

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, April 7, 2017/Chaitra 17, 1939 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers;
Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution;
Electronics and Information Technology; Food Processing
Industries; Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs;
Railways; Textiles)

Total number of questions — 160

Policy to control farmer's suicides

3997. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:
SHRI N.
GOKULAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether suicide cases of farmers are increasing in an alarming way in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Supreme Court has suggested the Government to bring out a concrete national policy to tackle farmers' suicides and for proper protection of their crops from natural calamities and holistic approach for their well-being, if so, the details thereof; and

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

Decline in cultivation of sugarcane

‡3998. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND

FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to improve the declining cultivation of sugarcane growers, the details thereof;

(b) the details of data of last ten years of sugarcane cultivation in various States, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to increase the cultivation of sugarcane and to ensure timely payment of the crop to sugarcane growers, the details thereof?

Protection of native breed

3999. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the population of native breeds of cattle, buffalo, goat, sheep, swine, equine, camel and poultry, which are adaptable to climate and nutrition and resistant to diseases and stress, has come down alarmingly, if so, the details thereof ;

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government has any proposal to formulate a scheme to protect and preserve these native breeds; and

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

Use of chartered trawlers for fishing

4000. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of chartered trawlers operating in the east-west coast of the country;

(b) the country-wise details for last three years;

(c) the details of chartering conditions imposed on such trawlers used for fishing; and

(d) whether Government wishes to make any changes on policy of chartered trawlers, if so, the details thereof?

Agriculture becoming non-remunerative profession

†4001. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR:
SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture sector in the country is turning out to be a non-remunerative profession;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and steps taken to improve the pathetic condition of farmers and agriculture sector in the country;

(c) whether demands to give status of

Industry and a separate budget to agriculture have been made from various quarters, if so, details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(d) whether Government has taken any step to attract investment in agriculture sector and increase its growth rate; and

(e) if so, details thereof and amount invested/sent for this purpose and achievements thereof?

Suicide by farmers due to indebtedness

†4002. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of farmers' suicides driven by crop failure and indebtedness are occurring particularly more in certain places;

(b) if so, the details of the total number of suicides during last three years as on date, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) whether burden of debt on every farmer is more than the average annual per capita income?

Implementation of PMFBY

4003. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total budgetary allocation under crop insurance scheme during 2016-17;

(b) the total number of farmers registered under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) during 2016-17;

(c) the total number of farmers registered under Pradhan Mantri Fasal

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Bima Yojana during 2016-17 in the States of North Eastern Region; and

(d) the total amount of premium paid to Government by farmers during 2016-17?

Decline in transaction in APMCs

4004. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any instances have been reported in the country in the last three months, where transactions in Agricultural Produce Market Committees have declined drastically and farmers have been hit by market prices falling below Minimum Support Price (MSP); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Committee for doubling farmer's income

4005. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has set up a committee to achieve the target of doubling the income of farmers by 2022;

(b) if so, the details thereof, along with the details of the membership of the committee; and

(c) the details of the functions and targets of the committee along with proposed timelines?

e-National Agriculture Market

4006. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of markets so far

integrated into e-National Agriculture Market Platform, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to fast-track integration of remaining markets into e-NAM Platform, and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which Government is likely to achieve the goal of connecting all regulated mandies with e-NAM Platform?

Enhancing use of natural manures

4007. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to enhance the traditional agriculture using natural manures in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has taken any action to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers in agriculture, if so, the details thereof?

Cultivable land turning uncultivable due to drought

4008. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agricultural land, which became uncultivable due to drought, State-wise; and

(b) whether any policy or long term measures, to develop cultivable land is under consideration of Government, if so, the details thereof?

Dedicated website for farmers

4009. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers are in dire need of a dedicated site that will give real-time price for any of his agri-commodity on a day-to-day basis, and that does not exist; and

(b) if so, the reasons for lack of such a dedicated site and by when, the same would be made available to the farmers so that he is liberated from the middlemen?

Production of milk

4010. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that climate change may hit milk output by over three million tonne per year by 2020;

(b) whether it is also a fact that country's milk production has been steadily increasing with 2015-16 recording an output of 160 MT;

(c) whether as per market research reports, the value of the Indian market for milk and milk products is expected to grow 15 per cent annually; and

(d) whether India is self sufficient in milk and is world's largest milk producer accounting for about 18 per cent of the world's milk production?

Suicide by farmers in Marathwada region

4011. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that suicide by farmers of Marathwada region of Maharashtra continue and more than one hundred hapless farmers have committed suicide during the first two months of the current calendar year 2017;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the comprehensive measures the Central and State Government propose to take to prevent suicide by farmers in Maharashtra?

Investment in agricultural research

‡4012. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced any robust institutional system to identify important and relevant issues such as agricultural research and technology and management, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether investment in agricultural research and technology is being done on expected lines keeping in mind the decision to double the income of farmers by the year 2022, if so, the details thereof?

Action plan to increase income of farmers

‡4013. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the effective measures taken to increase the share of farmers in the trading activities relating to crops other than agriculture;

(b) when and how shall the miracle of doubling the income of farmers without

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

ensuring remunerative price for their agro-products materialize; and

(c) the details of the practical targets set for the forthcoming programmes and action plans?

Converting paddy straw into fodder

4014. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has devised any method to commercialize paddy straw, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Maharashtra has devised any method to convert paddy straw into animal feed, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is planning to adopt this measure in other States as well, if so, the details thereof?

Miserable condition of farmers

4015. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of a recent report that, on an average, two suicides a day have been committed by farmers in Tamil Nadu since October, 2016;

(b) if so, the details thereof, date-wise, till date, and the reasons for the same;

(c) whether Government is aware that condition of farmers in other southern States or in Northern India, including Uttar Pradesh is not better than that of farmers of Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of steps Government has taken in view of the miserable condition of farmers in the country?

Migration of agricultural labourers

4016. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data of the rural urban migration of agricultural labourers in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether demonetization has triggered a reverse trend in migration of agricultural labourers from urban to rural areas, if so, the details thereof?

Policy changes in food and agricultural system

4017. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating policy changes as food sovereignty concerns people's right to health and culturally appropriate food produced with ecologically sound and sustainable methods and their right to define their own food and agricultural system; and

(b) if not, the barriers to formulate such progressive and people focused policy?

Mission Organic Value Chain Development in NER

4018. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Farmers Producer Company (FPC) under Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region;

(b) the name of the resource agencies hired to provide training, documentation and certification of crop production to Farmers Producer Company under Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region; and

(c) the total amount released under the Mission in 2016-17?

Problems faced by millet growers

4019. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Convention on millets took place recently in Delhi to discuss over the prevailing millets situation in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the opinions exchanged among the participants and Government and their concerns over the problems being faced by millets growers in the country; and

(c) whether Government has taken any decision to safeguard the interests of millets growers in the country?

Special subsidy for various crop cultivation

4020. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is giving special subsidy to farmers across the country for cultivations of various crops, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the steps being taken by Government to give such subsidy to farmers, so that they reach to the beneficiaries directly?

STLs and MSTLs in Karnataka

4021. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of the Soil Health Card Scheme;

(b) whether it is a fact that 400 Soil Testing Laboratories (STLs) and also Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories (MSTLs) have been sanctioned to various States in the country;

(c) whether it is also a fact that only 6 STLs and no MSTLs has been sanctioned to Karnataka;

(d) whether 65 per cent STLs have been sanctioned for Madhya Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the justification behind the same and reasons for sanctioning less number of STLs and nil MSTL for Karnataka?

Setting up of cold storage in Telangana

4022. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sanctioned any cold storage centres to the State of Telangana, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the places where these facilities are coming up in the State;

(c) whether Government of Telangana has recommended any proposals in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government on such request?

Failure of Rabi groundnut crop in Andhra Pradesh

4023. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Rabi groundnut crop has failed in Andhra Pradesh with farmers suffering heavy losses; and

(b) whether Government would consider increasing the MSP for groundnut to compensate the farmers?

Cooperation with South American countries in agriculture sector

4024. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to cooperate closely with South American countries for improving the agriculture sector;

(b) whether a delegation from some of the South American countries visited the country recently for cooperation, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how South American countries are more advanced in agriculture technology than India?

Implementation of Cabinet decision in ICAR

†4025. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time-limit for compliance had been fixed with reference to the decision no. 190/24/97 dated

29 April, 1997 passed by Union Cabinet regarding agriculture department;

(b) if so, the reasons for not issuing any necessary directions by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for compliance of above decision of the Cabinet; and

(c) whether any disciplinary action has been taken by the council against those officers who are responsible for not integrating the cadres of Assistants, Stenographers (grade-II) in council headquarters and research institutes?

Implementation of crop insurance schemes

4026. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of crop insurance schemes started by the Government post May, 2014;

(b) the details of the total number of farmers insured under the schemes, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the details of total claims received and disbursed by Government on crop failures?

Production of quality food items

4027. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry takes care of the production of good quality food items;

(b) if so, how much spurious seeds and wrong breeds are detected in the last three years; and

(c) the impact of use of insecticides in food items on human health and whether

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Government has carried out any study on it?

Financial assistance for production of high quality semen

4028. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to provide financial assistance to farmers on production of high quality semen of improved breed of cattle to increase their income;

(b) if so, the details of schemes Government has, if any, in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Fall in area under cotton crop

4029. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bt. Cotton crop area in the country has fallen for the first time this year since 2003;

(b) if so, the primary reason behind this unprecedented fall in the crop area;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Monsanto has refused to introduce new Bt. variety seeds and it is considered as one of the reasons for fall in area;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether ICAR or other research institutions are working for any domestic Bt. Cotton seed varieties, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what would be its impact on domestic requirement and export?

NHM in Chhattisgarh

†4030. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has implemented the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in different States, including Chhattisgarh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of persons benefited in Chhattisgarh under Horticulture Development Scheme, the details thereof and the details of the work done under the said scheme;

(c) the details of the funds approved by Government for Chhattisgarh during last three years and current year; and

(d) the various measures taken by Government to encourage horticulture in Chhattisgarh?

Assistance to small and marginal farmers

4031. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of small and marginal farmers continue to live below poverty line in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government for welfare of such farmers;

(c) whether Government has identified the number of such small and marginal farmers and made any plans to help them; and

(d) if so, the funds earmarked for this purpose in 2017-18?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Lack of post harvest infrastructure

4032. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to inadequate post harvest infrastructure, a loss of ₹ 40,000 crore is being incurred annually;

(b) if so, the additional measures the Ministry would take to further develop the post harvest infrastructure to minimize the losses incurred on an annual basis; and

(c) whether the Ministry would consider a Public Private Partnership (PPP) venture to develop the post harvest infrastructure to take care of the losses?

Women empowerment in co-operative sector

†4033. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry allocates a fixed amount to women farmers to ensure the participation of women in all its schemes and programmes, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has taken any special steps to make women co-operatives robust and effective, during the past two years, if so, the details thereof?

Drought in Puducherry

4034. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any representation from Government of

Puducherry seeking sanction of drought assistance of ₹ 100 crore for the damage caused to the crops due to deficit monsoon in the Union Territory, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government of Puducherry has also requested the Government to send a team for assessing the damage caused to the crops in Karaikal and Puducherry regions, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stand of Government in this regard?

Micro-irrigation coverage

4035. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the different types and estimated potential of micro-irrigation (MI) in the country;

(b) the current coverage area of MI in the country and the States which perform the best; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to increase the MI coverage, equipment production and investments in this regard?

