

LOK SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS
Wednesday, November 27, 2024/Agrahayana 6, 1946 (Saka)

(Prime Minister; Ministries of Atomic Energy; Coal; Communication; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Development of North Eastern Region; Earth Sciences; Electronics and Information Technology; Information and Broadcasting; Mines; Minority Affairs; New and Renewable Energy; Parliamentary Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Railways; Science and Technology; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation)

(प्रधान मंत्री; परमाणु उर्जा; कोयला ; संचार; उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण; उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास ; पृथ्वी विज्ञान ; इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी; सूचना और प्रसारण; खान; अल्पसंख्यक कार्य; नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा ; संसदीय कार्य ; कर्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन ; योजना ; रेल; विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी; अंतरिक्ष; सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय)

Total Number of Questions - 20

Laws to Check Vulgar Content on Social Media

†*21. Shri Arun Govil:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the existing mechanism to check telecast of vulgar and sex related content through social media platforms illegally; and
- (b) whether the Government proposes to make the existing laws more stringent keeping in view the fact that the said laws are not much effective to stop misuse of these platforms?

Transformation of FPSs into Jan Poshan Kendra

*22. Shri Eatala Rajender:
Smt. D K Aruna:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has launched a programme to transform Fair Price Shops (FPSs) into Jan Poshan Kendra and if so, the facts along with the objectives thereof including the names of the States selected therefor;
- (b) the number of Fair Price Shops transformed in various States particularly in Amroha and Hapur districts of Amroha Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) whether there is a need to further strengthen food security ecosystem while bringing in transparency, ensuring strict quality control, curb malnutrition and also prevent leakages in the system and if so, the details of the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the dealers of these shops across India have demanded to raise their income level; and
- (e) if so, the response of the Union Government thereon and the steps taken to provide solution to the demand of said dealers?

Coal Booked through Auction under SHAKTI Policy

*23. Shri Ravindra Shukla *Alias* Ravi Kishan:
Shri Parshottambhai Rupala:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of beneficiaries that have successfully booked coal through the Linkage Auction under the SHAKTI Policy till date;

(b) whether the number of people who booked coal is less or more compared to previous auction cycles in terms of growth or decline; and

(c) the measures being taken to ensure that more bidders/frequently participating can access and benefit from future auctions?

Initiatives under National Green Hydrogen Mission

*24. Smt. Kriti Devi Debbarman:
Shri Manish Jaiswal:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the specific initiatives undertaken by the Ministry to implement and achieve its goal of making India a global hub for green hydrogen production, its usage and export under the National Green Hydrogen Mission(NGHM);

(b) the key targets and milestones set under this mission and their expected timelines;

(c) the financial allocation and investment incentives offered to promote green hydrogen production and related technologies;

(d) the steps being taken to encourage private sector participation and international collaboration in green hydrogen projects;

(e) the anticipated environmental and economic benefits, including emission reduction and job creation, resulting from green production and integration into India's energy mix;

(f) whether any subsidy is provided to the beneficiaries under the said mission and if so, the details thereof along with the amount of funds spent by the Government on this mission so far along with the criteria to avail the benefits thereunder;

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to enhance/promote the generation of green hydrogen in Punjab and Haryana; and

(h) whether there is any plan/scheme to set up solar power plant in Narmadapuram, Narsinhpur and Raisen districts and if so, the details thereof?

Supply of Coal from South Eastern Coal Fields

†*25. Shri Radheshyam Rathiya:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Government and private companies by indicating their names to which South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) supplies coal in Chhattisgarh;
- (b) the details of rates at which coal was supplied to the said companies during the last three years;
- (c) whether cases of black marketing in coal mines have been reported and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether SECL has received any complaints regarding black marketing of coal and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to check the ongoing black marketing of coal?

Gati Shakti Abhiyan at Kopargaon Railway Station (Maharashtra)

†*26. Shri Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether work is going on at a large scale at Kopargaon Railway Station in Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra under Gati Shakti Abhiyan Station and construction of 230 meter walled complex adjacent to the residential area on the western side of the railway station under the said Abhiyan, is creating hindrance in the movement of around 200 families residing in the vicinity and are surrounded by Railway land;
- (b) whether Kopargaon Vaijapur Highway is in the proximity of the said area due to which the children of railway employees and villagers are also facing problems in going to school and other areas;
- (c) whether the Government has received any representation in this regard from representatives of public; and
- (d) if so, the action taken or likely to be taken by the Government in public interest in this regard?

Aspirational Districts Programme

†*27. Shri Ram Shiromani Verma:

Will the Minister of PLANNING

योजना मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the criteria for selection of aspirational districts;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any research/study regarding the execution of the said programme related to the aspirational districts and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the funds allocated and utilised by the Government for the development of the aspirational districts in Uttar Pradesh particularly in Shravasti and Balrampur districts during the last three years;
- (d) the details of the performance of said aspirational districts of Uttar Pradesh based on the outcomes of socio-economic and developmental indicators used by the Government during the last five years; and
- (e) the present status of development of the aspirational districts of Uttar Pradesh identified under Phase-I?

Beneficiaries of PMGKAY

*28. Shri B K Parthasarathi:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the total number of beneficiaries under the expanded Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) in Andhra Pradesh during each of the last five years, district-wise;

(b) the details of total number of beneficiaries of the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households and Priority Households (PHH) thereunder in Andhra Pradesh and foodgrains allocation for the same presently;

(c) the funds allocated for the said yojana, during each of the last five year, State-wise;

(d) the current status of this yojana in eradicating the financial burden of the poor and the poorest of the poor in ensuring satisfactory foodgrains, State-wise; and

(e) whether the Government has taken any steps for effective outreach and communication regarding PMGKAY to the beneficiaries to ensure that no one is left behind and if so, the details thereof?

Funds for Pending Railway Projects in Tamil Nadu

*29. Thiru D M Kathir Anand:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided adequate funds for the pending and ongoing railway projects in Tamil Nadu that are currently lagging way behind its date of completion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken serious steps to ensure timely completion of railway projects in Tamil Nadu pending more than five years, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to accelerate the completion of pending projects?

Universal Service Obligation Fund

*30. Shri Haribhai Patel:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of areas remained uncovered under the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) project in Gujarat and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any project proposals are pending with the Government for Gujarat for these uncovered areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of projects under USOF sanctioned by the Government during the last three years;

(e) whether the Government also plans to upgrade the existing BSNL services using the funds and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the State-wise details of funds disbursed from the budget for USOF during the last three years?

Pending Railway Projects

*31. Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde:
Shri Naresh Ganpat Mhaske:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the pending railway projects in Maharashtra and Bihar and the need for surveys for construction of new railway lines particularly in Samastipur, Khagariya, Mumbai North West, Thane and Kalyan parliamentary constituency;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the names of the projects which are pending and/or under consideration;

(c) timeline for completion of the pending projects, if any; and

(d) the details of budgetary provisions for completion of these projects during the last financial year, actual expenses during this period and budgetary provisions during the current financial year?

Expansion of Communication Services

*32. Shri Rahul Kaswan:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any review of the decision taken by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) regarding the expansion of communication services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of ongoing projects regarding the expansion of telephone and mobile services during the last three years and the current year, especially in Rajasthan;

(d) the number of towers that were demanded to be installed in Churu district of Rajasthan during the last three years and the number of towers which have actually been installed indicating the time by which the remaining towers are likely to be installed, location-wise; and

(e) whether the Government has started 5G service on BSNL network and if so, the details, location and tower-wise, especially in Churu district?

Construction of Road Under Bridge (RUB) at Nellore

*33. Shri Maddila Gurumoorthy:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received proposals for constructing RUB near Venkatachalam at Nellore; and
 (b) if so, what is the stipulated time for completion of said RUB?

Coal Allocation to Power Plants in Andhra Pradesh

*34. Dr. Byreddy Shabari:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of coal allocation to power plants in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years along with the details of variations observed, if any;
 (b) whether there has been a shortage in coal supply to Andhra Pradesh impacting power generation in the State and if so, the details of remedial measures taken in this regard; and
 (c) whether any Government coal depots are present in the Nandyal constituency and if so, the details thereof along with their operational status?

Conversion of Delhi-Shamli-Saharanpur Railway Line to double gauge

*35. Ms Iqra Choudhary:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government intends to convert the Delhi-Shamli-Saharanpur Railway Line to double gauge;
 (b) if so, the timeline for the completion of such work and the estimated budget for the same;
 (c) whether the Government intends to introduce express trains on the said route;
 (d) if so, the expected time-frame for the same;
 (e) whether the Government plans for more trains to stop at Shamli station; and
 (f) if so, the details thereof?

Stoppage of Trains at Hosadurga Railway Station (Chitradurga)

*36. Shri Govind Makthappa Karjol:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a long standing demand for the stoppage of train No. 17325/17326 (Vishwamanav Express), train No. 16535/16536 (Golgumbaz Express), train No. 17309/17310 (Vasco da Gama-YPR daily express) and train No. 11005/11035/11021 (Chalukya Express) at Hosadurga Railway Station in Chitradurga District, and if so, the details thereof;
 (b) whether the Government has held any meetings with zonal officers regarding stoppage of above said trains, if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) the reasons for not permitting stoppages of above said trains at Hosadurga Railway

Station, if any?

Targets set under PM-SGMBY

*37. Smt. Supriya Sule:
Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved PM-Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana (PM-SGMBY) and if so, the details along with aims and objectives thereof;

(b) whether the Government has set any specific targets under the PM-SGMBY and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that the benefits of the PM-SGMBY would reach marginalized and economically weaker sections of society;

(d) the number of households that are estimated to get benefits from this Yojana during the current financial year in the State of Maharashtra;

(e) the steps that are being taken to ensure that solar panel installations under the PM-SGMBY are durable and have a long operational life;

(f) the total financial outlay allocated under the PM-SGMBY during the current fiscal year along with the percentage of funds under this Yojana that will be directed toward infrastructure development including solar panel installation; and

(g) the manner in which the Government plans to monitor the progress and impact of the PM-SGMBY?

Jiyo Parsi Scheme

*38. Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched Jiyo Parsi Scheme for Parsi Community, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether the Government is also considering to launch such schemes for other communities, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

First Indigenous High Speed Train

*39. Shri Sudheer Gupta:
Shri Ananta Nayak:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated the production of its first indigenous high speed train in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the present status of the said train with the salient features thereof;

- (c) the details of facilities likely to be provided to the passengers in the said trains;
- (d) the total amount of expenditure likely to be incurred on the manufacturing and operation of said trains;
- (e) the time by which the said high speed train will be operational in the country;
- (f) the amount of revenue likely to be generated by the Railways through this train; and
- (g) the details of the name of the cities likely to be connected initially with these said trains particularly the cities of State of Odisha?

Establishment of Energy University

*40. Shri G Lakshminarayana:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has provided any assistance for the establishment of a world class energy university in Anantapur in the State of Andhra Pradesh considering the region's renewable energy potential;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the land and other resources necessary for setting up the university have been made available and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the reasons for the delay in the establishment of the university; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Union Government to expedite the process of setting up of energy university in Anantapur?

New Delhi
Monday, November 25, 2024/
Kartika 30, 1946 (Saka)

UTPAL KUMAR SINGH
SECRETARY-GENERAL

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Remarks

LOK SABHA

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Total Number of Questions - 230

Active Atal Tinkering Labs under Atal Innovation Mission

231. Shri Baijayant Panda:

Will the Minister of PLANNING

योजना मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of active Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) established across the country under the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), particularly in Odisha;

(b) whether any impact assessment has been conducted to evaluate the effect of ATLs on school children, including the benefits and outcomes of these labs on fostering innovation and curiosity;

(c) the details of the measures taken by the Government to further boost the reach of ATLs, especially in rural and underserved areas, under AIM; and

(d) the manner in which the ATLs are designed to generate curiosity and creativity among school students and the specific activities or approaches being implemented to achieve this?

'BioE3' Policy

232. Shri Vijayakumar *Alias* Vijay Vasanth:
Shri Manickam Tagore B:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which 'BioE3' policy will specifically accelerate technology development and commercialization in the biomanufacturing sector and the key performance indicators for measuring its success;

(b) the steps taken/being taken to establish biomanufacturing and bio-AI hubs, as well as biofoundries, under the 'BioE3' policy, the manner in which these initiatives contribute to the expansion of India's skilled workforce and job creation;

(c) the manner in which the 'BioE3' policy aligns with the Government's existing initiatives

such as the 'Net Zero' carbon economy and the 'Lifestyle for Environment' program, the synergies that are expected between these policies to promote green growth and a circular bioeconomy; and

(d) the details of the strategic and thematic sectors prioritized under the 'BioE3' policy, and the manner in which the policy will address challenges related to climate-resilient agriculture, carbon capture, marine and space research, and other focus areas?

Discontinuation of MPLAD Fund

†233. Shri Balya Mama Suresh Gopinath Mhatre:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has discontinued the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Fund of the Members of 17th Lok Sabha from Maharashtra from the year 2023 onwards, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons for discontinuation of the same;

(c) the manner in which the payment of development works which have already been sanctioned be made along with the details thereof;

(d) whether letters have been written by the Members of Parliament to the Hon'ble Minister for getting the withheld MPLADS funds of the 17th Lok Sabha released, if so, the details of action taken by the Ministry in this regard; and

(e) whether the withheld MPLADS funds will be released by the Government?

Vacant Track Maintainer Posts

234. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vacant Trackmen (Track Maintainer) posts in Indian Railways available through departmental exams;

(b) details of number of eligible Trackmen denied the opportunity to appear for these departmental exams;

(c) total number of Trackmen lost their lives while on duty in the past five years;

(d) the measures taken by the Government to implement and enhance Trackmen's safety and prevent future fatalities;

(e) whether the Government has provided Trackmen with safety devices or early warning systems to ensure their safety while working on the tracks; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to improve working conditions and career progression opportunities for Trackmen particularly regarding access to departmental exams for advanced roles and responsibilities?

State Science and Technology Programme

235. Shri Murasoli S:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the State Science & Technology Programme of the Union Government and the details thereof;
- (b) the amount of funds allocated to the State of Tamil Nadu, district-wise under the scheme and the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposals to conduct National Level Programmes in Thanjavur constituency, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Launching the Vande Bharat Express

236. Shri Amar Sharadrao Kale:
 Shri Nilesh Dnyandev Lanke:
 Shri Mohite Patil Dhairyasheel Rajsinh:
 Shri Bhaskar Murlidhar Bhagare:
 Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe:
 Shri Bajrang Manohar Sonwane:
 Smt. Supriya Sule:
 Prof. Varsha Eknath Gaikwad:
 Shri Sanjay Dina Patil:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the rationale behind launching the Vande Bharat Express, and the extent to which it align the Government's goals for modernizing Indian Railways;
- (b) the number of said trains presently playing in different routes along with the average income generated, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government intends to launch new said trains across the country especially in under-served or remote regions, if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Maharashtra and from New Delhi to Kathgodam;
- (d) whether the Government has decided to reduce the speed of said trains and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the said trains are not getting enough passengers due to high fares and if so, the corrective measures being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (f) whether the Government conducted any survey or gathered feedback on passenger satisfaction with the said trains, if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the other steps taken by the Government to provide world class facilities in the said Express trains for the train passengers?

Extension of Train Services (Bareilly-New Delhi and Bareilly-Bhuj)

- †237. Shri Arun Kumar Sagar:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to extend the services of train number 14315/ 16 Bareilly Intercity Express operating between Bareilly and New Delhi and train number 14311-12 Ala Hazrat Express operating between Bareilly and Bhuj to Shahjahanpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has also received the requests from the representatives of the people in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Beneficiaries under PMGKAY

238. Shri Varun Chaudhry:
Shri Adhikari Deepak Dev:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) during each of the last seven years, State-wise;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government to continue the above said yojana for next five years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

PM Gati Shakti Scheme

†239. Shri Murari Lal Meena:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the improvement made in the timely completion of infrastructure projects under the PM Gati Shakti scheme of Railways;

(b) the manner in which cost of the projects has come down under the said scheme along with the names and details of the projects including the East Coast Rail Line etc.;

(c) the manner in which the coordination between various Ministries is ensured through the said scheme; and

(d) whether any digital platform is being used under the said scheme, if so, the details thereof?

Eradication of Poverty

†240. Smt. Manju Sharma:

Will the Minister of PLANNING

योजना मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched various new schemes for eradication of poverty from the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether implementation of the said schemes has been made as per the targets fixed in this regard, so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the number of families living under poverty line in the country has decreased during the said period; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Sustainable Production of Coal

†241. Shri Chavda Vinod Lakhamshi:
 Dr. Hemant Vishnu Savara:
 Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh:
 Shri Mukeshkumar Chandrakaant Dalal:
 Shri Basavaraj Bommai:
 Shri Govind Makthappa Karjol:
 Smt. Himadri Singh:
 Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey:
 Shri Manish Jaiswal:
 Shri Balya Mama Suresh Gopinath Mhatre:
 Shri Kali Charan Singh:
 Shri Kripanath Mallah:
 Shri Jugal Kishore:
 Shri Mukesh Rajput:
 Shri Khagen Murmu:
 Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram:
 Shri Balabhadra Majhi:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the strategies being implemented by the Ministry to sustain the growth in production of coal;

(b) the manner in which the Ministry proposes to balance the increased production of coal with environmental sustainability in the country including Hazaribag in Jharkhand; and

(c) the role likely to be played in this regard by the recent reforms such as operationalization of closed mines on revenue sharing model?

Electrification of Railway Broad Gauge Network

242. Dr. Hemant Vishnu Savara:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to go for 100% electrification of its Broad Gauge network;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the electrification of Broad Gauge network in the country the, till date;

(d) whether operating costs go down after 100% electrification of Broad Gauge network and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether uninterrupted power supply will be assured on all routes, if power supply fails?

MDOs for Coal Mining Projects

243. Shri Arvind Ganpat Sawant:
Smt. Bharti Pardhi:
Shri Shrirang Appa Chandu Barne:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to engage Mining Developers cum Operators (MDOs) for major coal mine projects under Coal India Limited (CIL);
- (b) if so, the details and objectives thereof;
- (c) the number of projects identified along with the total capacity awarded so far under the scheme, State-wise particularly in Madhya Pradesh;
- (d) whether the MDOs would be responsible to manage crucial aspects such as Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) issues, land acquisitions and environmental clearances;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the adherence of environmental standards?

Impact of PMGKAY

244. Shri Dushyant Singh:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and the impact of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) on food security and beneficiary satisfaction in Rajasthan including statistics or feedback collected;
- (b) whether specific State-wise data is available on the identified and developed Model Fair Price Shops (FPSs) in Rajasthan that offer Common Service Centre (CSC) services including banking and postal services and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry has established a monitoring cell to track the progress and effectiveness of Model FPS and PMGKAY in Rajasthan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of the digitisation of ration cards in Rajasthan to enhance beneficiary identification and ensure transparency in foodgrain allocation?

Solar and Wind Energy Projects in Telangana

245. Dr. Kadiyam Kavya:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of solar and wind energy projects that have been sanctioned and implemented in the State of Telangana; and
- (b) the installed capacity of solar and wind energy thus created in the State?

New Solar Parks in Maharashtra

246. Dr. Kirsan Namdeo:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved setting up of new solar parks in the country especially in Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government also proposes to set up solar power plants in Gadchiroli, Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the solar power plants are likely to be set up in Maharashtra; and

(d) the efforts being made by the Government to increase the capacity of solar power generation?

Rapid Growth in Telecom

247. Shri Eswarasamy K:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of rapid growth in telecommunications, the telecom equipment manufacturing industry has not been properly encouraged;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken or proposes to take any drastic steps to encourage indigenous telecom manufacturing units in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Wi-Fi Service for Smart City Project

†248. Shri Imran Masood:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the free Wi-Fi service is being offered as per the set standards in all 100 cities selected under Smart City Project;

(b) if so, the city-wise details of service provider companies;

(c) the number of places where the service provider company is obligated to provide the service, city-wise;

(d) the number of places where service is actually being provided, city-wise; and

(e) the city-wise details of data consumption?

AI Preparedness Index

249. Shri Subbarayan K:

Com. Selvaraj V:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India stands at 80th spot at the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Preparedness Index across 174 countries based on several indicators across four dimensions viz. digital infrastructure, human capital, technological innovation and legal framework; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto?

IMD's observation on Weather Forecasting for Coastal Areas of Kerala

250. Shri K C Venugopal:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES

पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of the IMD's recent closure of its observatory in Alappuzha on weather forecasting capabilities along Kerala's coastal areas;
- (b) whether there are plans to reopen the Alappuzha observatory at a new location in the vicinity, and if so, what steps are being taken to expedite this process;
- (c) whether the Government is considering the State's demand for additional weather monitoring stations, especially in sensitive districts like Idukki and Wayanad; and
- (d) the measures implemented/being implemented to address the reliability issues of the automatic weather stations and rain gauges in Kerala, that faced calibration and maintenance challenges?

BioE3 Policy in Biotechnology

251. Shri Captain Brijesh Chowta:

Shri Shankar Lalwani:

Shri Ganesh Singh:

Shri Yogender Chandolia:

Smt. Smita Uday Wagh:

Smt. Aparajita Sarangi:

Shri Jagdambika Pal:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of the BioE3 policy and whether it will be instrumental in fostering high-performance bio-manufacturing;
- (b) the details of national initiatives aligned with the BioE3 policy;
- (c) the details of achievements of bio economy during the last ten years;
- (d) whether the Government has the list of Bio-manufacturing and Bio-AI hubs that are planned to be set up in Karnataka as a whole and Dakshina Kannada in particular and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the process for identification of districts to set up the Bio-manufacturing & Bio-AI hubs?

Vande Bharat Sleeper Trains

252. Shri Kesineni Sivanath:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to launch Vande Bharat sleeper trains;
- (b) if so, the timeline by which these trains will be used for commercial purposes;
- (c) the rail routes that have been considered for deploying these trains;
- (d) whether the Government aims to replace the Rajdhani trains with Vande Bharat sleeper coaches; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Rooftop Solar Programme Phase-II

253. Shri Navaskani K:
Shri Selvam G:
Shri C N Annadurai:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status and achievements of the Rooftop Solar Programme Phase-II including the total capacity of rooftop solar installations achieved against the set target;
- (b) the details of rooftop solar installations completed under Phase-II and the progress made towards achieving the allocated targets, State-wise;
- (c) the details of incentives and subsidies available under the Rooftop Solar Programme Phase-II for residential and institutional consumers;
- (d) whether the Government has observed an increase in applications due to these incentives and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is taking steps to address any disparities in rooftop solar adoption between urban and rural areas under Phase-II and if so, the details thereof;
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to increase consumer awareness and provide training for local installation agencies to expand the reach of the Rooftop Solar Programme Phase-II; and
- (g) the other steps taken by the Government to provide solar power to households in the country?

Surveys for New Railway Lines in Telangana

254. Shri Godam Nagesh:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to launch surveys for new Railway lines in the State of Telangana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the proposed new routes that are going to be surveyed; and
- (c) the status of the survey of the line being undertaken after the same was announced in the Railway Budget 2023-24 and the details thereof?

One DAE One Subscription Agreements

255. Shri Manoj Tiwari:
Shri Mukesh Rajput:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of One DAE One Subscription (ODOS) initiative;
- (b) whether the said initiative is likely to increase the possibility of sharing resources digitally; and
- (c) the details of ODOS agreements entered into with private companies to provide access to scientific journals along with the national and international research papers?

Scholarship to Students of Minority Community

256. Shri Rajeev Rai:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of children belonging to the Minority community who have applied and been provided scholarships during the last five years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has proposed any policy or scheme for children belonging to the Minority Community that provides them the opportunity to study abroad;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the quantum of funds allocated by the Government to Minority Board or Entities across the country, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the time by when the Union Government is likely to increase the amount of fellowship under Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) as per the new University Grants Commission (UGC), Junior Research Fellowship (JRF), Senior Research Fellowship (SRF) amount restriction?

Liaison Officer to fill up vacant Posts reserved for SCs/STs/OBCs

†257. Shri Dharmendra Yadav:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Liaison Officer is appointed in each Ministry/Department of the Union Government and subordinate organisations to fill up the vacant posts reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Classes to ensure proper compliance of orders and instructions regarding filling up of reserved vacancies and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor and the names of the Ministries/Departments/Organisations/Public Sector Undertakings in which Liaison Officers have not been appointed to safeguard the interests of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Classes; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Grievance Redressal Mechanism for Cyber Fraud

†258. Smt. Roopkumari Choudhary:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives taken by the Government to prevent fraud involving fake reviews, misleading advertisements and fake products on online platforms; and

(b) whether the grievance redressal mechanism is addressing all grievances related to cyber fraud and online fraud?

Construction of Identified Railway Lines

259. Dr. Shashi Tharoor:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway lines for the energy, mineral, and cement corridors, port connectivity corridors, and high-traffic density corridors have been identified;

(b) if so, the status of construction of such identified lines;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any of the identified lines, especially the port connectivity corridor lines, pass through Kerala?

Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)

260. Smt. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), including the status of collection of the Universal Service Levy since the commencement of the fund;

(b) the details regarding the funds allocated and utilized for different schemes using Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the utilization of this fund has been suboptimal, and if so, the details thereof since its inception, including its uses in various projects; and

(d) the details regarding the steps the Government is taking to ensure that the objectives of the USOF are effectively achieved?

Status of PM-WANI in the North-Eastern Region

261. Shri Pradyut Bordoloi:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the number of Public Data Offices (PDOs) that have been set up under Prime Minister's WiFi Access Interface (PM-WANI) since its inception and the number of hotspots that the Government had targeted to be set up by 2022 and 2030 respectively;

(b) the details regarding the number of PDOs that have been set up in the North-Eastern Region (NER) since the scheme's inception and the target set for these, State-wise;

(c) the average yearly cost charged on PDOs by Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) in the NER and the all India average cost charged on PDOs; and

(d) whether the Government has conducted any studies or surveys examining the challenges associated with providing broadband Wi-Fi services in rural areas of the NER?

Youth Parliament

†262. Dr. Rajkumar Sangwan:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government regularly organizes Youth Parliament in coordination with schools, colleges and universities across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to promote Youth Parliaments at school level?

Price Monitoring Mechanism

263. Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram:

Shri P P Chaudhary:

Shri Jugal Kishore:

Smt. Himadri Singh:

Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey:

Smt. Aparajita Sarangi:

Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi:

Dr. Vinod Kumar Bind:

Shri Ashish Dubey:

Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi:

Shri Balabhadra Majhi:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has developed a predictive price forecasting model for essential commodities and if so, the details thereof including its features and the commodities covered;

(b) whether the Government plans to integrate this model with existing price monitoring mechanisms and market intelligence systems and if so, the timeline and expected outcomes thereof;

(c) the details of the specific measures proposed to be taken by the Government based on the model's predictions to control inflation and stabilize prices of essential commodities; and

(d) whether any assessment has been made of its potential impact on market price stabilization and if so, the details thereof?

Reforms in Satellite Communication

264. Shri P P Chaudhary:
Shri Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri:
Smt. Kriti Devi Debbarman:
Dr. Vinod Kumar Bind:
Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has introduced reforms in satellite communication, particularly regarding user terminal stations on moving platforms, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the specific measures taken to enhance accessibility and affordability of satellite-based services for citizens through these reforms;
- (c) the timeline for implementation of these reforms;
- (d) the number of service providers who have shown interest in offering satellite-based services on moving platforms; and
- (e) whether the Government has set any targets for coverage expansion and price reduction of satellite-based services through these reforms, if so, the details thereof mentioning inter-alia the monitoring mechanisms put in place in this regard?

Radar Forecasting System

265. Shri Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any measure to increase the number of weather radars in the country for improving the accuracy of forecasting system under the mission Mousam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any State Government proposal for the same, especially from the State of Karnataka and any other persons in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Workshop to Strengthen Senior Citizen Care

- †266. Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh:
Shri Manish Jaiswal:
Shri Basavaraj Bommai:
Shri Jaswantsinh Sumanbhai Bhabhor:
Shri Kanwar Singh Tanwar:
Smt. Smita Uday Wagh:
Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi:
Shri Jugal Kishore:
Shri Khagen Murmu:
Shri Ashok Kumar Rawat:
Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram:

Will the Minister of PLANNING

योजना मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the national workshops conducted by the NITI Aayog to strengthen senior citizen care in the country including the key objectives and outcomes of the same and District-wise details of Gujarat particularly the tribal districts like Dahod ;

(b) the number of States and Union Territories participated in the said workshops and the specific role played by those States/UTs;

(c) the details of new initiatives undertaken and policies proposed during the workshop to strengthen senior citizen care across the country, State/UT-wise including Jharkhand and Rajasthan particularly in Chittorgarh Parliamentary constituency;

(d) the manner in which the NITI Aayog plans to implement and monitor the recommendations and insights gathered from this workshop at the State and National levels;

(e) the details of the infrastructure developed so far in the country and the infrastructure proposed to be developed after the said workshop; and

(f) the details of the funds allocated and spent so far to strengthen senior citizen care in various States particularly in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years?

Prices of Tur and Urad

267. Shri Manickam Tagore B:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the measures put in place to regulate whether the prices of tur and urad considering the ten percent decline in mandi prices during the last three months;

(b) the reasons for not decreasing the retail prices of tur and urad in line with the decline in mandi price and the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address this disparity;

(c) whether the imports of tur and urad from East African countries and Myanmar impacted domestic prices and if so, the Government's strategy for future imports;

(d) whether initiatives has been taken by the Government to increase the sowing area for kharif pulses, resulting in a seven percent increase over last year and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details and the update on the current crop condition of kharif pulses and its expected impact on prices?

Startup Accelerator for Product Innovation

268. Shri Vishnu Datt Sharma:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched a Startup Accelerator for product innovation, development and growth in electronics and information sector during the recent past and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has proposed to scale up its network of incubators and accelerators and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the other steps taken by the Government to boost the electronics manufacturing in the country?

Consideration of Raising MPLAD Fund in Multiple Vidhan Sabha Areas

269. Smt. Smita Uday Wagh:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Lok Sabha constituencies covering multiple Vidhan Sabha areas for which the Government is considering raising the MPLAD fund to 25 crore annually;

(b) as many State Governments often allocate for MLA's more than the MPLAD funds, whether there are any plans to align MPLAD funding with this level, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government finds the current five crore allocation adequate in view of the fact that MPs are responsible for large, diverse regions, if not, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government reviewed the impact of inflation and project costs on MPLAD fund, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the methodology of the Government follow to assess MPLAD adequacy and plans for increasing the fund allocation?

Damage of Foodgrains

270. Shri Gaddigoudar Parvatagouda Chandanagouda:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foodgrains damaged in storage during monsoons in the country during each of the last five years;

(b) whether any study has been conducted by the Government on the reasons for the damage of foodgrains;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has come up with any innovative and tech-based solutions to tackle damage of foodgrains due to such harsh weather conditions; and

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

Kavach System in all Zones of Railways

271. Dr. Nishikant Dubey:

Shri Amrinder Singh Raja Warring:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to enhance level of passenger safety in Railways;

- (b) whether Kavach system has been made operational in all zones of railways across the country particularly in Jharkhand;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the manner in which Government proposes to implement Kavach system across the country;
- (e) the time likely to be taken for installation of Kavach system across the country;
- (f) the cost to be incurred for implementation of Kavach system;
- (g) whether the Government foresees any delay in achieving this target, if so the details thereof; and
- (h) whether the Government intends to conduct any studies to determine the causes of such delay, if so, the details thereof?

Vande Bharat Express from New Delhi to Kathgodam

272. Shri Jai Prakash:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to start Vande Bharat Express from New Delhi to Kathgodam during the current Financial Year;
- (b) if so, the time by when the train will start running; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Space Sector Start-ups Fund

273. Shri Dhairyasheel Sambhajirao Mane:
Shri Sudheer Gupta:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Union Government has approved a 1000 crore venture capital fund under IN-SPACE programme to support space sector focused start-ups in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the manner in which this approved fund is likely to be spent and the criteria followed for selecting start-ups;
- (c) the manner in which the proposed fund will boost employment in the Indian space sector through various start-ups across the entire space supply chain;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to cultivate a skilled workforce, drive innovation and boost India's competitiveness in the global space market through this fund; and
- (e) the manner in which the said fund will help in nurturing the talent in the country and prevent the loss of talent to other countries?

Fixed Reserved Quota

†274. Shri Mukeshkumar Chandrakaant Dalal:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of all the trains originating from or having stoppages at Surat Railway station;
- (b) the number of seats for which reserved quota has been fixed in each class in these trains for Surat City; and
- (c) the details of the process to reserve seats in the said trains along with the details of availability thereof?

Status of Konkan Railway Merger

275. Shri Kota Srinivasa Poojary:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all partner State Governments have agreed to hand over their shares for the proposed merger of the Konkan Railway and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the time by when the public of the Konkan region may expect a formal Notification regarding the merger?

Semiconductor Manufacturing Ecosystem

276. Dr. Bhola Singh:
Shri Dineshbhai Makwana:
Shri Parbhubhai Nagarbhai Vasava:
Shri Parshottambhai Rupala:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the specific measures taken by the Government to enhance India's semiconductor manufacturing ecosystem including initiatives to attract investment and promote local production;
- (b) the partnerships or collaborations established with international companies or organizations to support semiconductor manufacturing;
- (c) the incentives provided for research and development in semiconductor technology; and
- (d) the progress made in achieving self-reliance in semiconductor production and the future goals set by the Ministry in this regard?

Aim of Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in Punjab and Bihar

277. Shri Anurag Sharma:
Shri Amrinder Singh Raja Warring:
Shri Janardan Singh Sigriwal:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Amrit Bharat Station Scheme which aims to revitalize railway stations by transforming them into modern, sustainable, and accessible spaces;
- (b) kinds of upgrades in the scheme prioritized, such as platforms, passenger amenities, or

digital services on the said stations;

(c) the details of specific stations that are benefiting from this scheme and improvements have impacted passengers and local economies;

(d) whether any re-development activities have been undertaken by the Government for railway stations in Punjab and Bihar under the said scheme ;

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

(f) whether any deadline/target date and budget was set by the Government for the completion of the projects and if so, the details thereof?

Mineral Mining Licencing

278. Dr. Gumma Thanuja Rani:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the rationale for maintaining the current decentralized approach to mineral licensing without consultations with the stakeholders involved;

(b) whether the Government has conducted consultations with the State Governments, mining industry stakeholders and legal experts on this matter; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the outcomes of such consultations and if not, the reasons therefor?

SEHER Programme

279. Shri G M Harish Balayogi:

Will the Minister of PLANNING

योजना मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the steps undertaken for imparting financial and credit education to women under SEHER Programme;

(b) the details regarding the number of beneficiaries of the said programme, State-wise, especially Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether the said programme offers any specific benefits to women belonging to SC/ST/OBC and PwD community and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has undertaken any awareness initiatives for the promotion of the said programme and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details regarding the amount of funds allocated for the same?

Auction of Space Spectrum

280. Shri Manish Tewari:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government opted for the administrative allocation of space spectrum instead of competitive auctions, given the 2012 Supreme Court ruling mandating auctions for the

distribution of natural resources if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government has conducted any study to estimate the potential revenue loss or gain from administratively allocating space spectrum, as opposed to auctioning it like terrestrial spectrum if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any justification for not proceeding with the auction of space spectrum; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that administratively allocating space spectrum does not create an unfair cost advantage for new entrants over legacy players who purchased terrestrial spectrum at high auction prices?

Automated Earth Stations for Farmers

†281. Shri Brijmohan Agrawal:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES

पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up new automated Earth Stations in order to provide accurate forecast to the people particularly to the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State and place-wise including the State of Chhattisgarh; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Grid Rooftop Solar System in Punjab

282. Shri Amrinder Singh Raja Warring:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of grid rooftop solar system installed in the State of Punjab during the last two years and the current year till date;

(b) whether there has been an increase in the grid rooftop solar system installations and usage during the last two years as compared to previous years and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken by the Ministry to increase solar power consumption and usage in the State of Punjab, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Encroachment and Illegal Transfer of Wakf Properties

283. Shri Basavaraj Bommai:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is aware of the reported encroachment and illegal transfer of Wakf properties in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to investigate the encroachments of Wakf properties in Karnataka, especially in areas such as the Haveri / Gadag districts;

(c) whether the Government has any data on the extent of unauthorized occupation or misuse of Wakf properties across India, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of measures implemented by the Government to prevent the illegal transfer, sale or lease of Wakf land?

Re-development of Railway Stations in West Bengal

284. Smt. Rachna Banerjee:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has planned to re-develop the existing railway stations to International standards in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the number of railway stations identified for redevelopment in West Bengal so far;

(d) the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized for their redevelopment during the last three years and the current year; and

(e) the details of the target set and achievements made so far?

NeVA

285. Shri Shankar Lalwani:

Shri Mukesh Rajput:

Smt. Shobhanaben Mahendrasinh Baraiya:

Dr. Alok Kumar Suman:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National e-Vidhan Application 2.0 and the success of the portal in achieving paperless legislative environment and promote real-time governance; and

(b) the importance of digital systems in achieving good governance?

The Predictive Price Forecasting Model for Essential Commodities

286. Shri Dharambir Singh:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Ministry's plan to utilize the predictive price forecasting model for essential commodities in its policy-making processes, particularly to control inflation, stabilize prices and strengthen the price monitoring mechanism;

(b) whether the model includes strategies for real-time data collection and analysis specifically in states like Haryana and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the role of this forecasting model in addressing price volatility in essential commodities and the details of recent cases where it has been effectively applied, especially in Haryana;

(d) the details of collaboration with the State Government of Haryana, private sector or research institutions to improve the model's accuracy and local impact; and

(e) the anticipated benefits of this model for consumers in Haryana particularly low-income households in terms of reducing price spikes and ensuring access to affordable essential commodities?

Earning of Railways through Ticket Sale & Cancellation

287. Smt. Mala Roy:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of railway earnings through ticket sale in festive month (01.09.2024 to 15.11.2024);
- (b) the details of amount railway earned through ticket cancellation during said period; and
- (c) the details of the zone-wise passenger travel during the period from 01.09.2024 to 15.11.2024?

World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit

288. Shri Bidyut Baran Mahato:
 Shri Jugal Kishore:
 Dr. Alok Kumar Suman:
 Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab:
 Shri Lumba Ram:
 Smt. Shobhanaben Mahendrasinh Baraiya:
 Shri Jagdambika Pal:
 Shri Manoj Tiwari:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to improve India's media and entertainment industry and extend its global influence; and
- (b) the details of various events organised under World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) across genres such as anime, music, dance, gaming etc.?

Application for Scholarships to Minority Students

†289. Shri Amra Ram:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the time when the application for scholarship were invited from minority students and the quota fixed in this regard; and
- (b) the details of the number of applications received by the Department so far, State-wise and minority community-wise?

Survey of Minerals in Gujarat

†290. Shri Jaswantsinh Sumanbhai Bhabhor:

Will the Minister of MINES

खान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any survey is being conducted by the Government to explore limestone, gold, iron ore, manganese and other minerals in Dahod and adjoining areas of Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any such survey has been conducted in the past; and
- (d) if not, whether the Government proposes to conduct such survey in future?

Services offered by Department of Posts

†291. Shri Narayan Tatu Rane:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of services offered by the Department of Post across the country during the last three years along with the service and year-wise details of revenue earned from these services;
- (b) whether the Government has set any target for earning revenue from postal services during the current fiscal year;
- (c) whether the staff including post masters and postmen as well as infrastructural facilities are sufficient in the Department of Post at present;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether the Government proposes to recruit additional staff; and
- (e) whether the Government has started to provide postal services using the state-of-the-art technology for sending posts and parcels in different parts of the country and if so, the details thereof?

Average Income of the People in Rural Areas

292. Shri Deepender Singh Hooda:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the average income of the people in the rural areas in various parts of the country during the last three years, State/UT-wise including Haryana;
- (b) whether it is true that the last nationwide survey on Household Consumption Expenditure was conducted by the National Sample Survey (NSS) 68th Round (July, 2011-June, 2012) and no survey was carried out after that;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reasons for not conducting any survey after that?

Coal Production

†293. Adv Gowaal Kagada Padavi:
Adv Dean Kuriakose:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of coal produced in the country during the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) the reasons for not achieving the domestic coal production target;
- (c) the details of the concerns associated with the growing coal mining activities especially due to methane emission; and
- (d) the manner in which the Government is likely to balance between the energy requirements of the country and commitments for reducing the carbon emissions?

Assistance to Panchayats to Produce Renewable Energy

294. Shri Chudasama Rajeshbhai Naranbhai:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any policy/proposal to introduce a scheme to provide financial assistance to village panchayats which can produce one mega watt capacity of renewable energy to incentivise and localise power generation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received any request from the Government of Gujarat for financial assistance for establishment of local power grids; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Price Reporting Centres

295. Shri P V Midhun Reddy:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives of the Price Reporting Centres (PRCs) under the Price Monitoring Division;
- (b) whether these objectives have been achieved as per the targets;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the number of price reporting centres in India;
- (e) whether it is a fact that some States do not even have one price reporting centre;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to address the issue; and
- (g) the date on which the PRCs were last surveyed and expanded by the Government?

Scheme to Increase Coal Production

†296. Dr. Rajesh Mishra:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the schemes/policies implemented by the Ministry to increase coal production while protecting the environment;
- (b) the number of outsourced companies working for coal mining in Northern Coal Field (NCL), Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh and the details of contract for providing employment to the employees in outsourced companies; and
- (c) the complete details of the contract between Northern Coal Field Limited and the outsourced companies?

National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy (NDSAP)

297. Shri Anurag Singh Thakur:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has evaluated the implementation and impact of the National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy (NDSAP) in fostering open access to non-sensitive Government data, and if so, the key findings of such evaluations;
- (b) the specific measures being taken to enhance data quality, interoperability, and integration across different Government platforms to support effective data sharing;
- (c) whether the Government is collaborating with public and private stakeholders to encourage innovative uses of shared data for research and technological advancement and the details of such partnerships; and
- (d) the efforts made to strengthen the data infrastructure and ensure secure, real-time data accessibility while maintaining transparency and compliance with privacy regulations?

Setting up of Nuclear Power Plants

298. Shri S Jagathratchakan:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) is exploring various sites in several States across the country to set up nuclear power plants; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Space Missions of ISRO

299. Prof. Sougata Ray:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of ongoing space mission of ISRO;
- (b) the current status of the Gaganyaan Mission;
- (c) the details of the re-entry missions by ISRO; and
- (d) the details of ISRO's manned spaceflight and its advancements in technology and exploration?

Implementation of the IndiaAI Mission

300. Dr. Vinod Kumar Bind:
Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi:
Shri P P Chaudhary:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the timeline for implementation of the IndiaAI mission and its seven key components;
- (b) the specific targets set for the development of AI computing capacity including the number of GPUs to be installed and the timeline for their deployment;
- (c) the measures planned to ensure equitable access to the AI computing ecosystem and datasets platform for startups and researchers across the country;
- (d) the details of collaborations planned with educational institutions to implement the IndiaAI Future Skills programme particularly in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities; and
- (e) the specific measures being taken under the Safe & Trusted AI pillar to ensure responsible AI development and address potential ethical concerns?

Metal Recycling Authority

301. Shri Azad Kirti Jha:

Will the Minister of MINES

खान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Metal Recycling Authority has been established to facilitate the implementation of the Non-Ferrous Metal Scrap Recycling Framework 2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether an online market platform for recycled and secondary metal auctions has been developed as per the guidelines laid down in the Non-Ferrous Metal Scrap Policy Framework 2022; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

PM-SGBY in Tamil Nadu

302. Shri Malaiyarasan D:
Shri Tharaniventhan M S:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched the Pradhan Mantri-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (PM-SGMBY) to provide free electricity to households;

(b) if so, the details of objectives of the yojana and the eligibility criteria for selection of beneficiaries;

(c) the total number of beneficiaries likely to be covered thereunder and the regions where it has been implemented or likely to be implemented including Kallakurichi and Arani Lok Sabha Constituency of Tamil Nadu;

(d) the funds allocated under the yojana across the country including Tamil Nadu along with the progress made in its implementation; and

(e) the steps being taken to ensure timely and efficient delivery of solar power under the yojana?

Legislation to Tackle Misuse of AI

303. Shri Raja A:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is proposing to bring any legislation to tackle the growing and blatant misuse of Artificial Intelligence leading to fake news, rumours and creating confusion in the minds of general public; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the other measures proposed to deal with this issue?

Construction of Subway in Tiruchirappalli District

304. Shri Durai Vaiko:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details and target dates of construction of subways proposed to be constructed by the Government in Tiruchirappalli district, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to construct a subway of width and height 7.5*4.5 metres in M.K. Kottai (via Ponmalai Railway Colony) near Manjathidal Railway Station Kambi Gate area, in Tiruchirappalli district, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government has agreed to construct the subway of width and height 4.5*3.5 metres and the said measurement causes huge inconvenience to the public, if so, the details thereof ?

Y - Railway Track

305. Dr. Alok Kumar Suman:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether, it is a fact that Gopalganj -Thawe junction has a proposed Y- railway track, if so, the details thereof;

- (b) whether, it is a fact that the work for Y-railway track of Thawe junction had been started and left without completion, if so, the details along with the amount spent for said purpose; and
 (c) the details about the proposed/sanctioned Y- railway track near Thawe junction?

Construction of ROBs and RUBs in the Country

306. Smt. Poonamben Hematbhai Maadam:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the pace of construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Road Under Bridges (RUBs) has increased during the last ten years;
 (b) if so, the details thereof and whether the construction of these ROBs and RUBs significantly enhanced safety and mobility; and
 (c) the details of the total number of ROBs and RUBs for which target for construction has been set in the country and the details of amount sanctioned and spent thereon?

Digital India Mission in Tamil Nadu

307. Shri Tharaniventhan M S:
 Dr. Kalanidhi Veeraswamy:
 Shri Malaiyarasan D:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the achievements of the Digital India Mission since its launch in 2015 along with the number of citizens benefitted from its services within Tamil Nadu, district-wise particularly Arani and Kallakurichi Constituency;
 (b) the current status of the Digital India infrastructure and the key initiatives launched thereunder including internet connectivity, digital literacy programs and e-governance services in rural and remote areas;
 (c) the steps taken/being taken to address the challenges of digital divide, especially in terms of providing affordable internet access and promoting digital literacy in rural and underserved regions;
 (d) whether the Government has conducted any assessments on the effectiveness and impact of the Digital India Mission and if so, the details thereof;
 (e) the funds allocated to the Digital India Mission so far including current financial year within Tamil Nadu along with its as on date utilization for its various components; and
 (f) whether the Government has any plans to expand or enhance the scope of the mission in the coming years and if so, the details thereof?

Solar Enrgy Policy

†308. Shri Damodar Agrawal:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and the salient features of solar energy policy of the Government;
- (b) the implementation status of the said policy in State of Rajasthan, district-wise particularly in Bhilwara Parliamentary Constituency;
- (c) the details of the ongoing schemes to promote the use of solar energy at domestic level;
- (d) whether the Government extends financial assistance for setting up small rooftop solar systems for domestic use in the State of Rajasthan; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, district-wise including Bhilwara Parliamentary Constituency?

Allocation of Funds for Development of North Eastern Region

†309. Smt. Geniben Nagaji Thakor:

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps being taken by the Government for the development of North Eastern Region; and
- (b) the funds allocated in this regard during the last five years?

Nuclear Power Production Capacity

310. Adv. Adoor Prakash:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the country's total nuclear power production capacity as of November 2024, including the total installed capacity;
- (b) the manner in which the Government plans to overcome the challenges encountered in the construction and commissioning of new nuclear reactors, especially like land acquisition;
- (c) the details of measures taken by the Government to address safety concerns associated with the expansion of nuclear power plants in the country; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to promote indigenous technology development in the nuclear sector?

Upgradation of Diphu Railway Station

311. Shri Raja Ram Singh:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has initiated any plan for upgradation of Diphu Railway Station located at Diphu in the District Headquarter under the Administrative jurisdiction of Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council to state of the Art facilities;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any step for providing facilities of 24 x 7 Online Railway Ticket Booking at Diphu Railway Station, if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons

therefor;

(c) whether the Government has receive the demands of the people at Diphu requesting that the train, Rajdhani be stopped at Diphu Railway Station at least for two minutes; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Schemes Implemented in Science and Technology

†312. Shri Gyaneshwar Patil:
Shri Ravindra Dattaram Waikar:
Smt. Delkar Kalaben Mohanbhai:
Shri Bhumare Sandipanrao Asaram:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes being implemented in the field of science and technology across various parts of the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra including Sambhaji Nagar (Aurangabad) and Dadra and Nagar Haveli;

(b) the number of persons particularly women who got benefitted from the said schemes and got assistance in setting up their own business in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Dadra and Nagar Haveli during the last two years;

(c) the State-wise and district-wise details thereof;

(d) the affirmative actions taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to implement the said schemes smoothly and ensure that benefits of the scheme reach people across the rural areas of the country; and

(e) the district-wise details of the steps taken by the Government so far in this regard particularly in the Sambhaji Nagar (Aurangabad) district?

Removal of Member from Rajasthan Public Service Commission

†313. Dr. Manna Lal Rawat:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the constitutional right to remove members of the Rajasthan Public Service Commission lies with the Union Government and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has received any proposal for removal of any members in Rajasthan Public Service Commission recruitment scam; and

(c) if so, the details of the case including disqualification?

Food Insecurity

314. Shri K Sudhakaran:
Shri Anto Antony:
Shri Tanuj Punia:
Dr. M P Abdussamad Samadani:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of individuals experiencing food insecurity in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the reasons for which the Government is failing to ensure equitable distribution of foodgrains, particularly in remote and underserved regions and the measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to improve the quality and nutritional value of foodgrains provided through the Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (d) whether the Government monitors the effectiveness of food security programmes across the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Abrupt Stoppage of Ernakulam-Bengaluru Vande Bharat Train

315. Adv Dean Kuriakose:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has stopped Ernakulam–Bengaluru Vande Bharat recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there was any specific reason for the abrupt stoppage of the train;
- (d) whether the Government plans to re-instate the Ernakulam–Bengaluru Vande Bharat at the earliest; and
- (e) whether any proposal is under consideration for sanctioning new Vande Bharat Trains to the State of Kerala in the current financial year, if so, the details thereof?

Mine Blocks Auctioned to Private and Public Companies

†316. Shri Shyamkumar Daulat Barve:

Will the Minister of MINES

खान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of mine blocks auctioned in the country especially in Maharashtra since 2015 till date as a result of mining reforms implemented by the Government;
- (b) the details of mine blocks allotted to private and public companies since 2015 till date, State and company-wise;
- (c) the number of mines that are operational after the mining reforms along with the names of investigation agencies notified for private investigation in the country, State-wise especially in Maharashtra; and
- (d) the details of increase or loss of revenue in the State where mines were auctioned to private companies, State/mine-wise?

Patratu Next Generation Freight Maintenance Yard

317. Shri Dulu Mahato:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has approved the establishment of the Patratu Next Generation Freight Maintenance Yard and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the current status and estimated cost of the said project;
- (c) the key features and technological advancements planned for the said project;
- (d) whether the new freight maintenance yard proposes to enhance freight operations and capacity in the region, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any new infrastructure, equipment or facilities are planned as part of the project and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the project has not been approved or initiated, and if so, the reasons for delay or non-initiation in this regard?

Status of BSNL Towers

318. Shri B Y Raghavendra:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of BSNL towers sanctioned for the Shimoga district in Karnataka, which are installed and currently functional;
- (b) the total number of sanctioned towers vis-a-vis those remain incomplete and the projected timeline for their completion;
- (c) the details regarding different stages of incomplete towers: and
- (d) the specific measures that are being undertaken to expedite the installation of the remaining towers?

Water Vending Machines (WVMs) in Railway Stations

319. Shri Anup Sanjay Dhotre:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints for inadequate supply of drinking water at the Railway Stations across the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise along with the action taken thereon;
- (c) the number of Water Vending Machines (WVMs) installed at Railway Stations to provide potable water at affordable cost across the country, the estimated cost of installation of such WVMs, zone-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has also received complaints of contaminated potable water supplied at Railway Stations across the country during the said period;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise and the reasons therefor along with the action taken thereon; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide adequate safe drinking water at affordable rates to passengers at the Railway Stations in the country?

BharatNet Project

320. Shri Anto Antony:
Shri Benny Behanan:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Gram Panchayats connected under the BharatNet project, State-wise and Year-wise;

(b) the reasons for failing to achieve the target of connecting all 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats;

(c) the challenges faced in expanding telecommunications infrastructure in rural and remote areas, particularly in the north eastern States; and

(d) the steps undertaken by the Government to improve the quality of internet services in rural regions and to bridge the urban-rural divide?

K. Rail Project in Kerala

321. Shri Hibi Eden:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is actively considering the feasibility of the K Rail project in Kerala, as indicated by the repeated directives to the Southern Railway to engage with the KRDC, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has assessed the techno-economic feasibility and availability of resources for the said Project, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railway Board has directed the Southern Railway to conduct discussions with the KRDCL in order to advance the implementation of the said project, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the communications from the Railway Board to the Southern Railway signify that the Government has not completely ruled out the proposal for the said project in Kerala; and

(e) if so, the details of the factors being considered in the decision-making process for sanctioning the project and if not, the reasons therefor?

5G Technology Services

322. Shri Y S Avinash Reddy:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether 5G technology has been launched in all the districts of the country including that of the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the advantages arising out of 5G technology services;

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure the same; and

(d) the total area covered under this project in the State of Andhra Pradesh?

District Mineral Foundation Trust Fund

†323. Shri Rajkumar Roat:

Will the Minister of MINES

खान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory to take permission from Gram Sabha for establishing mining companies in scheduled areas under the PESA Act;

(b) whether the local tribal individuals are given priority while establishing mining companies in scheduled areas under the PESA Act and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of mines being operated in Dungarpur-Banswada at present and the amount deposited into District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT) fund by these mines since 2015 till date; and

(d) the details of work done in Dungarpur-Banswada utilizing DMFT fund during the said duration, district-wise?

PM New 15-Point Programme for Welfare of Minorities

324. Shri Tanuj Punia:

Dr. M P Abdussamad Samadani:

Shri Benny Behanan:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15-Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities, including the specific schemes operational under this programme and the number of beneficiaries reached during the current financial year;

(b) the details of challenges being faced for the proper implementation of minority welfare schemes, particularly in areas such as education, employment and skill development;

(c) the details of outlay and expenditure incurred by the Government during the last five years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure transparency and accountability in the allocation and utilisation of funds designated for minority welfare programmes?

Increase MPLAD Fund

325. Dr. M P Abdussamad Samadani:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plans/proposal to increase the funds allocated under the MPLAD scheme and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal/plan to increase the funds allocated per MP since it was last revised ten years ago;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has any plan to allocate at least Rs. 3 crores per assembly

constituency that falls inside a parliamentary constituency and if so, the details thereof; and
(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Digitalisation of MPLADS e-Sakshi Portal

326. Shri M K Raghavan:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has noticed any issues with the digitalisation of MPLADS e-Sakshi portal and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has noticed denial of payment in some projects during the last financial year, where administrative sanction were accorded based on physical letters by MPs, and which could not be entered in said portal;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the remedial measures taken by the Government;

(d) whether the Government has taken any steps to carry over the balance amount of 17th Lok Sabha term to 18th Lok Sabha and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has any plan to make said Portal more user friendly and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether the Government has any plan to implement Ex-MP module to all sitting MPs, who served in the last Lok Sabha tenure and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Coal Exchange Platform

327. Shri Gaurav Gogoi:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the development of coal exchange platform and the time by which it is expected to be fully operational;

(b) the measures being taken to encourage participation from a diverse range of stakeholders including coal producers, consumers and traders;

(c) the measures being taken to ensure fair and transparent price discovery of coal for benefiting both producers and consumers; and

(d) the details of the regulatory framework that would govern the operations of the coal exchange platform and protect the interests of all participants?

Global Leadership of India in Climate Science

328. Shri Arun Bharti:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES

पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Mission Mausam initiatives, its objectives and scope;

(b) whether Mission Mausam will strengthen India's ability to predict extreme weather events and mitigate their impact on agriculture, disaster management and public safety particularly in

Bihar, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this initiative is expected to contribute to India's global leadership in climate science and forecasting and if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the timeline set for the completion of the said mission and the progress being monitored to ensure timely and successful implementation of the said Mission?

E-auction for Private FM Channels

329. Shri V K Sreekandan:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has approved a proposal for e-auctions to set up 730 private FM channels in 234 major cities across the country, including Palakkad, with an estimated reserve price of Rs. 784.87 crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also true that the Government has approved to charge FM channel's annual license fee at 4 percent of the gross revenue and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the move would fulfil the unmet demand for FM radio in the places that are not yet covered and if so, the details thereof?

Small Modular Reactors

330. Dr. T Sumathy *Alias* Thamizhachi Thangapandian:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is collaborating with the private sector to study and test Small Modular Reactors (SMRs);

(b) if so, the details thereof, including companies involved and expected timelines;

(c) whether the Government is taking steps to address the high capital costs, refuelling needs and proliferation risks of SMRs and ensure their commercial viability and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of regulatory measures put in place to prevent the diversion of radioactive material from SMRs; and

(e) whether the Government has plans for the future scaling of SMR technology in Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof?

Kovvada Nuclear Power Plant

331. Shri Sribharat Mathukumilli:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the Kovvada Nuclear Power Plant in Andhra Pradesh including recent milestones achieved in the project;

(b) the total land acquired for the Kovvada Nuclear Power Plant and the timeline for the completion of land acquisition along with the amount of land mutated and transferred to NPCIL;

(c) the number of Project Displaced Families (PDFs) identified and the steps taken for their rehabilitation under the R&R package;

(d) the component-wise details of the R&R package including compensation, housing, and livelihood support along with their current status and expected completion timeline for each component of the package; and

(e) the funds allocated and utilized for the R&R package till date along with the details of remaining budgetary needs?

New Shatabdi Train from Delhi to Pathankot via Gurdaspur

†332. Shri Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a new Shatabdi train from Delhi to Pathankot via Gurdaspur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

BSNL Subscribers

333. Km. Sudha R:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of subscribers to BSNL's Landline, Mobile Service and WiFi since 2014, State-wise;

(b) the total number of BSNL's communication towers and the number leased out or rented out to private rival service providers in each State and the revenue earned therefrom;

(c) the reasons for the delay in rolling out BSNL's 4G and 5G services; and

(d) the details of spectrum auction to and revenue earned from the service providers since 2019, Company/Firm-wise?

Wind Power Potential in Andhra Pradesh

334. Shri Balashowry Vallabhaneni:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that Andhra Pradesh has wind power potential of 75 GW at 120 meters and 124 GW at 150 meters above the ground level;

(b) if so, the extent to which the Union Government has been able to generate wind power in coordination with State Government and other private agencies during each of the last five years and the current year;

(c) whether the Union Government has any scheme/programme to assist the wind power developers or State Government with financial support or otherwise;

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

(e) whether the Ministry proposes to formulate some programme or scheme in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

Distribution of Foodgrains under PDS

335. Dr. Kalanidhi Veeraswamy:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of Public Distribution System (PDS) in India, including the number of beneficiaries and total quantity of foodgrains distributed through system annually within Tamil Nadu;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to address challenges in PDS, particularly in terms of ensuring timely and adequate food distribution to beneficiaries, especially in remote and underserved areas;

(c) the measures being implemented to reduce leakages, corruption and diversion of foodgrains in the PDS and the extent to which these have been effective so far;

(d) whether the Government has identified and addressed instances of exclusion or non-coverage of eligible families from PDS, particularly in rural and economically backward areas and if so, the number of such cases which have been rectified;

(e) the manner in which the Government is ensuring quality of foodgrains provided through the PDS; and

(f) whether there are any quality control measures in place to prevent substandard grains from being distributed and if so, the details thereof?

Deployment of 'Kavach' System in Railways

336. Shri Abhishek Banerjee:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total amount of funds allocated for installation and deployment of 'Kavach' system or Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) in the Railways budget for the financial years 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25;

(b) the details of the amount of funds utilised till date out of the allocated budget in States like West Bengal and Odisha during the financial years 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 along with the particulars of the same;

(c) the details of the railway routes and other modalities of the 'Kavach' system which have been sanctioned to be installed for the financial years 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25; and

(d) the details of the percentage of the routes and other modalities of the 'Kavach' system, successfully installed and deployed across railway routes in the country till date?

Target of Renewable Energy

337. Shri Selvaganapathi T.M.:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has set a target of achieving 500 GW of renewable energy by the year 2030 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Government is in talks with financial institutions, public and private sector banks to commit a portion of their loans to renewable energy projects and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Reserve Bank of India had already included bank loans up to a limit of Rs. 30 crore to borrowers for purposes such as solar-based power generators, biomass based power generators, windmills, micro-hydel plants and for renewable energy-based public utilities under priority sector lending classification; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Renewable Energy Production under Make in India

338. Shri Raju Bista:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which Make in India initiative has contributed to India's growth as a global leader in renewable energy production;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to boost domestic production of solar PV modules and other renewable energy equipment;

(c) the manner in which financial incentives like the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme helped scale up solar PV module manufacturing;

(d) the details of significance of the Government's solar PLI scheme in creating job opportunities and attracting investment; and

(e) the manner in which India's rapid growth in solar PV manufacturing capacity position the country to meet both domestic and global energy needs?

New Technologies in Coal Mining Operations

†339. Dr. Bachhav Shobha Dinesh:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has adopted new technologies in mining operations for modernisation of the coal sectors in Maharashtra;

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

(c) the details of the funds invested in research and development of coal sectors in Maharashtra during the last three years;

(d) the details of the cooperation with the State and the local Governments; and

(e) the details of tentative areas for future collaboration with stakeholders for regional development along with the steps taken in this regard?

Fresh Recruitment in Railway PSUs

340. Shri Putta Mahesh Kumar:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has contemplated a new recruitment policy to recruit fresh candidates on time bound basis and speedy recruitment process to fill the vacancies in different Railway PSUs;

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

(c) total number of employees rejoined in each railway PSU after their retirement age 60 years and above 65 years, in the last 5 years;

(d) details of non-gazetted and gazetted vacancies, no. of employees resigned in different railway PSUs;

(e) the details of the recruitments done in railway PSUs for various posts during the last five years;

(f) whether there are difficulties in recruiting suitable fresh candidates with required skills for different positions in railway PSUs, if so, the details thereof; and

(g) whether the re-engagement of retired personnel is more cost effective than fresh recruitment, if so, the details thereof?

National Centre of Excellence

341. Shri Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering Andhra Pradesh, with its strong history in making and recent global recognition through Telugu cinema, as a potential location for an National Centre of Excellence (NCoE);

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

(c) whether the Government is considering the establishment of additional NCoE for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics, and Extended Reality (AVGC-XR) in other States; and

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

Rules to make use of Renewable Energy Sources

342. Smt. Malvika Devi:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning or proposes to introduce certain rules to make sure that all the companies that are currently using coal would use 10-20 percent of renewable sources of energy for power generation and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details and the number of new deposits of coal with their locations likely to be auctioned?

Food Inflation

343. Adv K. Francis George:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of reducing food stocks on inflation, specifically food inflation and if so, the findings of this assessment;

(b) the details of measures the Government has taken to address the rise in food prices, particularly for essential items such as vegetables and edible oils, given the recent spike in Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation to a 14-month high of 5.81%;

(c) whether the Government is aware of inflationary expectations created by stock reductions, which could lead to speculative buying and further price escalation;

(d) if so, the steps taken to manage speculative activities that affect food prices and to ensure the availability of government-held stocks in times of inflation; and

(e) whether there are any plans to reconsider recent policy decisions, such as the increased import taxes on edible oils to mitigate inflationary pressure and if so, the details thereof?

Women's Safety in Rails

344. Ms. S Jothimani:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to improve the women's safety in rails;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has met its target to raise the representation of women in Railway Protection Force (RPF) to 10% of the total sanctioned strength, as stated in its 12th Report on Safety and Security in Railways;

(d) if not, the estimated timeframe for its achievement; and

(e) the number of stations at which CCTV cameras have been installed under the Nirbhaya fund and the details thereof?

Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarships

345. Shri Khalilur Rahaman:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of budget allocation, utilization of funds for pre-matric and post-matric scholarships for minority communities during the last five years, year and State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said scholarships were instituted after the Sachar Committee Report found that children from the Muslim community were among the most educationally backward in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has assessed the educational status, achievement and needs among minority communities and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Government has discontinued pre-matric scholarships to students of minority communities from class one to eight from 2023-24 and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether the Government is taking any steps to improve educational access among minority communities and if so, the details thereof?

Solar Pumps Installed under PM-KUSUM

346. Shri Mani A:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of solar pumps installed under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) scheme till date, State-wise;

(b) the target set for solar pump installations under PM-KUSUM along with the percentage of this target which has been achieved so far;

(c) the allocation of funds for solar pump installations under PM-KUSUM, State-wise and the percentage of funds utilized in each State;

(d) whether there any revision in subsidy amount recently the subsidy structure for farmers installing solar pumps under PM-KUSUM and if so, the details thereof;

(e) the criteria being used to select beneficiaries for solar pump installations under the PM-KUSUM scheme and the manner in which the Ministry ensure that small and marginal farmers are prioritized; and

(f) whether there are any plans to expand PM-KUSUM to include additional beneficiaries or to increase the capacity of solar pump installations and if so, the details thereof along with the timeline in this regard?

Over Bridge at Kakwan Road on Kanpur-Farrukhabad Railway Line

†347. Shri Ashok Kumar Rawat:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received by the Government for construction for an over bridge on long pending public demand at railway crossing number-64 on Kakwan Road under Bilhaur Tehsil on Kanpur-Farrukhabad railway line;

(b) if so, whether any survey/examination has been conducted in this regard by the concerned technical experts for construction of the over bridge;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time limit fixed for the start and completion of this work and the details thereof?

Rail Projects in South Central Railway Region

348. Shri Arvind Dharmapuri:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new rail projects approved for the South Central Railway Zone during the last five years, State/UT-wise specifically in Nizamabad;

(b) the total budget allocated and funds utilised for the aforementioned projects; and

(c) whether the Government has set out a deadline by which these projects are targeted to be completed, if so, the details thereof?

Spike in Edible Oil Prices

349. Shri Ramasahayam Raghuram Reddy:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recognized the factors that have led to the spike in edible oil prices recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of measures taken by the Government to ease the burden on small-scale food businesses as household consumers?

Heavy Debts on BSNL

†350. Shri Satpal Brahamchari:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), a very important company of the country is heavily in debt while private companies are making profits and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to strengthen BSNL and make it debt-free;

(c) if so, the details of the said scheme and time likely to be taken to make BSNL free from debt; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Data of various Civil Works in Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu

†351. Shri Patel Umeshbhai Babubhai:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has data related to number of various civil works worth of rupees two crore and more done through PWD, OpenID Connect (OIDC), District Panchayat and local Government bodies during the period 01.04.2016 to 31.05.2024 in Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu in Daman and Diu Parliamentary Constituencies;

(b) the details thereof including the name of work, estimated cost, tender work, name of bidders, amount of work, final bill amount, date of initiation and completion of work in tabular form;

(c) whether private agency has been outsourced for operation and management of these civil works;

(d) if so, the details of all the private agencies hired for the operation and management of civil infrastructural work;

(e) the details of contract made with the private agencies since 01.04.2016 to date;

(f) whether permission has been obtained from town country planning department, pollution control committee, Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ), forest department local autonomous Government bodies, ASI and National Monuments Authority;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) the copies of approval/permission/sanction/NOC issued from these departments; and

(i) the details of required permission applicable for all these civil works since 01.04.2016 to date?

Fall of Coal Production

352. Shri Shrirang Appa Chandu Barne:
Shri Arvind Ganpat Sawant:
Smt. Bharti Pardhi:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal production fell short of its production target for the fiscal 2023-2024;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to reduce the import of the dry fuel to Zero by 2026;

(d) if so, the details and the facts thereof and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to achieve the target;

(e) whether contractual workers play a significant role in Coal India's output; and

(f) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the contract workers/labourers?

Schemes to Promote Solar Energy

353. Shri Joyanta Basumatary:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has introduced any schemes to promote solar energy in the North East and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the number of schools provided with solar energy systems in the North East

region, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government is considering any financial incentives to increase uptake of solar energy systems of schools in the North East and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government proposes to extend solar panel subsidy for residential installations to include schools and if so, the details thereof?

Industrial Development in North Eastern Region

354. Shri Shafi Parambil:

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new industrial units established/opened in North Eastern Region since 2015, State-wise;

(b) the list of industrial units closed down in each State in the North Eastern Region since 2015;

(c) whether there has been industrial development in the North Eastern Region since 2015;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Conservation and Development of Mines

†355. Shri Chandra Prakash Choudhary:

Will the Minister of MINES

खान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the role of the Government in mines development and particularly in awarding them on lease across the country and providing exemption to the States related to minerals;

(b) whether Indian Bureau of Mines and MINES & MINERALS (Development and Regulation) Act regulate the work of conservation and development of the mines;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details and the numbers of existing mines in Jharkhand, district and mine-wise; and

(e) the details of welfare work for the labourers working in the said mines and development work for the surrounding areas undertaken under CSR head during the last five years?

Mission Karmayogi

356. Shri Dineshbhai Makwana:

Shri Suresh Kumar Kashyap:

Shri Mukeshkumar Chandrakaant Dalal:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Mission Karmayogi and the paradigm shift from “rule to role” for civil servants, State-wise including Himachal Pradesh particularly in Shimla;

(b) whether Mission Karmayogi has contributed to development of new culture in governance;

and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Evacuation Plans for KKNPP

357. Shri Robert Bruce C:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether Evacuation Plans are put in place for the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNPP) Project, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the people living in and around KKNPP are properly sensitised about the Evacuation plans and the process to be followed in case of an unfortunate nuclear accident/incident and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether iodine tablets are sufficiently stocked in KKNPP and Medical Centres in and around KKNPP, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

BharatNet Scheme in Andhra Pradesh

358. Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu Reddy:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Gram Panchayats recognised to be service-ready till now across the country including Andhra Pradesh, State and district-wise, especially in Prakasam District;

(b) the total funds allocated and utilised in Andhra Pradesh for the purposes of making Gram Panchayat's service ready during the last five years, district-wise especially in Prakasam District;

(c) the total number of beneficiaries of the BharatNet Scheme during the last five years across the country, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh, district-wise especially in Prakasam District;

(d) whether the Government has put forward any proposed timeline to cover all Gram Panchayats in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government has undertaken any promotional activities/campaigns for raising awareness regarding BharatNet, if so, the details thereof especially in Andhra Pradesh?

Action against the Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL)

359. Shri Sudama Prasad:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) according to the Hindustan Times report dated 31st March, 2023, approximately 1,000 houses have been damaged across four districts of Uttarakhand due to the construction of Rishikesh-Karnaprayag railway line project, if so, the details of action that have been taken/are being taken by the Government against the Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) for the damage caused;

(b) whether the complaints have been received by the Government in this regard and if so, the

action taken report on the complaints;

(c) whether the Government has conducted an EIA prior to the commencement of the Rishikesh-Karnaprayag project to evaluate potential risks, if so, the details of EIA reports of the project; and

(d) whether the Government is planning to compensate the families whose homes have been damaged due to the said project and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Challenges in data collection from higher income sections of Society

360. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is facing challenges in gathering data from higher-income sections of society, particularly those living in gated societies of urban areas;

(b) if so, the details of the specific data collection exercises or surveys which are getting affected by this issue;

(c) the extent to which these challenges impact the representativeness and accuracy of national data sets;

(d) the measures being taken by the Government to ensure that all sections of society, including higher-income groups, are adequately covered in data collection exercises; and

(e) whether the Government is considering any legislative measures to ensure ease and accuracy of the data collection process, if so, the details thereof?

Sevoke-Rangpo Railway Project

361. Dr. Indra Hang Subba:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the expected date of completion of Sevoke-Rangpo railway project;

(b) whether the Government has received or prepared any proposal for railway line project to connect the capital town Gangtok and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any plans to introduce Vande Bharat train after the completion of the project connecting Sevoke-Rangpo and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the total cost incurred on this project till date and the total projected cost till its completion?

Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan

362. Shri Vishaldada Prakashbapu Patil:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds sanctioned, allocated and spent on Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) for financial years 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24;

(b) the reasons for reduced and/or discontinued allocation to PMGDISHA despite the uptick in digitalisation due to several Central/ State schemes during pandemic;

(c) the measures taken and standards fixed to ensure the quality of training under PMGDISHA;

(d) whether any impact evaluations have been conducted on the said abhiyan, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details on a village-wise distribution of the number of PMGDISHA centres currently operational all over the country;

(f) the details of classes held since the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and whether there are any protocols in place to resume the regular training at these centres; and

(g) the details of the employment opportunities guaranteed to the certified beneficiaries of this abhiyan?

Hike in Tariff Plans by Private Telecom Service Providers

†363. Shri Hanuman Beniwal:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private telecom service providers operating in the country like Jio, Vodafone, Airtel etc. have increased their tariff upto 15 percent during the year, 2024;

(b) if so, the basis of increasing the tariffs unilaterally despite the Government monitoring as well as regulation being in place;

(c) the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government intends to direct these companies to roll back their increase in tariffs keeping in view the massive burden of 35 thousand crore rupees on the pocket of common man on this count; and

(e) if so, the time by which such a direction is likely to be issued to these companies and if not, the reasons therefor?

Critical Minerals

364. Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

Will the Minister of MINES

खान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any recent study/survey on the availability of critical minerals in the country by during the last five

years; if so, the details regarding the identified critical minerals and their estimated quantities across the country, State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the details regarding the presently running mines and the projects proposed by the Government during the last five years, State- wise especially in Andhra Pradesh, Nellore district;

(d) whether the Government is planning to classify any minor minerals as major minerals. and if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details regarding the total funds allocated and utilised for the exploration, extraction and processing of critical minerals in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years; and

(f) the details of steps undertaken by the Government to reduce dependency on foreign imports of critical minerals and their success in improving domestic supply of critical minerals?

Employment Opportunities in Neyveli Lignite Corporation

365. Dr. M K Vishnu Prasad:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of employment generation opportunities created and placements done in Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) of India in various departments during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of such placements in management and labour category separately;

(c) the number of placements done under contract, campus placements, lateral entry categories and any other categories; and

(d) the details of people who have given lands for establishment or expansion of NLC and have been placed in NLC along with the categories in which they have been placed?

Public Service Broadcasting

366. Dr. Shivaji Bandappa Kalge:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government recognizes the importance of public service broadcasting for disaster preparedness, corruption control, disease awareness, etc;

(b) if so, the details of measures taken to enhance the functioning of public service broadcasting in these areas;

(c) the details of measures initiated by the Government during 2022-24 to support and improve the functioning of Prasar Bharti;

(d) whether the Government is planning to bring more public service broadcasters into the industry; and

(e) if so, the details of funding support or incentives given for establishing more public service broadcasters during 2023-24 and if not, the reasons therefor?

Reinstatement of the Concession Policy for Senior Citizens on Train Fares

367. Shri Rajmohan Unnithan:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plans to reinstate the concession policy for senior citizens on train fares in Indian Railways;

(b) if so, the details of revised policy which is expected to be implemented;

(c) whether the Government is considering alternative measures/discounts to assist elderly passengers on Indian Railways, if so, the details thereof;

- (d) the total estimated amount saved by the Government annually from the suspension of concession policy for senior citizens; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Accidents in Railway Crossings in Maharashtra

368. Dr. Kalyan Vaijinathrao Kale:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any data about the mishappening or accident in railway crossing;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during last three years, especially for Maharashtra;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a large number of railway crossings is still working without railway barrier or so called unmanned railway crossings ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State and district-wise;
- (e) whether the Government has any data about the constructed/under construction and proposed over bridges in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State and district-wise?

Digital Bharat Nidhi

369. Dr. Amar Singh:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government subscribes to the view that the Digital Bharat Nidhi can be used for funding Research and Development (R&D) and pilot projects instead of just supporting the establishment of telecom services in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details of the initiatives proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Posts Lying Vacant Zone/Division-wise

370. Shri Balwant Baswant Wankhade:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the budgetary allocation for safety related activities and utilisation thereof during each of the last five years and the current year;
- (b) the reasons for mismatch between allocation and utilisation during the said period;
- (c) the number of posts of various categories including safety related posts lying vacant, Zone/Division-wise;
- (d) whether these vacant posts especially safety related have severely affected operational

performance of the Railways and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Railways to fill up all the vacant posts and also to improve its safety related performance?

Post Offices Operating from Rented Premises

371. Shri Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of post offices operating from rented premises since last ten years and the expenses spent on their operations, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the cases where post offices are rented despite availability of departmental land, particularly in Telangana; and

(c) if so, whether the Government intends to construct facilities on such lands, if so, the timeline for their completion?

Murtizapur to Darwaha Narrow Gauge

†372. Shri Sanjay Uttamrao Deshmukh:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received for gauge conversion of the Murtizapur from Darwaha narrow gauge rail line into broad gauge line in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

News Report of Tamil Daily "Dinakaran"

373. Shri T R Baalu:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of news report of Tamil daily "Dinakaran", dated 7th July 2024 regarding inordinate delays in settling accident claims of public and employees by the Railways Claims Tribunal, Chennai;

(b) if so, the details of the actions taken to settle quickly all the pending claims which run into thousands of numbers;

(c) whether the Government ensures the disposal of all pending compensation claims within the stipulated timeframe all over the country, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has increased the amount of compensation to Rs. 25 lakhs for its employees who lost their lives in accidents and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Electricity Generation from Clean Energy Sources

†374. Shri Ujjwal Raman Singh:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of electricity generation from total installed capacity which is likely to be based on clean sources of energy by 2030;

(b) whether the Government has set any target for enhancing installed capacity of renewable energy source by 2024-25 which includes to source 100 GW from solar energy, 60 GW from wind energy, 10 GW from bio-power and 6 GW from Small hydro projects;

(c) whether India would be the largest clean energy producers by achieving this ambitious target; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Bastar Division of Chhattisgarh

†375. Shri Mahesh Kashyap:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway tracks laid and trains started in the country particularly in the Bastar Division of Chhattisgarh from 2014 till date, year-wise;

(b) the number of new rail projects proposed in the country particularly for the Bastar Division of Chhattisgarh from 2014 till date; and

(c) the number and details of the sanctioned projects out of the total projects and the budget allocated in this regard?

Recycling of Important Minerals

†376. Shri Darshan Singh Choudhary:

Will the Minister of MINES

खान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to monitor the acquisition of important mineral resources;

(b) the detail of schemes formulated for domestic production and recycling of important minerals; and

(c) whether the Government proposes to launch a Critical Minerals Mission and if so, the details thereof?

Establishment of Mobile Tower

377. Shri Naba Charan Majhi:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plans to establish mobile towers on the Rairangpur-Bisoi Gathi road to address network connectivity issues in the area;

(b) if so, the proposed timelines and steps undertaken to ensure the installation of this mobile Tower;

(c) the measures being considered to ensure that the improved connectivity will enhance communication facilities for residents, businesses and emergency service in the region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Closed Coal Mines in Madhya Pradesh

†378. Shri Anil Firojiya:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total number of operational and closed coal mines in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the details of quantum of coal being produced from these mines;

(c) whether the Government has taken any special measures to check the environmental impact; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to prevent pollution and for formulation of rehabilitation plans?

High Speed Train at Darbhanga Station

†379. Shri Gopal Jee Thakur:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether high speed train facility to bigger cities is not available at Darbhanga station despite being the highest revenue generating station in Samastipur Railway Division, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes to run Vande Bharat trains from Darbhanga to Delhi via Sitamarhi and Ayodhyadham and from Darbhanga to Kolkata which will facilitate the people in commuting and also save the time; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Demand for Train stoppage at Viswanath Chariali Railway Station, Assam

380. Shri Ranjit Dutta:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has considered for a stoppage of the New Delhi to Dibrugarh Rajdhani Express and Anand Vihar Trm. to Naharlagun, Arunachal Express at Viswanath Chariali Railway Station in Biswanath Chariali town, Assam;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, despite the pressing demand by the passengers in this region?

National Supercomputing Mission

381. Shri Vamsi Krishna Gaddam:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the current total computing capacity achieved under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) including contributions from recent installations like PARAM Rudra in Delhi, Pune and Kolkata;

(b) the details of supercomputer installations under NSM, State and department-wise;

(c) whether the Government is on track to meet NSM objectives by the 2024 deadline despite previous extensions and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the status of India's global standing in supercomputing in comparison with all other countries following recent installations; and

(e) the details of international collaborations, if any, aimed at advancing India's supercomputing capabilities?

Mining Lease Contract

†382. Shri Ganesh Singh:

Will the Minister of MINES

खान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a provision to auction mineral bearing areas on mining lease;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a provision to execute contract for the auctioned lease mining area;

(c) whether it is a fact that a lot of time is taken for obtaining environmental no-objection certificate under environmental rules framed for the purpose which delay execution of mining lease contract and as such leads to revenue loss to the State Government;

(d) whether any action is being taken to make the above process easy and quick; and

(e) if so, the details of action being taken in this above regard?

Prices of Essential Food Items

†383. