Promotion of Indian folk arts, culture and music

3210 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

(a) steps that have been taken by Government to promote Indian folk arts, culture and music in foreign countries; and

(b) the incentives being provided by Government to improve the economic conditions of folk artists?

Setting up of a site museum at Vadnagar, Gujarat

3211 **Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

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

(a) whether Government has any proposal to set up a new museum at Vadnagar which has been extensively excavated for the last more than five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the agency which has been entrusted to set up the museum and the expenditure likely to be incurred;

(c) whether the required land, building design and display plan for the objects have been completed; and

(d) whether similar site museums have also been planned at other important archaeological sites in different parts of the country which have been extensively excavated?

Sahityotsav festival

3212 **Dr. Ameer Yajnik:**

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

- whether Government has organized a literary festival "Sahityotsav" recently;
- if so, the details thereof along with the details of programs organized in the said festival;
- the salient features of the "Sahityotsav" festival and the participation status from various States, particularly the State of Gujarat;
- the measures taken by Government to encourage participation in the literary field; and
- whether such literary festivals are being organized regularly in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Digitization of records of National Archives of India

3213 **Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar:**

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

- whether Government has launched any scheme/programme to digitize records, catalogue and publications of the National Archives of India;
- if so, the details and the salient features thereof;
- the manner in which digitization is likely to help scholars, historians, academicians and other users of archives in the country; and
- the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years and the current year, year-wise?

National monuments in J&K, Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh

3214 **Smt. Rajani Ashokrao Patil:**

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

- the name and number of national monuments in Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and in the State of Himachal Pradesh;
- the amount allocated to Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and the State of Himachal Pradesh for the maintenance of these sites during the last three years, and amount utilised thereof; and
- the number of new monuments and sites under consideration of Government to be declared as centrally protected monuments along with the details thereof?

Repertory and Cultural Functions and Production Grant Schemes

3215 **Shri Jawhar Sircar:**

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

- the total number of beneficiaries under the Repertory Grant and Cultural Functions and Production Grant Schemes per year over the last five years;
- the annual expenditure under these two schemes each year over the last five years; and
- the reasons for delay of releases under the said two schemes?

Vacant posts in National Library

3216 **Shri Jawhar Sircar:**

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

- whether there is any move or plan to shift the National Library from Kolkata to Delhi;
- when did the last Director selected under the Recruitment Rules retired and reasons for

- a full time Director not being appointed since then;
 (c) the number of posts lying vacant in the library in each grade and reasons why they are not filled as per Recruitment Rules for several years; and
 (d) the number of posts that have been abolished in this library in the last five years?

Recognition of contributions of artists

3217 **Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:**

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

- (a) whether Government recognizes the contributions of various artists in the preservation of intangible cultural heritage of the country;
 (b) whether Government has taken any measures to recognize the contributions of various artists in the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations;
 (c) if so, the details thereof;
 (d) the number of beneficiaries under the Scheme for Pension and Medical Aid to Artistes;
 (e) whether the number of beneficiaries under the aforesaid scheme has been decreasing over time; and
 (f) the reasons therefor?

Plastic and other non-biodegradable material

3218 **Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla:**

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

- (a) measures that have been taken to reduce the use of plastic and other non-biodegradable material used in different industry including health sector;
 (b) measures taken to completely eradicate the use of plastic and the target set for zero use of plastic;
 (c) measures taken to collect, segregate and process all non-biodegradable material from different sources in the country; and
 (d) measures taken to prevent the use of plastic in public places like beaches, parks and other public spaces?

Setting up of museums

3219 **Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

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

- (a) number of artifacts, available with the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), which are not being displayed in the museums of the country;
 (b) the details of new on-site or off-site museums that are proposed to be setup in the various circles of the ASI; and
 (c) the details of initiatives taken/proposed to be taken, if any, by Government to popularize the lesser known protected monuments of the country?

Creation of health facilities in the North Eastern Region

3220 **Shri K.J. Alphons:**

Will the Minister of **Development of North Eastern Region** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds allotted to North Eastern Council (NEC) for creation of health infrastructure in the North Eastern Region; and
 (b) if so, the details of the quantum of funds allotted and utilised during the last five years?

Projects sanctioned by NESIDS

3221 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

Will the Minister of **Development of North Eastern Region** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that out of 36 projects by the State Governments under the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS), only 8 projects have been sanctioned by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) details of the status of progress and funding of the projects that have been selected?

Erosion of Indian coastline

3222 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that between 1990 and 2018, about 32 per cent of the Indian coastline had eroded;
- (b) if so, the reasons for such coastal erosion;
- (c) whether Government proposes to undertake any mapping of such coastline erosion to study its causes, impact and solutions;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any mitigation efforts have been undertaken by Government to control such coastal erosion; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Weather forecasting technology/equipment in Tamil Nadu

3223 **Shri P. Wilson:**

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal for upgradation of weather forecasting technology/equipment for more accurate prediction under the Atmosphere and Climate Research - Modelling Observing System and Services (ACROSS) Scheme especially in Tamil Nadu as the conditions of radars used in the meteorological department at Chennai and Karaikal are bad and failed to accurately predict the rainfall in November 2021;
- (b) whether Government has data on number of people that have been employed as science and technological staff under the ACROSS Scheme across the country especially in Tamil Nadu; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Lesser snowfall in Himalayas

3224 **Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:**

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

- (a) whether any recent study has shown that there have been lesser snowfall and greater rainfall in the Himalayas in the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that this can result in increased instances of landslides, avalanches, floods etc., in the region;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, including measures adopted by Government to prevent these disasters;
- (e) whether Government has adopted any measures to protect the region from further ecological damage resulting in its warming; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Minimising loss due to natural disasters

3225 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

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

- (a) whether Government is developing a scientific mechanism to predict precisely, to the maximum extent possible, the occurrence of landslides and rockslides, glacial lake outburst floods, extreme weather based events like cloudbursts and flash floods etc;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps Government is taking to work jointly with affiliated institutions in this direction so that the loss of life and property caused by natural disasters can be minimised?

Activities envisaged under Deep Ocean Mission

3226 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

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

- (a) the details of various components and proposed activities envisaged under Deep Ocean Mission;
- (b) the amount of funds sanctioned and allocated till date;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Indian Ocean Region has huge capacity of minerals, energy and marine diversity of the underwater world that still remains unexplored;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps Government is taking to realize its intended goals in a systematic and time bound manner?

IPCC report on climate change

3227 **Shri Vaiko:**

Shri Y. S. Chowdary:

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

- (a) whether the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has released report recently;
- (b) if so, the highlights thereof;
- (c) the details of multiple climate hazards and risks to be faced by the developing countries including India;
- (d) the areas where adaptation to the impacts of climate crisis is possible; and
- (e) remedial measures suggested or to be taken collectively by the international community to meet the challenges, the details thereof?

Ban on use of plastic

3228 # **Shri Deepak Prakash:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken strict action to stop the use of plastic bags/wrappers/bottles and other non-essential packaging materials; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including Jharkhand?

Shutting down of plastic manufacturing units

3229 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to fully close the plastic bags manufacturing units;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of harm caused by use of plastic?

Data on air pollution

3230 **Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

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

- (a) whether Government is taking any steps to ensure that all 132 cities under the National Clean Air Program (NCAP) maintain data to track the quality of air;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the current number of air quality monitoring stations across the country, State-wise; and
- (d) steps that are being taken to ensure adequacy and uniformity of data across all monitoring stations as a number of monitoring stations either do not submit data or do not have adequate data for analysis?

Irregularities under CAMPA in Chhattisgarh

3231 # **Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

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

- (a) the details of funds allocated to the State of Chhattisgarh under the head 'Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority' (CAMPA) during last three years and current year and the amount spent out of the said fund;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any ground survey of the afforestation being done under the CAMPA in Chhattisgarh;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any study about the authenticity of figures being presented regarding afforestation in Chhattisgarh under said programme; and
- (d) whether Government has any information regarding irregularities committed under above scheme in Chhattisgarh?

Improvement of AQI under NCAP

3232 **Shri Irranna Kadadi:**

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

- (a) number of cities that have reported an improvement in AQI in the last two years out of the 132 non-attainment cities under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP);
- (b) the details thereof, including the change in AQI and any perceived health impact on residents;
- (c) the budget allocated and utilised for this purpose;
- (d) details of any under-utilization along with reasons for the same; and
- (e) whether Government has any specific strategy to improve the quality of air in the non-attainment cities that have consistently been recording poor AQI despite implementation of NCAP?

Measures to curb prevailing environmental issues

3233 **Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu :**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that India is the third largest emitter of carbon dioxide and Greenhouse Gases next to USA and China;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the effective measures taken by Government to curb the prevailing environmental issues and problems like air pollution, poor management of waste, degradation of forests, biodiversity loss, and land/soil degradation; and
- (d) the total funds allocated, in the last five years to the State of Tamil Nadu to combat major environmental issues, year-wise?

Planning process for development of forests

3234 **Shri Prakash Javadekar:**

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

- (a) in what manner tribal and forest dwellers have become the part of planning process for the development of forests; and
- (b) the status of implementation of joint circular issued by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change?

Achievements of Climate Change division of the Ministry

3235 **Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudde:**

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

- (a) the major achievements of the Ministry's Climate Change (CC) division over the last four years, the details thereof;
- (b) the total number of projects sanctioned and funded by the Climate Change division under its various schemes, State-wise details thereof for the last five years; and
- (c) the total number of projects sanctioned under the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) in the State of Maharashtra, and their current status, the details thereof?

Action taken on air pollution in Delhi NCR

3236 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the recommendations made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change on curbing air pollution in Delhi NCR;
- (b) whether Government has contributed funds towards the mitigation of air pollution in the NCR region;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any other steps for curbing air pollution in the country?

E-waste management in informal sector

3237 **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

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

- (a) whether Government has achieved the e-waste collection target as per the E-waste (Management) Rules, and if so, the details thereof;

- (b) if not, the reasons therefor and policy changes to achieve this target;
- (c) whether Government has estimated the proportion of e-waste being handled by the informal sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government is aware of health concerns related to e-waste faced by the informal sector, and measures that are being implemented to address the same; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Flue Gas Desulphurisation in thermal power plants

3238 **Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the deadline to install Flue Gas Desulphurization (FGD) units in thermal power plants that cut emissions of Sulphur Dioxides was postponed from 2017 to 2022, if so, the reasons for extension of the deadline;
- (b) the number and details of State-run thermal power plants that have complied with setting up of the FGD units so far; and
- (c) whether the new rules and penalties pertaining to the FGD units are in force, and if not, the reasons therefor, and a deadline by which the rules will be enforced?

Policy to develop recycling industry

3239 # **Shri Brijlal:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to make policy changes to deal with problems of e-waste along with developing its recycling sector as a new industry, if so, the steps taken for the said purpose; and
- (b) the salient features of the said policy and number of employment opportunities that are likely to be created by the said policy?

Per capita carbon emission

3240 # **Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

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

- (a) the per capita carbon emission in India with respect to international standards; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government to reduce carbon emission and the extent of emission likely to be reduced by the year 2023 as compared to present situation?

Impact of climate change on forest dwellers

3241 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study in recent times on the rate of deforestation in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any study to monitor the effect of climate change on traditional forest dwellers, if so the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Environmental clearance to Tapovan-Vishnugad project

3242 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has not yet conducted any study on the justification and relevance of environmental clearance granted to Tapovan-Vishnugad Hydro Electric Project which was ravaged after the floods in Chamoli Rishi Ganga in February, 2021;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the work is being done on this project only on the basis of old approval; and
- (c) the details thereof?

Preserving coastal ecosystem

3243 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

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

- (a) steps Government has taken to maintain and preserve the coastal ecosystem in the country;
- (b) the funds allocated for the purpose during the last three years, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any mechanism in place to oversee the cleanliness of various beaches in the country; and
- (d) whether assistance of respective State Governments are also taken in this regard, if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Committee of Experts on environmental issues

3244 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

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

- (a) whether Government has constituted any Committee of Experts to study and suggest ways and means to protect and improve environment in the country in the recent past, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has convened any such meetings with the State Governments, and various NGOs during the last two years, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the amount allocated for the purpose to improve the environment in the country during the last three years and the amount utilised for the said purpose?

Mapping of forest area

3245 **Smt. Rajani Ashokrao Patil:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the forest area density has increased in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a result of change in mapping technology; and
- (d) in what manner does the Ministry map the forest area?

Carrying capacity of Gir forest

3246 **Shri Parimal Nathwani:**

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

- (a) whether any study has been conducted for Gir lions to assess the carrying capacity of Gir and Greater Gir forest areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) whether any such 'Carrying Capacity' study has been undertaken for other wild animals in respect of any reserve/ forest; and
 (d) if so, the details thereof?

Study on availability of food for Gir lions

3247 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

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

- (a) whether any study has been conducted on availability of food for Gir lions in Gir National Park and Sanctuary;
 (b) if so, the details thereof;
 (c) the steps being taken to increase/ boost the prey-base for lions so that they do not venture out in search of food and kill domestic animals; and
 (d) the details of per 100 sq. km carrying capacity of lions in Gir vis-à-vis availability of prey-base?

Discrepancies in the India State Forest Report

3248 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that according to currently used definitions plantations and monocultures of rubber and coffee are treated as forests;
 (b) whether it is a fact that forest cover data used by Forest Survey of India(FSI) is not available in the public domain and is hence unverifiable;
 (c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
 (d) whether it is a fact that figures published by the FSI in the India State of Forest Report do not match those available with National Remote Sensing Centre; and
 (e) if so, the details therefor, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Environmental impact of Ken-Betwa Project

3249 Shri G.C. Chandrashekar:

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

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

- (a) whether an Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) has been conducted for the Ken Betwa Project, the details thereof;
 (b) whether Government has studied the impact of the project on local tiger population in the Panna Tiger Reserve, given that the project will submerge nearly 100 sq.km of the core area of this Reserve of which 10 per cent is the critical tiger habitat;
 (c) whether any consultations were held with local populations and environmental experts prior to the project approval; and
 (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Monitoring mechanisms under NAPCC

3250 Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla:

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

- (a) monitoring mechanisms that have been laid down for review of National Mission under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC);
 (b) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister's Council of Climate Change (PMCCC) and the Executive Committee of Climate Change (ECCC) reviewed the progress of National

Missions under NAPCC; and

(c) whether the Prime Minister's Council of Climate Change (PMCCC) and the Executive Committee of Climate Change (ECCC) carried any review of such National Missions under the NAPCC, if so, the details thereof?

Registration of plastic brands under EPR

3251 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

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

(a) whether Government has issued directions to the States regarding the registration of plastic brand owners/producers for fulfilment of Extended Producer's Responsibility (EPR) as per Plastic Waste Management Rules; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of non-compliant producers/brand owners, State/UT-wise?

Decline of forest cover in the North Eastern Region

3252 **Shri Derek O' Brien:**

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

(a) whether Government is aware that North Eastern Region saw the largest share i.e 79 per cent of tree cover loss in the country;

(b) whether Government has conducted any study to understand the reasons behind such large scale deforestation, if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government is taking any steps to mitigate this ecological crisis and prevent similar shedding in the future?

Complaints regarding violation of labour laws

3253 # **Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

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

(a) whether Government has prepared any database of the students and other people living abroad along with the workers employed there;

(b) whether Government has received any complaints from the Indian workers working in various countries regarding the violation of labour laws, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the role Government has played in providing assistance to the Indians facing difficulties?

Cross border pilgrimage

3254 **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

(a) the number of pilgrims who have gone to Pakistan and vice versa during the last five years under the Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines, 1974, the details thereof, religion-wise;

(b) the confidence-building measures that are being taken to promote cross-border travels of religious pilgrims between India and Pakistan, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that many pilgrims vanish and do not return to their home country during these journeys, if so, the details thereof?

Visits to foreign countries

3255 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

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

- (a) the details of the visits of the President/Prime Minister of foreign countries to India and vice versa during the last five years;
- (b) whether Government has entered into any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or treaty with any country during the last five years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether India's foreign policy has helped in having friendly relations with neighbouring countries; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Evacuation of Indians stranded abroad

3256 **Shri Prakash Javadekar:**

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

- (a) the number of people evacuated from Ukraine; and
- (b) the number of operations to evacuate stranded Indians and other nationals carried out during the last five years, year-wise details thereof?

Passport Seva Kendras in Parliamentary constituencies

3257 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether each Parliamentary constituency in the country has an operational Passport Seva Kendras;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the Passport Seva Kendras currently operational in the country, State-wise;
- (d) whether Government proposes to open new Passport Seva Kendras in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Database of Indian students

3258 **Shri K. Somaprasad:**

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

- (a) whether Union Government and Indian embassies are keeping any details and numbers of students leaving India for educational purpose;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government will take necessary steps to prepare a data of such students, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government agree with preparation of a data base so as to meet challenges during a war or any calamities or for an emergency evacuation, if so, the action plan, if any, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details and number of students returned to India from Ukraine, so far?

Portal for database of Indians abroad

3259 # **Smt. Seema Dwivedi:**

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

- (a) whether Government of India has created any such portal where information of all the Indian students studying abroad is stored so that in case of any emergency they can be contacted and helped by Government at any time and Indian Embassies there can provide them active support immediately; and
- (b) whether Government proposes to create any such feasible portal, where the interests and dignity of all the Indian students studying abroad can be secured globally, if so, by when Government would do so?

Shortage of human resource in Central Passport Organisation

3260 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

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

- (a) whether there is a human resource shortage in Central Passport Organisation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps Government is taking to fill the vacancies against sanctioned strength?

Indian students opting for foreign education

3261 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

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

- (a) the number of visas granted for higher education abroad in the current year and the preceding two years;
- (b) the preferred countries for education by the number of students; and
- (c) steps taken to expedite the process of visa for higher education?

H-1B Visa Rules

3262 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

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

- (a) whether constant changes in H-1B Visa rules are being opposed by technology giants like Google, Microsoft, Facebook, Twitter, etc.;
- (b) the reasons for changing position by the US as far as H-1B Visa rules are concerned;
- (c) the impact of such move on Indian IT firms and individuals;
- (d) whether India's IT firms are still dependent on work permits;
- (e) the alternative course Indian IT firms have in view of frequent changes in the H-1B Visa regime; and
- (f) whether any consultations have been held at diplomatic and political level on this and, if so, the details thereof?

Cooperation with France in Blue Economy and Ocean Governance

3263 **Shri Y. S. Chowdary:**

Shri Vaiko:

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

- (a) whether India and France have recently adopted a road map on the Blue Economy and Ocean Governance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any other points were discussed when the two Foreign Ministers met in France recently; and

(d) whether any progress was made for cooperation in the fields of defence and security, health, education, research and innovation, climate change etc., the details thereof?

Scholarship in South Asian University

3264 **Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:**

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

(a) whether there is an ongoing protest at South Asian University (SAU) by students due to arbitrary new policy regarding the scholarship, freeships, and other issues;

(b) the reason for making scholarships non-transferable when previously everyone used to get scholarships and freeships;

(c) whether SAU is not receiving funding, if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government understands that by not giving freeships and scholarships the future of students has been jeopardized; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to ensure that no one at SAU drops out due to financial barriers?

Construction of dams on Brahmaputra river by China

3265 **Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya:**

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

(a) whether China has constructed many big dams at the source of river Brahmaputra;

(b) if so, whether Government is observing or studying downstream impact of these big dams;

(c) whether Government is researching the manner in which these dams affect river Brahmaputra; and

(d) whether Government is taking any precautions towards this issue since the release of water from dams by China in the monsoon inundates the already flooded Brahmaputra river and Assam has been grappling with massive floods for last few monsoons?

Alterations of guidelines regarding accreditation norms

3266 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

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

(a) whether Government has issued new accreditation norms and altered existing Press Information Bureau (PIB) accreditation guidelines;

(b) whether Government has also formed Central Media Accreditation Committee(CMAC) to monitor/issue accreditations; and

(c) if so, the details of CMAC body?

Advertisements directed at children

3267 # **Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the advertisements of food products and dangerous stunts being telecasted on television channels are badly affecting the eating habits and life style of children and they are falling prey to bad habits; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to stop telecast of such advertisements on TV channels?

FM radio stations in North Eastern Region

3268 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

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

- (a) whether the number of FM radio stations in the North Eastern Region (NER), is very few;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and measures taken up to increase the density of FM radio stations in the NER;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to reduce the license fee and operational cost etc., for setting up FM radio stations in the region considering its commercial, demographic and resource constraints; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Expenditure on advertisements

3269 **Dr. Fauzia Khan:**

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

- (a) the details of expenditure incurred by the Ministry, during the last five years and the current year, as per the type of expenditure, year-wise;
- (b) the details of expenditure incurred on advertisements, during the last five years and the current year, year-wise;
- (c) whether such expenditure shows an increase or decrease in expenditure incurred on advertisements during the last three years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Broadcast of OTT shows on Doordarshan

3270 **Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas:**

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

- (a) whether net profit of the Prasar Bharti has declined during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government plans to broadcast some famous Over The Top (OTT) shows on Doordarshan to increase its viewership; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Programmes on women freedom fighters

3271 **Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:**

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

- (a) whether Prasar Bharati has any plan to telecast/broadcast programmes, features and news in Hindi on leading women freedom fighters of Assam like Kanaklata Baruah, Chandraprabha Saikiani, Bhogeswari Phukani, Puspallata Das and others;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether these programmes are telecasted on DD News, AIR News, DD National, AIR National, DD Bharati and DD Kisan etc.?

Strengthening of regional news unit in North Eastern States

3272 **Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:**

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

- (a) whether the Prasar Bharati is planning to strengthen the Regional News Unit (RNU) of

- all AIR and Doordarshan stations in the North Eastern States, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Prasar Bharati is encouraging young professionals to join as news correspondent in the North Eastern States;
- (c) whether reporters are engaged in All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan Kendra (DDK) on casual basis in Guwahati, if so the details thereof including the number of such reporters; and
- (d) whether some reporters are engaged in AIR and DD News on long term contract basis in Guwahati, if so the details thereof?

Closure of Power Transmitters in North Eastern Region

3273 Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:

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

- (a) whether all the High Power transmitters (HPT), Low Power Transmitters (LPT) in the North Eastern Region particularly in Assam are permanently closed;
- (b) if so, the number of such Transmitters closed, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Prasar Bharati is re-deploying the permanent staff working in those Transmitters, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any contractual employees were also working in those Transmitters prior to closure; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Central Media Advertising Policy Guidelines

3274 Shri Ripun Bora:

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

- (a) whether Government has received any proposals suggesting for new Central Media Advertising policy guidelines to support the media and newspapers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the proposal of Government to revive the newspaper industry;
- (c) whether Government intends to address the mass termination of media persons during the pandemic; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

New Central Media Accreditation Guidelines

3275 Shri Rajmani Patel:

Shri Kumar Ketkar:

Smt. Rajani Ashokrao Patil:

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

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

- (a) whether Government has received any proposals suggesting that the new Central Media Accreditation Guidelines should be withdrawn;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has held or intends to hold public consultations on the new guidelines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether Government intends to address ambiguities in the new guidelines such as the failure to define police verification, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Upgradation of DDK / AIR stations in Andhra Pradesh

3276 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- whether Government propose to upgrade/modernise the Doordarshan Kendras (DDKs) / AIR stations in the country;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the number of DDK / AIR stations being upgraded/modernised in the State of Andhra Pradesh, the details thereof?

Closure of Doordarshan installations

3277 **Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

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

- whether Government is aware that Prasar Bharati has closed a large number of Doordarshan Stations/Transmitters;
- if so, the list of Doordarshan Stations/ Transmitters closed during the last five years;
- the details of expenditure for dismantling of analogue transmitter from the existing installation;
- the approximate expenditure for installation of AIR FM Transmitter at the Analogue Transmitter of Doordarshan;
- whether any demand has been received from Employees' Association to install AIR FM Transmitter at the existing analogue TV Transmitters without any additional staff; and
- if so, the details thereof?

Committee to review guidelines on Television Rating Agencies

3278 **Shri John Brittas:**

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

- whether Government had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Executive Officer, Prasar Bharati to review the Guidelines on Television Rating Agencies in India;
- if so, the major findings and recommendations in the said report; and
- the response of Government thereto?

Financial loss to FM radio stations

3279 **Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar:**

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

- whether Government is aware that FM radio industry has suffered huge financial loss due to COVID-19 pandemic and if so, the details thereof;
- whether Government has received any representation from FM radio industry seeking financial aid/assistance;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the action taken by Government thereon?

Ban on films

3280 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

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

- the number of films which have been banned since 2014 in India, year-wise;

- (b) whether Government has any grievance redressal mechanism for films similar to one provided for broadcasters under Cable Television Network Rules;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, whether Government is considering setting up one to avoid clogging of courts from the petitions against the films; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Pending cases in Rajasthan

3281 # Shri Neeraj Dangi:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the shortage of judges is the main reason behind the pending cases in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has issued any guidelines under the new policy for quick disposal of the pending cases in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the pending cases in the State of Rajasthan during the last two years and the current year?

Increase in child labour

3282 # Smt. Kanta Kardam:

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a notable increase in the cases of child labour across the country;
- (b) the details of cases of child labour in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last four years and the current year, district-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to stop such increase in the cases of child labour?

Data on unemployment in manufacturing sector

3283 Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) data on employment in the manufacturing sector, year-wise from 2017 till date;
- (b) whether it is a fact that employment in India's manufacturing sector had nearly halved between 2016-17 and 2020-21;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the timeline by which the Finance Minister's budget announcement of creating 60 lakh jobs through the PLI scheme will be realised in full?

Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Yojana

3284 Shri M. Shanmugam:

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of workers in the unorganised sector registered, including bulk registration under Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Yojana, State-wise as on 28.02.2022;
- (b) the details of pension available to the workers after 60 years and the number of workers benefited during the current year, State-wise; and
- (c) whether there is delay in payments by the LIC, if so, the reasons therefor?

Increase in child labourers due to COVID - 19

3285 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the aftermath of the global COVID-19 pandemic crisis has led to an increase in the number of child labourers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, the reaction of Government thereto and the remedial measures taken by Government to counter the child labour menace in the country;
- (c) whether many of the State Governments have sought changes in the law dealing with child labour; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating the changes sought by the State Governments and the response of the Central Government in this regard?

Status of work of Kudankulam Power Plant

3286 Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas:

Will the ***PRIME MINISTER*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of work in units 3, 4, 5 and 6 of Kudankulam power plant;
- (b) whether the Russia-Ukraine war will impact the ongoing work;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the sanctions against Russia will impact Nuclear Power Corporation of India's dealing with Rosatom; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Notification of rules for Labour Codes

3287 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of States that are on course to notify rules for all four Labour Codes enacted by the Parliament;
- (b) whether there are still many States which are yet to finalize rules and notify Labour Codes;
- (c) if so, the details of such States and efforts being made by Government to persuade them for notifying Labour Codes; and
- (d) whether Government considers setting up of deadline for notifying all Labour Codes by States since the subject falls under the Concurrent List?

Beneficiaries of PM-SYM and PMEGP

3288 Dr. V. Sivadasan:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people registered under the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan (PM-SYM) Pension Yojana and the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), year-wise data thereof; and
- (b) the number of labourers who are currently receiving pensions under these schemes, scheme, year and State-wise data thereof?

Features of Aatmanirbhar Bharat Yojana

3289 # Shri Narhari Amin:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the main features of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY);
- (b) the details of funds sanctioned/allocated and utilized under the scheme in the State of Gujarat till date;
- (c) the district-wise details of the persons registered under the scheme in Gujarat till date; and
- (d) the details of targets fixed under the scheme and achievements thereon so far?

Survey on urban employment

3290 **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Shri Ram Nath Thakur:

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per Government's periodic Labour Force Survey for April to July 2021 released on 14th March, 2022, urban unemployment rose during 2nd wave of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, sector and State-wise;
- (c) the details of number of unemployed persons in the country as on date, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of unemployed persons in the country as on 31st March, 2019, State-wise?

Female Labour Force Participation Rate

3291 **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) the annual female Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) from 2017 till date;
- (b) whether existing labour and employment policies will be revised to provide an impetus to inclusive development as prioritised by the Finance Minister during the Union Budget 2022-23 speech;
- (c) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government intends to frame a policy to boost demand for female labour force; and
- (e) whether Government is on track to meet the objective of 30 per cent female LFPR by 2022, as per NITI Aayog's Strategy for New India @ 75 Report 2019 and if not, the reasons therefor?

Agencies and mechanisms to determine unemployment

3292 **Shri John Brittas:**

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) the agencies and mechanisms relied upon by Government to determine unemployment in the country;
- (b) the unemployment recorded by the above mentioned agencies during the last five years including the unemployment among educated youth, year-wise details thereof;
- (c) methodologies used to record unemployment among educated youth in the country; and
- (d) the details thereof?

Subscribers of PM-SYM

3293 **Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) State/UT-wise details of subscribers of the PM Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Yojana (PM-SYM);
- (b) whether Government is aware that only 1 per cent of the estimated unorganized workforce has subscribed to the PM-SYM Yojana and if so, reasons for such low subscription;
- (c) details of additional measures undertaken to achieve the target of 10 crore subscriptions;
- (d) details of calculations made to arrive at the pension amount of ₹ 3000; and
- (e) whether provisions for revision of pension amount have been included, considering the first pension payment will be made not before the year 2038 and if so, the details thereof?

Creation of jobs across industries

3294 **Shri Kumar Ketkar:**

Smt. Rajani Ashokrao Patil:

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Shri Rajmani Patel:

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government maintains data on the number of jobs created across industries annually;
- (b) if so, the details of overall jobs created annually from 2017 till date;
- (c) whether there are any further steps being taken to address the reported total shortfall of 20 crore jobs in the Indian economy considering that the Finance Minister's Union Budget announcement on 'Make in India' committed to the creation of 60 lakh new jobs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Special campaign for migrant workers of UP

3295 # **Shri Brijlal:**

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has proposed to run any special campaign to prevent the people migrating from the State of Uttar Pradesh (UP) to various States keeping in view the employment condition of UP and to generate employment, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government proposes to provide employment oriented education to generate employment and self-employment opportunities in UP, if so, the details of steps taken in this regard; and
- (c) the efforts being made by Government to reduce the income disparity of urban and rural districts of UP?

Beneficiaries of PM-SYM

3296 # **Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha:**

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the 'Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Yojana (PM-SYM);
- (b) the number of labourers benefited under this scheme; and
- (c) the amount of funds allocated till date for the said scheme?

National Database of labourers

3297 # **Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha:**

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) programmes being run by Government for economic and social welfare of the workers employed in the unorganised sector;
- (b) whether Government has prepared National Database regarding the labourers employed in unorganised sector; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Unemployment caused due to lockdown

3298 # **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any study has been undertaken to ascertain the extent of unemployment caused and number of industries closed on account of sudden lockdown imposed in the country; and
- (b) the details of steps taken to bring economy back to the pre-lockdown times and the impact of the same?

National Pension Scheme for Traders

3299 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of enrollment under the National Pension Scheme for Traders during the last two years;
- (b) whether Government intended the target of 3 crore beneficiaries by 2023-24 under the National Pension Scheme for Traders for the benefit of small and marginal traders, shopkeepers and self-employed persons;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to achieve this target?

Exploitation of labourers in private sector

3300 **Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu:**

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the labourers working in private sector are being exploited and are forced to work in undesirable conditions despite the laws and provisions made by Government in this regard;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is preparing any scheme to address the said issue and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has made certain new provisions to save labourers from exploitation and if so, the details thereof?

Provision of Rs. 200 crore for the welfare of tea workers

3301 **Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a provision of ₹ 200.00 crore has been made for the welfare of tea workers of Assam and West Bengal especially women and their children i.e. health, education, vocational training, skill development etc., as per the announcement made in the Union Budget 2021;

- (b) if so, the details of funds allocated, sanctioned and utilized in this regard so far; and
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Coal mining accidents

3302 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of deaths due to coal mining accidents since the year 2017, State-wise;
 (b) whether Government has taken steps to reduce the number of fatalities; and
 (c) if so, the details thereof?

Calls received by control rooms for migrant workers

3303 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of calls received by the control rooms for migrant workers since the year 2020, till date, year and State-wise; and
 (b) the key issues and concerns raised by the migrant workers through these calls?

Control on illegal placement agencies

3304 Smt. Ambika Soni:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to regularize the large number of illegal placement agencies functioning across the country;
 (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
 (c) remedial steps taken by Government in this regard in order to check exploitation of benevolent domestic workers particularly women?

Employment opportunities in agriculture and industrial sector

3305 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the employment opportunities in the agriculture and industrial sector have declined during the last few years;
 (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
 (c) the number of job opportunities created during the last three years as per the latest figures of National Sample Survey Office, sector-wise;
 (d) the targets set by Government to create additional job opportunities during the last five years and the sectors taken into consideration for the said purpose; and
 (e) the details of the action-plan of Government to achieve the said targets?

Safety of coal mine workers

3306 Shri Sanjay Singh:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of coal mine accidents reported in the last three years, State-wise;
 (b) the details of the number of facilities including safety facilities being provided to these workers across the country;
 (c) whether Government has taken any step for the security of coal mine workers who

remain exposed to grave danger at the time of mining and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to improve their condition?

Medical colleges operated by ESIC

3307 # Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the location-wise number of medical colleges operated by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) in the country and the college-wise number of seats sanctioned;
- (b) the total number of seats sanctioned and students enrolled in the medical college established by ESIC in Bihta, Bihar;
- (c) the number of seats reserved in the medical college, Bihta for the wards of the labourers associated with ESIC and the status of enrolment thereof; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to establish ESIC hospitals of the capacity of 100 beds in Darbhanga and Bhagalpur?

Survey on domestic workers

3308 Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted a survey regarding domestic workers in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has prepared any database of domestic workers (migrant and non-migrant) for their wages and other socio-economic conditions at State level;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has devised any policies to improve the living standard of the domestic workers?

Pension scheme for shopkeepers/retail traders

3309 Shri Syed Zafar Islam:

Will the Minister of ***Labour and Employment*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the economic security of small shopkeepers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard;
- (c) whether around three crore small traders/shopkeepers in the country are likely to be benefited from the Pension Scheme for shopkeepers/retail traders and self employed persons and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of small shopkeepers and retail traders covered under the said Pension Scheme in Uttar Pradesh?

Legalities of Aadhaar and Voter ID linkage

3310 Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:

Shri Rajmani Patel:

Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Will the Minister of ***Law and Justice*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether third parties and Government authorities would have access to the link between the Aadhaar and the Voter ID;
- (b) if so, the list of entities with such access;

- (c) whether there are protocols to determine the approval or rejection of access to this database;
- (d) the manner in which using Aadhaar as a legitimate means to authenticate citizenship, passes the test of proportionality in the Puttaswamy Judgement;
- (e) whether Government has formulated a protocol to authenticate citizenship using Aadhaar; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Increasing the number of seats of Legislative Assembly

3311 **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a plan to increase the number of seats of the Legislative Assembly;
- (b) whether the increase in the number of seats will be on the basis of population share of various States; and
- (c) whether the criteria for increase in seats is the population, if so, whether this will wrongly incentivise and reward States who have failed to put a check on their population and penalize the States who have shown benchmark success under the population control reforms initiated by the Central Government?

Electoral reforms

3312 **Shri Vivek K. Tankha:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether electoral reform is a prime need for a credible democracy like India;
- (b) whether Government has a plan for a multiparty committee for formulating and bringing these reforms; and
- (c) if so, whether these reforms would cover criminalisation of money power, muscle power reverting to ballot system of voting, State funding of elections and other such issues in the interest of democracy, if not, the reasons therefor?

Reservation in National Law Universities

3313 **Smt. Mausam Noor:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note that Other Backward Class (OBC) reservation is not being provided in at least 15 National Law Universities (NLUs) in the country, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the latest data regarding number of vacancies meant for recruitment of SC/ST/OBC professors in National Law Universities that have been filled up, State and year-wise; and
- (c) whether any data is being maintained with respect to the total number of SC/ST/OBC professors in NLUs, if so, the details thereof, category-wise along with the NLUs that are providing the complete 27 percent of reservation quota?

Guidelines to handle EVMs

3314 **Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether movement of EVM machines flouting the guidelines contained in the Manual of

Election Commission and unauthorized/illegal possession of postal ballots have been reported during assembly elections in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) the details of action taken in this regard by the Election Commission, case-wise along with the details of persons/officials against whom FIRs have been filed?

Judges belonging to SC, ST and OBC communities

3315 Dr. V. Sivadasan:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of judges appointed in High Courts and the Supreme Court belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Caste, year-wise data since 2017;

(b) the total number of judges appointed in the High Courts and the Supreme Court since 2017, year-wise;

(c) whether the representation of marginalised communities in judiciary is below their demographic proportion; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Complaints against judges

3316 Dr. V. Sivadasan:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of corruption and criminal complaints received against judges of High Courts and the Supreme Court during the last five years, year-wise data;

(b) the number of cases which were enquired and by whom they were enquired; and

(c) the number of cases in which there is conviction till date, year-wise data?

Funding problem of National Law Universities

3317 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Law Universities (NLU) are facing day to day problems regarding funding which if left unaddressed will lead to avoidable confrontation as decisions resolving the issues must be taken firmly and in a timely manner without undue delays, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that this problem is going to multiply as the State withdraws its funding and NLUs are left to generate their own resources; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to resolve funding problems?

Cases filed against Central and State Governments

3318 Shri Binoy Viswam:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that cases against Government, Centre as well as States, have increased manifold over the years;

(b) if so, details of the number of cases filed and disposed off against Central Government and State Governments, since 2017, State and year-wise;

(c) the number of such cases that have been pending for more than five years;

(d) the total number of vacancies in Government Pleaders (GPs), Public Prosecutors (PPs) and other Judicial Officers responsible to argue such cases; and

(e) steps taken by Government to ensure that such cases are disposed off in a timely

manner?

Allocation of budget for EVMs

3319 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

Dr. Ameer Yajnik:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) the expenditure on the purchase of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) allocated to the Legislative Department under the Ministry;
- (b) the procedure followed by Government for the purchase of EVMs;
- (c) the role of the Legislative Department in the purchase of EVMs; and
- (d) the reasons for not allocating budget for purchase of EVMs to Election Commission of India or Department of Legal Affairs?

Procedure for drafting laws

3320 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken to ensure that adequate time is provided to the Legislative Department to properly study a proposal and consult experts and stakeholders before drafting laws;
- (b) the procedure followed by the Legislative Department to draft laws on the basis of a policy proposal; and
- (c) whether any timeline has been prescribed for the purpose of converting policy proposals to laws and if so, the details thereof?

Lack of judicial infrastructure

3321 **Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an assessment of the lack of judicial infrastructure in the country as pointed out by the Chief Justice of India (CJI) recently has been done, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is a need to appoint statutory authorities, as pointed out by the CJI, to properly utilise the funds allocated for creating better judicial infrastructure;
- (c) whether the lack of infrastructure led to increase in pending cases in the Indian judiciary, if so, the current figure of backlog in Indian judiciary; and
- (d) whether there is a need to increase the number of judges in the High Courts as pointed out by the CJI, if so, the current data on sanctioned and vacant positions of judges in the High Courts?

Virtual hearing policy in the courts

3322 **Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Government policy to deal with the increasing backlog of cases in the courts and its success;
- (b) whether Government is aware that virtual hearing of the cases by the High Courts and the Supreme Court helped the under privileged litigants of distant places;
- (c) whether the facilities for virtual hearing are available in the Supreme Court and the High Courts of the country; and
- (d) the details of the policy and the efforts of Government, if any, for continuation of the

virtual hearing in the courts as a permanent feature for easy access of justice at the option of a litigant?

Pendency in the High Court of Uttar Pradesh

3323 Shri Syed Zafar Islam:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of cases pending in the High Court of Uttar Pradesh at present;
- (b) whether the pendency of legal cases has prevented people from getting justice on time in Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Central Government in this regard;
- (d) the number of judges working in the High Court of Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years;
- (e) whether the need for increase in number of courts has been felt; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard so far?

Implementation of Section 44 of the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013

3324 Shri Vivek K. Tankha:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of implementation of Section 44 of the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013;
- (b) the details of Government employees who have not yet made disclosure of their assets and liabilities in accordance with Section 44 of the above-mentioned Act;
- (c) whether Government has issued notices or warnings to the erring employees, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the information disclosed under this section is available in public domain, if not, the reasons therefor?

Second Appeals pending with CIC

3325 Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several cases of Second Appeals are pending with the Central Information Commission (CIC) under the Right to Information Act, 2005;
- (b) if so, the total number of such appeals pending with the CIC as on 31st January, 2022 for disposal; and
- (c) the steps Government proposes to ensure that all appeals are disposed off within 90 days from the date of receipt by CIC and if not, the reasons therefor?

Representations on Old Pension Scheme

3326 Shri Neeraj Shekhar:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received representation from MPs/ex MPs regarding issuing of general orders to revert those officials from National Pension System (NPS) to Old Pension Scheme (OPS) whose advertisements for recruitment were issued before 01/01/2004 but joining occurred after 31/12/2003 in pursuance of various judgements of the Supreme Court whereby date of joining has been rejected as criteria for OPS, to avoid unnecessary litigation;
- (b) if so, the details of action taken thereon to revert them to OPS, MP-wise; and
- (c) the details of present status for final decision to revert these officials to Old Pension

Scheme (OPS) as on date?

Abolition and sanction of posts and departments

3327 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has abolished any posts, departments, or sections during the last five years;
- (b) if so, the year and sector-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has sanctioned new posts, departments during the same period; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Corruption charges against Central Government employees

3328 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any data on the number of cases of corruption registered against the Central Government employees during the last five years;
- (b) if so, the year and department-wise details thereof, for the last five years;
- (c) the details of action taken against each cases, such as suspension and dismissal from the services, separately for the same period; and
- (d) the department or sector-wise break up of employees booked under bribery and corruption charges?

Representation of communities

3329 **Dr. Narendra Jadhav:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total posts sanctioned for Additional Secretaries in the Central Government Ministries and out of this, the number of those belonging to SC/ST and OBC communities, the details thereof; and
- (b) the total posts sanctioned for Joint Secretaries in the Central Government Ministries and the number of those who belong to SC/ST and OBC communities, the details thereof?

Lateral entry into Civil Services

3330 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of officers recruited to Joint Secretary rank and above through lateral entry scheme in Union Government, the details thereof Ministry and year-wise;
- (b) the category-wise (Gen/SC/ST/OBC/Minority) profile of these persons who have joined through lateral entry;
- (c) the total number of vacancies in positions for which lateral entry scheme is applicable; and
- (d) the reasons for Government to advertise these posts as "single entry" instead of as a group?

Vacancies in Andhra Pradesh

3331 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are 50 IAS and 30 IPS officers posts lying vacant in the State of Andhra Pradesh as on 1st January 2021;
- (b) if so, the status on the same as on 1st March 2022;
- (c) the number of IAS and IPS allotted in 2020 and 2021 CSE;
- (d) whether there are any plans to increase the batch size of IAS and IPS and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reasons for the batch size of IAS officers not been increased since 2012 and efforts made to increase the size to 250 from the present 180?

Encouraging scientific research

3332 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

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

- (a) the details of funds allocated for scientific research in various sectors during the last three years till date, year-wise;
- (b) the amount of funds utilised out of the above;
- (c) whether the scientific researches have yielded any concrete results; and
- (d) the efforts being made by Government for encouraging education and scientific research in future?

National Science and Technology Research University

3333 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) whether Government propose to set up the 'National Science and Technology Research University' in the country for improvement in agriculture sector and educating the farmers of the country for new innovation in this regard;
- (b) if so, the details and salient features thereof; and
- (c) the time by when the said university is likely to be set up?

Investment in scientific research

3334 **Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:**

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

- (a) whether there is lack of resources, operational autonomy and investment for high quality scientific research in the Indian research institutes;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether any circular has been issued by Government with regard to the appointment of investors in science institutes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Steps taken to bring ease in facilitating patents

3335 **Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudde:**

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

- (a) the various steps and programmes undertaken by the Ministry and its departments to

bring ease in filing and facilitating patents over the last four years, the details thereof;
 (b) the achievements of the Patent Facilitation Programme (PFP) over the last four years, the details thereof; and
 (c) the various steps taken by the Ministry and its departments towards patent/ Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) facilitation to academic institutions and Government R&D institutions, the details thereof?

Science and Engineering Research Board

3336 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

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

- (a) the funds released to support young researchers by the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) under various programmes for the years 2017-2021;
- (b) whether Government plans to increase the number of scholarships/fellowships available annually to researchers to pursue Ph.D. in partnership with industry under the PM Fellowship for Doctoral Research;
- (c) the number of vacant seats in Junior Research Fellowship – National Eligibility Test (JRF- NET), Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Fellowship (SPMF), Senior Research Fellowship (SRF- Direct), Research Associateships and CSIR-Nehru Science Postdoctoral Research for the years 2017-2021; and
- (d) the measures taken by Government to ensure that the seats does not remain vacant?

India-Singapore Technology Summit

3337 # Shri Rewati Raman Singh:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India-Singapore Technology Summit for space sector has been organized recently by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII);
- (b) whether it is also a fact that India's new Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy for the space sector in this summit envisages allowing foreign companies to set up their infrastructure as per Government guidelines; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Promoting tourism at Kongthong in Meghalaya

3338 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

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

- (a) whether Government will take steps to consolidate the tourist character of Kongthong in Meghalaya and make the place tourist friendly as it is the only whistling village in the country and has potential to become an important tourist place;
- (b) whether Government will use its natural sites and develop it as a tourist spot; and
- (c) whether Government will provide facilities for tourists due to its added attraction and natural beauty keeping in mind the protection of indigenous culture, people, language and ecology?

Mapping of tourist places

3339 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

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

- (a) whether Government has done mapping of tourist places to discover the potential tourist places in the country;

- (b) if so, the number of new tourist places considered for developing;
- (c) if not, whether Government will do mapping of tourist places; and
- (d) whether Government has classified tourist places on the basis of their potential?

Projects under PRASHAD Scheme

3340 Shri Mahesh Poddar:

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

- (a) the number of projects that have been completed under the PRASHAD Scheme in the last three years, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) the average time taken for completion of the projects in the last two years, the details thereof; and
- (c) the cost overrun, if any, of the delayed projects under this Scheme in the last one year, the details thereof?

Foreign tourists in the country

3341 Shri Iranna Kadadi:

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

- (a) whether Government has any details of the foreign tourists who visited the country and the foreign exchange earned;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, country-wise;
- (c) the details of the destinations they visited the most, State-wise along with the details of the States which attracted more foreign tourists;
- (d) the steps taken by Government to attract more foreign tourists in the country with visa liberalization in future; and
- (e) the steps taken to achieve the Prime Minister's goal of motivating each individual to visit at least 15 domestic tourist destination by 2022?

Iconic tourist sites in Tamil Nadu

3342 Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu :

Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar:

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal to include iconic sites from the State of Tamil Nadu in the list of iconic tourism destinations in the country;
- (b) whether there is any other new proposed scheme which accounts for the rich tourism landscape of Tamil Nadu at the national level; and
- (c) if so, the support given to the selected sites?

Enhancing heritage tourism in Tier II cities

3343 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe:

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

- (a) the existing schemes and programs of the Ministry and its departments formulated for enhancing heritage tourism in Tier II cities in the country, the details thereof;
- (b) the achievements in terms of tourism activities in the Tier II cities since last four years, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Ministry and its departments have undertaken any capacity building and training initiatives for the stakeholders associated to tourism in Tier II cities, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Relief measures to tourism sector

3344 **Shri T.G. Venkatesh:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the high revenue losses being suffered by the tourism sector in the country during the COVID-19 lockdown period;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has received any recommendations from the associations of tourism sector urging Government to come to their rescue in this dithering situation;
- (d) the details of the concessions and exemptions sought for their survival; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

Swadesh Darshan Scheme in Kerala

3345 **Shri Jose K. Mani:**

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

- (a) whether Government has the details of the projects sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme across the country in the last five years;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has the data regarding the funds allocated and the status of implementation of projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan Scheme in the State of Kerala;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has any plans/proposals to include the Malabar Literary Circuit and the Biodiversity Circuit in the State of Kerala under Swadesh Darshan Scheme; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Development of tourism and hospitality sector

3346 **Shri S. Selvaganabathy:**

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

- (a) whether Government agrees with the view that India needs a comprehensive disruptive strategy to tap the potential of the tourism and hospitality sector;
- (b) if so, steps that are proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Visa fee waiver for tourists

3347 **Shri K.J. Alphons:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry of Tourism will take the initiative to recommend to the Ministry of Home Affairs to waive visa fee for a period of two years so that tourism recovers post COVID-19; and
- (b) whether the Ministry will consider waiving entry fee for all categories of tourists at locations which have an entrance fee so as to encourage more people to visit these places?

Creation of Krishnadevaraya Circuit under Swadesh Darshan Scheme

3348 **Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

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

- (a) the various circuits funded so far in the country under Swadesh Darshan Scheme;
- (b) the details of sites covered in each circuit, funds allocated, released, implementing agency, etc;
- (c) whether Government will consider a separate Krishnadevaraya Circuit to connect Archaeological Survey of India sites in different Southern States built during the Vijayanagara Empire and under the reign of Sri Krishnadevaraya;
- (d) whether Government will itself take up this proposal as it involves many States;
- (e) whether Government has received any representations in this regard; and
- (f) the response of Government to the above representations?

Promotion and training of Hockey players

3349 Shri Mahesh Poddar:

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

- (a) the amount of funds that are being spent on the promotion and training of hockey players in the country during the last three years, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of operational stadiums in the country with artificial turf and natural grass and the number of new ones which are in the process of construction, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) measures taken to ensure international exposure to the young talents, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has any scheme to support financially weak sports persons, if so, the details thereof?

Annual recognition of National Sports Federations

3350 Shri Iranna Kadadi:

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

- (a) the National Sports Federations whose annual recognition has been renewed and annual grants released this year;
- (b) the reasons, if any, for such delay in annual recognition;
- (c) the plans to overcome the delays in conducting national championships and other domestic events that are halted due to this delay in the State of Karnataka; and
- (d) the details of legal cases filed by the National Sports Federations upon the Ministry, the details thereof, State-wise?

CSR contribution in National Sports Development Fund

3351 Shri Ripun Bora:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that as of January 2022, 67 sports training centres were shut down due to rising COVID-19 cases;
- (b) the measures taken to continue providing sports persons with adequate guidance and support when training centers have been shut down;
- (c) whether the National Sports Development Fund did not attract significant CSR contributions or donations from Public Sector Undertakings or private companies during the last five fiscal years as expected in the budget estimates for the same years therein; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Creation of modern sports infrastructure

3352 **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to create modern sports infrastructure in the country for over all development of youth of the country with regard to their development in the field of sports as well as to make them take part in all national and internal sports events; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with achievement made in this regard?

Review of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

3353 **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

- (a) the details of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented by Government for promotion/development of sports in the country including sports education and training institutes for the purpose;
- (b) whether Government has recently reviewed the functioning/implementation of these schemes;
- (c) if so, the outcome thereof and the deficiencies identified in the working of the above schemes; and
- (d) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for effective implementation of these schemes?

Asset monetisation of sports facilities

3354 **Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government will soon appoint a transaction adviser for the asset monetisation of the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium and the Indira Gandhi Sports complex;
- (b) if so, the details thereof particularly with regard to security and other related issues; and
- (c) the other stadiums or sports facilities which are in the list of monetisation programme?

National Tribal Youth Exchange Programme

3355 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to organize National Tribal Youth Exchange Programme under the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) for the year 2022 considering the COVID-19 scenario;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of other youth exchange programmes organised under NYKS during the last 3 years and the current year?

Encouraging sports among young minds

3356 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any initiatives to encourage sporting habits among the

young minds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Financial assistance under NPYAD Scheme

3357 **Shri P. Wilson:**

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

(a) whether Government has details of autonomous organizations which received financial assistance under the National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development (NPYAD) Scheme, from the year 2017 to 2021;

(b) whether Government has details regarding the number of research publications that were supported by it under the NPYAD Scheme; and

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

Transparency in selection of athletes

3358 **Shri Sanjay Singh:**

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

(a) the measures Government has taken during the last five years to ensure transparency in the selections of athletes for various national and international level tournaments;

(b) whether Government has introduced any incentives to bring more players from rural areas of the country to participate in national and international level tournaments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Representation of sports persons in National Sports Federations

3359 **Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

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

(a) whether Government has made efforts to ensure adequate representation of sports persons and experts in the National Sports Federations;

(b) whether grievance redressal mechanism in sports federations are adequate;

(c) whether Government proposes to make some changes in existing system in the light of some sports persons approaching courts for justice in recent past;

(d) whether Government is able to take care of all funding requirements of Sports Federations;

(e) whether there is a need for inviting private participation for the purpose; and

(f) whether career sports persons have the decisive role in running all the National Sports Federations in the country?

Promotion of sports culture through digital technology

3360 **Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to promote sports culture, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government recognises the role of digital technology platforms in promotion of sports culture and development of sports; and
- (c) whether Government intends to promote digital technology platforms that promote sports engagement amongst citizens, especially youth and if so, the details thereof?

New Delhi
The 24th March, 2022
3 Chaitra, 1944 (Saka)

P. C. Mody,
Secretary-General.

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