Upgrading cold storage infrastructure

4036. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of estimated loss due to wastage of fruits and vegetables grown in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether one of the reasons for the wastage is the gap in cold-chain infrastructure, if so, the details of problems arising due to this gap;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government is considering upgrading the cold storage infrastructure to close this gap; and

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

Setting up of market stabilization fund

4037. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that farming has become unremunerative in States like Andhra Pradesh in respect of paddy, chillies and other crops;

(b) whether it is a fact that the MSP has no real time correlation with the cost of farming, and inputs as also the recommendations of various State Governments; and

(c) if so, whether Government would consider/setting up a market stabilization fund to help farmers, if they do not even get MSP for their produce?

Compensation for loss of crops due to floods and drought

†4038. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:
SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has paid any insured amount as compensation for the loss of crops due to flood and drought during the current year;

(b) if so, the details of the amount paid as compensation by Government, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the insured amount is likely to be paid; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the amount being given as compensation is not sufficient, if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Funds given to Gujarat Agriculture University

4039. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data of the Central fund given to the Gujarat Agriculture University; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

e-NAM scheme in Karnataka

4040. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts being made by the Government to prevent middlemen and touts from squeezing farmers at mandis;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has started e-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme;

(c) if so, the aims and objectives of the scheme; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that not even a single mandi has been integrated in Karnataka under the above scheme, if so, the reasons therefor?

Import duty on wheat

4041. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has removed import duty on wheat, if so,

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the reasons therefor along with the details as to when it was imposed;

(b) whether there has been loss to farmers after this action, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons that led to fall in wheat stock and the future plans of the Government to prevent this problem; and

(d) the details of the loss to the exchequer after removal of import duty on wheat?

Vaccination programmes for animals

4042. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is working to make Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Punjab free from foot-and-mouth and bird flu diseases;

(b) whether it is mandatory for the Ministry to validate that there were no outbreaks of any animal disease from the above States in last two years;

(c) how can the Ministry validate that animals are free from diseases in the absence of stringent vaccination programmes in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and

(d) whether there is any move to give zonal certification from Paris-based World Organisation of Animal Health, if so, the details thereof?

Turnover in e-NAM

4043. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regulated product markets (Mandis) which were operating in the country in 2015-16 Rabi season against

the number proposed, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(b) the number of crop varieties sold in the Mandis, State-wise; and

(c) the total turnover in e-NAM from 2014 till date, State/UT-wise?

Setting up of Agricultural Universities

4044. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has received proposals from various States, including Jharkhand and Gujarat, for setting up of Agricultural Universities/Colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the number of proposals received during the last two years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(c) the action taken by Government on these proposals along with the details of the locations where these Universities/Colleges are likely to be set up; and

(d) the amount sanctioned for the said purpose by the Government, State/UT-wise, including Jharkhand and Gujarat?

Average income of farmers

†4045. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which income of farmers is lower than the average national income in the country, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the percentage of increase or decrease in the income of farmers during the tenure of the present Government, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the efforts being made to increase the income of farmers, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Fixation of price ceiling of coronary stents

4046. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether five months after the Government announced that coronary stents would come under price control, no ceiling price has yet been fixed for stents, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the delay is causing patients to shell out crores on overpriced stents; and

(c) what causes the delay in notifying the stents as a schedule-I drug without which they are not eligible for price control and the details thereof?

Self-reliance in production of APIs

4047. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian pharmaceutical industry is over-dependent on pharma raw materials imported from China to meet the growing requirements of drug formulations;

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

(c) whether Government has received any demand from Indian Pharmaceutical industry or any other institution for self-reliance on drug formulations, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for increasing the production of Active Pharma Ingredients (APIs) of drugs in the country by becoming self-reliant?

Capping the prices of essential medicines

4048. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put a cap on the prices of 56 vital medicines used for treatment of diabetes, blood pressure, cancer, infection, etc.;

(b) if so, the details of each medicine and the price reduced on each medicine/formulation;

(c) the list of essential medicines;

(d) whether it is a fact that there have been demands to put a cap on prices of all essential medicines; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Ministry in this regard?

Prices of life-saving medicines

†4049. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:
SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the date since when there has been a decline in the prices of medicines after Government's efforts, the details thereof;

(b) the number of life-saving medicines and the extent to which their prices have been reduced;

(c) by when the target of providing free medicines to the poor people would be achieved; and

(d) whether Government has identified the areas for this purpose, if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Operational fertilizer plants

4050. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of operational fertilizer plants in public, private and co-operative sectors along with the details of products and total capacity being utilised by these plants, State-wise;

(b) whether indigenous products and production of fertilizers are sufficient to maintain fertility and NPK ratio of the soil, the details thereof; and

(c) whether fertilizers produced by these plants are insufficient to meet the demand of fertilizers in the country, if so, the details thereof?

Measures to check overcharging for medicines

4051. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether leading and prominent drug manufacturing companies are supplying drugs and medicines to hospitals at far less prices than the MRP, thereby giving a tool to hospitals to overcharge the patients;

(b) if so, the measures being taken to ensure that patients are not overcharged for these medicines and drugs; and

(c) whether Government would consider convening a meeting with leading drug and medicine manufacturers to find a solution to this problem?

Checking unethical practices of pharma companies

4052. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) how the Ministry is planning to stop unethical practices of pharma companies to influence doctors and chemists;

(b) whether there are any plans to bring in some regulation on pharma companies in giving gifts, etc., to doctors and chemists, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons the Ministry is not considering banning expensive freebies to doctors by Pharma companies like cruise tickets, vacation tickets or sponsoring education to near and dear ones?

Study report on fertilizer subsidy

4053. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study regarding grant of direct subsidy to farmers;

(b) if so, the salient features of the study report; and

(c) whether Government proposes to take any action in the light of the findings in the report, if so, the details thereof?

Price control on coronary stents charged by the hospitals

4054. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the margin of profit has been added on MRP fixed for different types of coronary stents by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA);

(b) if so, the details of MRP fixed by NPPA along with the margin of profit; and

(c) the action that could be taken against hospitals, in case they demand higher price for stents than their MRP?

Making the country self-reliant in Urea

4055. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is committed to make India self-reliant in Urea in a time period of four years, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken/being taken by Government to achieve the target of self-reliance in Urea?

Bringing more medicines under NPPA

4056. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) is considering to bring in more medicines under its control as part of measures to provide relief to patients, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether NPPA has taken any decision on bringing new medicines under its ambit in its meeting held in March this year, if so the details thereof?

Clearance of proposals of Government of Chhattisgarh for development works

†4057. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received by the Ministry for development works during the last three years from Government of Chhattisgarh and the amount involved therein, scheme-wise and the details of action taken thereon;

(b) the reasons for which proposals received from the State Government are still pending;

(c) whether any time-limit has been stipulated for disposal of the proposals;

(d) whether more time taken in the execution of proposals hampers the development works; and

(e) how the cost overruns are adjusted, the details thereof?

Permissible limit of radiation from mobile towers

4058. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the radiation emitted by mobile towers is in permissible limits and not affecting the health of human beings, birds and animals, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is permitting erection of mobile telephone towers in residential localities and Government buildings, if so, whether there is any mechanism put in place to check the radiation emission at regular intervals, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is in the notice of Government that the radiation caused by these towers is reason for the rampant expansion of cancer in humans, if so, the details thereof?

Communication network in Chhattisgarh

†4059. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has any data regarding the percentage of coverage of communication networks in Chhattisgarh;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Ministry to increase the communication network coverage in the remote forest areas of Chhattisgarh?

Frequent disruption of internet in post offices of Nalanda division of Bihar

4060. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether computerization of post offices, particularly in Nalanda division of Bihar, has brought their functioning to a standstill due to frequent disruption of internet services;

(b) whether Government is aware that Parwalpur sub-post office remains non-functional for most of the time and as a result, people are badly affected; and

(c) if so, the steps contemplated by Government to ensure regular and uninterrupted internet services to all post offices in Bihar in general and this post office in particular, the details thereof?

Commercial availability of 5G networks

4061. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 5G networks are expected to be commercially available in 2020;

(b) whether by 2022, 5G networks will have billions of subscribers and will cover a sizeable percentage of population for the technology; and

(c) whether Government had dropped hints about making spectrum auctions an annual affair and this was being done to end complaints about spectrum scarcity once and for all, if so, the details thereof?

Internet connectivity in remote rural areas by network balloons

4062. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to partner with any multi-national corporation that makes use of network balloons to provide internet connectivity to remote rural areas, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether this particular technology has components that could lead to issues related to privacy of individuals and also national security, if so, the steps Government has taken to circumvent these issues?

Affordable internet access

4063. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that less than 30 per cent of Indians have internet access;

(b) if so, what is being done to widen this coverage and making it affordable;

(c) whether the existing regulatory mechanism is unfavourable to Wi-Fi networks; and

(d) if so, what is being done about this?

**Committee to study problems of
Gramin Dak Sevaks**

‡4064. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has constituted a committee to study the problems of Gramin Dak Sevaks;
- (b) if so, the names of the members of the committee;
- (c) whether the committee has sent its report to the Government, if so, the details of the recommendations made; and
- (d) if not, by when the report is expected to be received?

**Mobile connectivity in villages of
Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and
Madhya Pradesh**

4065. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of villages in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh do not have mobile connectivity, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) by when these are likely to be covered by mobile connectivity?

NOFN for towns

4066. PFOF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Gram Panchayats that have been covered under National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) in the last three years;
- (b) the targets for laying down of optical fibre cables under the Digital India Programme; and

(c) whether the Ministry plans to cover town areas under NOFN programme, if so, the details thereof?

**Recruitment Rules of Department of
Posts**

4067. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether DoPT has issued model Recruitment Rules (RR) for various posts of Accounts cadre in Department of Posts without seeking feedback/suggestions from stakeholders, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the model RR include employees of operation department in violation of existing rules;
- (c) if so, whether the candidates failed in departmental examination (2012) for the post of Assistant Account Officer were passed by giving grace marks and disallowing candidates above 45 years in departmental examination;
- (d) if so, whether these irregularities have resulted into resentment among employees; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Production of foodgrains and pulses

4068. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that production of foodgrains and pulses during the current year would increase as per latest production estimates, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that import of wheat is still continuing despite the fact that Government is holding far in excess of

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the stipulated buffer stock, if so, the reasons therefor?

Mobile penetration in rural and semi-urban areas

4069. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the abolition of excise tax on mobiles in 2008 had increased mobile penetration by 40 per cent;

(b) whether the Ministry would consider this idea to increase mobile penetration in the rural and semi-urban areas;

(c) whether Government would also promote free or low-cost internet access to community centres, schools, etc.; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Auction of 5G spectrum

4070. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 5G auction will be conducted by selling spectrum in bands over 3000 MHz and sale will be conducted here for the first time;

(b) whether, also on sale will be any remaining spectrum in bands such as 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500MHz; and

(c) whether 5G spectrum will be sold in bands such as 3,300 MHz and 3,400 MHz and the Government expects that these will put up for use of a host of new age initiatives and services, if so, the details thereof?

Imposing import duty on wheat

4071. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government may consider imposing import duty on wheat to protect farmers amid projections of a record output this year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has imported more than 55 lakh tonnes of wheat during this financial year; and

(c) whether Government's experience has been that traders take advantage of the high rate while farmers are forced to sell their produce at a throw away price, if so, the details thereof?

Benefits and risks in digitization system

†4072. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a national consumer helpline convergence programme is being run by the Central Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is taking necessary measures to provide full benefits of digitization to consumers and take safety measures against the risks involved in online system, if so, the details thereof?

Sale of mineral water at different rates

4073. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has sought explanation from companies selling packaged mineral water at different MRPs at different places;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has been receiving complaints relating to different MRPs being charged for packaged mineral water at different places; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Transparency in functioning of Public Distribution System

4074. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ration cards in the country which are now available on transparency portals of States/Union Territories;

(b) how many of them have been seeded with Aadhaar numbers in each State/Union Territory;

(c) by when the remaining ration cards are likely to be seeded with Aadhaar numbers; and

(d) whether Government has taken up any step to bring transparency in the functioning of Public Distribution System, if so, the details thereof?

Procurement under Decentralized Purchase scheme

4075. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the Decentralized Purchase scheme for foodgrains;

(b) whether only a few States procure foodgrains under the said scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons

for not procuring foodgrains by all the States under the scheme;

(d) the name of foodgrains presently being procured under this scheme along with the quantity procured during the last three years, year-wise and item-wise; and

(e) the reasons for substantial increase in the subsidy outlay for decentralized procurement of foodgrains in the budget for 2017-18 and the percentage of increase compared to 2016-17?

Quality of foodgrains distributed under PDS

†4076. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has directed to distribute quality foodgrains under PDS, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that several complaints, including distribution of rotten and poor quality foodgrains under PDS are being received regularly, if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon; and

(c) the number of times foodgrains distributed under Public Distribution System (PDS) has been tested by Food Safety and Standard Authority of India in the last three years?

Decline in stock of wheat

4077. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's Central pool wheat stock fell to multi-year low as of March, 2017;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any target of procurement of wheat has been fixed for 2017-18, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken to tide over the situation in the short-term, the details thereof?

Godowns taken on rent by FCI

4078. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the godowns taken on rent by Food Corporation of India (FCI), their capacity and the amount spent thereon during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether any irregularities have been detected regarding the capacity utilization, fixation and payment of rents for these godowns; and

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of cases detected during the said period and the action taken thereon?

Targeted PDS for SCs and STs

4079. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a Targeted PDS scheme for people belonging to the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and the Scheduled Tribes (STs) category in the country;

(b) if so, the details and the amount of funding thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Fumigation of imported pulses

4080. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government will consider extending the exemption given to traders for fumigating pulses imported from Canada at Indian ports, instead of the country of origin;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India has made it mandatory to fumigate imported crops with methyl bromide; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Canada has banned the fumigation on environmental grounds, if so, the details thereof?

Storage of foodgrains by Central Warehousing Corporation

4081. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total storage capacity of the 464 warehouses with the Central Warehousing Corporation;

(b) the total wastage of foodgrains stored in these 464 warehouses during the last three years; and

(c) the reasons for wastage of foodgrains despite having stored in a scientific manner?

National Scholarship Portal

†4082. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes of the Institutes, Bodies and Universities added to the National Scholarship Portal; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the number of people who applied in the above schemes, scheme-wise, and the number of applicants benefited from this each year, the details thereof?

Making Aadhaar mandatory for availing various schemes

4083. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain State Governments have proposed Aadhaar card mandatory for beneficiaries to avail various schemes of Government, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any complaints have been received from the public and from media about inconvenience being caused to public due to this;

(c) the steps taken by Government to issue Aadhaar cards to all persons in various States by opening more card issuing centres; and

(d) the details of the Supreme Court ruling allowing voluntary use of Aadhaar card by citizens and non-denial of service or subsidy to citizens for want of it?

MyGov website

4084. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched a website, MyGov, that aims to help citizens contribute in governance, if so, the details and the salient features thereof;

(b) the modalities prescribed for giving the opinion and suggestions by the citizens and their inclusion in future schemes; and

(c) whether a large number of mobile users in the country are likely to help the Government to provide a transparent and result-oriented governance, if so, the details thereof?

Electronic payments by prepaid payment instruments

4085. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has issued draft rules to ensure integrity, security and confidentiality of electronic payments made through prepaid payment instruments, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has sought opinion from the public on the draft rules, if so, the details thereof?

Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan

4086. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan' is world's largest rural digital literacy programme, the details of its outreach to the masses and target-population, State/UT-wise;

(b) the details of the human resource and technical assistance required for implementation of the scheme; and

(c) the State/UT-wise budget allocated for the programme and the deadline to achieve its goals?

Financial assistance for BharatNet in Madhya Pradesh

†4087. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives and action plan for implementation of BharatNet project; and

(b) the activity-wise updated details of financial assistance given to Madhya Pradesh State Electronics Development Corporation in Madhya Pradesh for operating the project in the said reference?

Computing ability of rural population

4088. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an analysis of the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) 71st Round report stating that only an estimated 8.8 per cent of the rural population has computing ability in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) in such a situation, the measures proposed to be taken to promote the digitalization campaign effectively throughout the country?

Security standard for online transactions

4089. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that RBI in the Report on Internet Banking,

2001, recommends a minimum security standard of SSL or 128 bit encryption for online transactions, securing passwords and ensuring a secure connection between web browser to servers; and

(b) if so, whether Department of Telecommunications (DoT) still only authorises the use of 40 bit encryption technologies?

e-Governance training centres

4090. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has established e-Governance training centres in different States/UTs so as to impart training for various activities/functions to popularise the e-Governance system in various fields, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the awareness programmes taken out by Government to popularize e-Governance in the backward areas of the country?

STPI centre at Amritsar

4091. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) centre at Amritsar, the foundation stone of which was laid in November, 2016;

(b) whether the project is running on time, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) by when it is likely to complete?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Increase in cyber crimes related to e-transactions

‡4092. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether e-transaction related cyber crimes registered an increase of 73.24 per cent in the year 2015-16;

(b) whether an apprehension of 60 to 65 per cent increase in cases of cyber fraud has been raised in a joint study titled "Strategic National Measures to Combat Cybercrime" by industry association, ASSOCHAM and research firm Ernst and Young;

(c) if so, arrangements being made by Government to check the spike in cyber crime and whether Government would make stringent laws for this; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government for providing speedy justice to victims of fraud in digital transactions?

Regulator for digital payments

4093. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a time-frame to appoint a separate digital payments regulator to monitor payments online; and

(b) if so, whether Government will clarify the timeline therefor?

Security of financial data on digital wallet platforms

4094. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that amid growing concerns over security of financial data on digital wallet platforms, Government has put together draft rules aimed at safeguarding consumer interests, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that digital wallets have seen a huge rise in transactions after Government's demonetization move late last year; and

(c) whether Government has also suggested every digital wallet company to appoint a Chief Grievance Officer whose details should be prominently made available on their websites?

IT-enabled services

4095. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether IT-enabled services today encompass a much larger and more complicated set of activities than just IT solutions and back-office work;

(b) whether India should maximise the global opportunity that is emerging in this widely defined IT-enabled services (ITeS); and

(c) if so, the steps Government is taking to focus on the next generation of trade policy reforms that would ensure that markets remain open for such business?

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Licence to private players to operate
Digital Lockers**

4096. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started the process of licensing private players and other Government agencies to operate DigitalLockers for storage of various documents issued by Government and its Bodies, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the DigiLocker had 47.72 lakh users with a repository of more than 67 lakh documents; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has issued norms to let private players obtain licence that would allow them to operate Digital Lockers nearly two years after DigiLocker was launched in July, 2015?

Internet shutdowns in the country

4097. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many internet shutdowns have occurred in the country during the last three years;

(b) the losses incurred by Indian citizens and companies during these years;

(c) whether the losses underwent huge variation in different years; and

(d) whether Government has adopted any remedial measures in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

**Legal framework to regulate online
transactions**

4098. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is planning to establish a legal framework to regulate online transactions, e-wallets, payment gateways, prepaid cards and other payment platforms, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry is planning to implement the recommendations made by the Ratan Watal Committee for the same; and

(c) the deadline for implementation of a legal framework to protect the privacy and financial details of people using electronic payments?

**Infrastructure and technological
improvement to check post-
harvest losses**

4099. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to lack of adequate infrastructure, Food Processing Industry (FPI) in the country suffers losses despite high harvest;

(b) if so, the plan/proposal of Government to support adequate infrastructure and technological improvement to check the post-harvest losses; and

(c) the details of programme to increase the scope to tap new segments in the FPI?

Utilization of budgetary allocation by the Ministry

‡4100. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which financial requirements are prescribed for various activities before and after giving final shape to the allocation for various Departments of the Ministry; and

(b) the mechanism devised by the Ministry to ensure a proper monitoring of full utilization of budgetary allocation and the quantum of funds spent by the Departments in terms of full budgetary allocation percentage during the last four years, quarter-wise?

Mega Food Parks in Tamil Nadu

4101. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of Mega Food Parks in the country, State-wise, particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether Government proposes to establish more such Parks in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the areas identified, funds allocated and timelines therefor?

District level committee for Mega Food Parks

‡4102. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 8 Mega

Food Parks out of 42 approved projects, are in operation in the country, including Maharashtra till January, 2017 if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is considering to set up a Mega Food Park Coordination Committee at district level for implementation of these projects, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a proposal to elect the Member of Parliament as the President of this Committee, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the composition of this Committee?

New technologies for increasing shelf life of fruits and pulses

4103. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified new technologies for increasing the shelf life of citrus fruits and storage of pulses, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the fresh steps taken by Government to reduce the huge post harvest losses in the country?

Constitution of special courts for prevention of atrocities on SCs and STs

4104. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of constitution of special District Courts to try cases as per the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, State-wise;

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the reasons for lapses in constituting such special courts, if any, by State Governments; and

(c) the concrete proposals made to ensure constitution of such designated courts in a time-bound manner, in case of such lapses, if any?

Production of Sugar

‡4105. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of sugar in the country is likely to decrease;

(b) if so, whether Government is contemplating any step to increase production of sugar; and

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

Reducing the number of tribunals

4106. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to bring down the number of Tribunals in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of these Tribunals are headless; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

Introduction of smarter EVMs in elections

4107. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Election Commission would introduce smarter EVMs developed by C-DAC for 2019 elections, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it has option to cast vote from anywhere, anytime, apart from polling booth;

(c) if so, whether it would not violate the sanctity of voters coming to polling booth and casting votes; L--

(d) whether Government would recommend rollout of Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) in all polling stations in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, other measures proposed to infuse confidence among various sections?

Pradhan Mantri Gramin digital Saksharta Abhiyan

4108. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently launched Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA), if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the aims and objectives of the mission and the funds being allocated under this Abhiyan in the present financial year to each State, particularly Puducherry?

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Reservation in All India Judicial Service

4109. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to provide SC/ST and OBC quota in All India Judicial Service;

(b) if so, the details of the reservation proposed; and

(c) by when the reservation scheme will be implemented?

Convergence of Cyber Appellate Tribunal and TDSAT

4110. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to converge the Cyber Appellate Tribunal and Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT), if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to rationalize Tribunals and merge Tribunals if so, the details thereof?

Budgetary allocation for 2017-18

4111. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the budgetary allocation for the Ministry has reduced in the Union Budget 2017-18;

(b) whether the Ministry has formulated

an action plan to address the issues of vacancy of Judges in Courts, pendency of cases and infrastructure, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the State-wise data of functional Gram Nyayalayas and the grants provided to them by the Central Government in the previous year?

Plan/scheme to reduce backlog of cases

4112. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the Government and Courts not preparing a plan to reduce backlog of cases in a time-bound manner; and

(b) the reasons for the Ministry not putting forth a scheme to achieve this target?

Use of Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail EVMs

4113. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the constituencies/booths where VVPAT (Voters Verified Paper Audit Trail) EVMs have been introduced by the Election Commission in State Assembly election, 2017 in Uttar Pradesh, constituency-wise/booth-wise; and

(b) by when all elections are likely to be conducted by VVPAT EVMs in the country?

Fast Track Courts

4114. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Fast Track Courts in the country, as on date, State-wise;

(b) the details of funds allocated and spent for these courts during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the details of cases pending in these courts, as on date, State-wise;

(d) whether there is huge pendency of cases concerning rape, molestation and other crimes related to women and girls, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) the concrete steps taken to phase out pendency of cases related to heinous crimes like rape?

Low utilization of budgetary allocation by States

4115. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why the Ministry demanded lower allocation in 2017 budget (₹ 4143.66 crore) than 2016 budget (₹5100 crore) despite huge backlog and vacancies in courts;

(b) whether out of ₹ 5,000 crore allocated to States for Justice sector by 13th Finance Commission, only about ₹ 1,010 crore were utilized;

(c) if so, reasons for low utilization;

(d) whether ₹ 9,749 crore was approved by 14th Finance Commission for Justice sector but not allocated to States in light of higher tax devolution; and

(e) if so, how the Ministry would ensure

and monitor proper utilization of funds on Justice sector?

Food processing units in Bihar

4116. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of food processing units in Bihar;

(b) whether Government proposes to set up new food processing units in Bihar, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government would consider it for enhancing the income of farmers and creating employment in the State?

Token allocation of funds for railway projects

4117. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have made token allocation of funds for a number of projects since last decade;

(b) if so, the details of such projects, State/Project-wise;

(c) whether Government would review/relook into these projects and take up necessary steps for their implementation; and

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

Privatisation of Railways

4118. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to privatise Indian Railways; and

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

Complaints against private catering companies

‡4119. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the complaints received by Railways against private catering companies for charging more than the prescribed prices and violation of guidelines during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether any investigation is going on against such catering firms;

(c) if so, the names of companies against which such investigation is going on;

(d) whether some of the catering agencies are not providing eatable items as per the approved contract; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against such agencies?

Development of Jharkhand, Puducherry and Telangana railway stations through Swiss Challenge Method

4120. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:
SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:
SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are planning to invite private participation in development works of railway stations through Swiss Challenge method, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the railway stations

selected for development under this method; and

(c) whether any railway stations in Jharkhand, Puducherry and Telangana are also being considered for development under this method, the details thereof?

Replacement of obsolete equipments

4121. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI:
SHRI ANIL DESAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the equipments used by Railways are now obsolete and need immediate replacement, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether train accidents that took place in the last three years are attributed to obsolete equipments; and

(c) if so, the urgent steps being taken by the Ministry to address this problem on a priority basis?

Railway projects in Rajasthan

4122. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new railway lines commissioned across Rajasthan during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of the narrow-gauge lines converted into broad-gauge lines across Rajasthan during the said period;

(c) the number of proposals of converting narrow-gauge lines into broad-gauge lines pending with the Government and how many of them are in Rajasthan;

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether any underutilization of funds have been reported in commissioning of new railway lines or gauge conversions during the said period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Train wheel sensors

4123. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce train wheel sensors for the safety of trains in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the plan and the trial run proposed in this regard?

Requirement of land for railway projects in Tamil Nadu

4124. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the extent of land that Railways have sought from the Government of Tamil Nadu for railway projects in the State;

(b) the details of the land and the railway projects to which they are related; and

(c) the details of the State Government's response thereto?

Threat to life and property by terrorists on railway tracks

4125. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any input regarding threat to life and property by terrorists on railway tracks, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to check the growing number of railway accidents during the last three years?

Unmanned self-operated ticket vending machines

4126. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total count of the unmanned self-operated ticket vending machines available at railway stations across the country;

(b) whether these machines are also available in tier two and tier three cities, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when would they be installed in tier two and tier three cities of the country so that inconvenience caused by long queues is reduced?

High-speed trains

†4127. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce Mail trains and Express high-speed trains capable of running at a faster speed in comparison to the trains running at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of trains being converted into Superfast trains; and

(c) the reasons for enhancement of passenger fare of Superfast trains?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Involvement of terrorists in train accidents

4128. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that terrorists are involved in various trains accidents, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of investigations carried out to ascertain the involvement of terrorists in these accidents;

(c) the details of measures taken up by Government to counter the nefarious designs of terrorists; and

(d) whether Government is planning to handover these terror cases to NIA?

Upgradation of rolling stock technology of Railways

4129. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rolling stock technology of Railways has not kept pace with modern technology, leading to its inability to cope up with the pressure of passenger and goods traffic, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the action plan Government has to phase out the rolling stock technology with the best available technology; and

(c) whether Railways have tied up with any leading rolling stock manufacturer for technology transfer, if so, the details thereof?

Higher secondary schools run by Railways

†4130. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of higher secondary schools in the country being currently run by Railways along with the locations thereof;

(b) the number of students currently studying in each such school;

(c) the number of local students who are given opportunity to study in these schools and from when this practice is being followed; and

(d) whether the Ministry would consider to reserve 15 per cent seats for the local children by changing the old practice, if not, the reasons therefor?

Selection criteria for modernization of railway stations

4131. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the selection criteria for modernization of railway stations;

(b) the funds allocated, Zone-wise, and expenditure incurred during the last two years and release of funds during current year, particularly in the State of Punjab, for the railway stations; and

(c) the details of impediments, if any, faced in modernization of railway stations?

Installation of security check devices at railway stations

4132. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to install security check devices like metal detectors, CCTV cameras and luggage checking devices at all railway stations of tier two and tier three cities, as it is important to have better security checks at

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

railway stations, if so, the details thereof and by when; and

(b) if not, the reasons for not having a time-bound mechanism in place to install security check devices at all railway stations of tier two and tier three cities?

**Encroachment of railway land in
Mumbai**

4133. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) of the various railway-owned vacant plots of lands in Mumbai, how many are occupied illegally by slum dwellers, the details thereof;

(b) how many cases are pending in various courts pertaining to reclaiming these plots of land from illegal occupants; and

(c) the plans, if any, Railways have drawn to prevent further illegal occupation of their land by slum dwellers?

**Women self-help groups in railway
catering service**

4134. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Board has drawn up plans for involving women self-help groups in railway catering services, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether women self-help groups have already started providing catering service on some routes, if so, how does the Ministry assesses their performance?

**Rail track from Jammu to Kashmir
valley regions**

4135. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any time-period for completing the work on railway track from Jammu to Kashmir valley regions;

(b) by when Government is expecting to start trains from Srinagar to rest of the country; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to expedite the process of completing the railway track from Jammu to Srinagar?

Survey of rail route to Amaravati

4136. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL) has made the survey of rail route to Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh, and submitted its report, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the estimated cost of the project; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to expedite the sanction and execution process of this project?

Cess on railway ticket

†4137. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering imposition of cess on railway ticket;

(b) if so, whether Government is contemplating to take any step in this regard; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

Pending railway projects in Tamil Nadu

4138. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the list of railway projects pending for more than five years, especially in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether any action has been taken to complete such projects in near future; and

(c) the amount sanctioned for completing pending projects in Tamil Nadu?

FDI in Railways

4139. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in Railways, specified by Government, for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) along with the total FDI in such areas so far;

(b) the extent to which the FDI in Railways is likely to help the Government to achieve its goal of railway safety in the country;

(c) whether Government has received representations from various railway employee unions against FDI in Railways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/being taken by Government thereon?

Electrification of railway tracks

4140. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway tracks to be electrified during next five years along with those electrified during the last three years;

(b) whether Railways have taken any measures to accelerate the pace of electrification of railway tracks, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Railways to use clean energy in a big way in order to decarbonize the Railways?

Vacancies belonging to SC/ST categories in Railways

4141. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many posts belonging to SC/ST categories are lying vacant in Railways in all Groups;

(b) the reasons of long standing vacancies; and

(c) whether Government intends to start a special recruitment drive for SCs/STs in Railways to fill up the vacancies, if so, by when?

Travelling of children in Swarna Jayanti Rajdhani Express

4142. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Government has any data about the children who travelled in Swarna Jayanti Rajdhani Express (Ahmedabad-Delhi return) in last six months and the increase in income by charging full fare on children tickets, the details thereof?

Frequency of trains between Banihal and Baramulla

4143. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the current frequency (time-gap) of trains running between Banihal and Baramulla in Kashmir;

(b) whether Government is planning to increase the number of trains to reduce the time-gap on the above-mentioned track for ease of passengers; and

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

Levy of coal terminal surcharge

4144. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have levied coal terminal surcharge at both loading and unloading terminals, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Railways have received any representations from coal consumers, requesting to revisit the said decision, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total amount collected by Railways as terminal surcharge after it was introduced, Zone-wise?

Wi-Fi services in trains

4145. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is planning to provide Wi-Fi services to passengers in trains; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Renovation of railway stations in Jharkhand

4146. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to renovate railway stations under its railway stations redevelopment programme, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number and details of stations being considered for renovation and redevelopment, particularly in Jharkhand; and

(c) the quantum of funds allocated for this purpose?

Funds allocated to Handloom industry in Telangana

4147. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to develop Handloom industry in Telangana, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the quantum of funds being allocated in this financial year for development of Handloom industry in the State; and

(c) whether the Ministry has received any proposals from Government of Telangana with regard to development of handloom clusters, financial assistance for handlooms etc., the details thereof?

Craft Village

4148. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has established any Craft Village in Odisha;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether financial assistance is provided for these Craft Villages; and

(c) if not, whether Government has any proposal to establish Craft Villages in different parts of the country?

Utilization of funds by ATIRA for textile training programme

†4149. MAHANT SHAMBHU-PRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any data with regard to provision and utilization of funds for garments and other textile training programmes imparted by Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association (ATIRA), during last five years, is available with the Government; and

(b) the details of the training imparted by ATIRA to the students during the last five years?

Relaxing guidelines of the RRR Package for Handloom sector

4150. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry would consider relaxing the guidelines to make more Weavers Co-operative Societies eligible under the scheme- 'Revival, Reform and Restructuring, (RRR) Package' for Handloom sector; and

(b) whether the Ministry would consider to reintroduce the scheme of 10 per cent rebate on sale of Handloom cloth to boost the marketability of Handloom products during festive seasons?

Release of pending funds to States under RRR package

4151. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has released the pending funds for the weavers in the Handloom sector under the Revival, Reform and Restructuring (RRR) Package to the States, particularly Odisha and Chhattisgarh, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether any time-frame has been fixed for release of pending funds?

Productivity in Jute industry

4152. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the current productivity in the Jute industry per person and the measures taken by Government to revamp the industry in the last five years;

(b) whether NITI Aayog has recommended closure of six Jute mills which would render 20,000 workers jobless;

(c) the quantum of Jute imported from 2010 to 2016; and

(d) whether such import has affected the domestic market, if so, the details thereof?

Training to craftsmen in Terracotta craft

†4153. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the expected number of craftsmen in Chhattisgarh;

(b) the number of craftsmen trained/ being trained in Terracotta craft so far;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the number of trained craftsmen in Terracotta craft who have been provided with free tool kits; and

(d) by when the remaining craftsmen will be trained in Terracotta craft?

Coverage under insurance schemes

4154. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken necessary steps to bring all those engaged in Textile industries under insurance schemes meant for them;

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

(c) the number of people covered under the insurance schemes till 31st March, 2017?

Integrated Textile Parks

†4155. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has formulated any plan for the development of Integrated Textile Parks in various parts of the country for the purpose of increasing textile production in the country;

(b) the location-wise total number of Integrated Textile Parks expected to be developed in the country; and

(c) the State-wise number of people likely to get employment through these Parks and the estimated annual production of these Parks?

Reports of various Handicraft and Handloom Cluster Development programmes

4156. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether detailed report including narrative report, audio-visuals and financial statements of various Handicraft and Handloom Cluster Development programmes organised and completed under various Government schemes are available for reference to public;

(b) if so, the reports of such projects completed during the last ten years;

(c) if not, the reasons for non-availability of such reports;

(d) whether broad formats are provided to the beneficiaries to prepare such reports; and

(e) if so, the specimens of such formats?

NEW DELHI;
The 1st April, 2017

Chaitra 11, 1939 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

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(Ministry-wise)

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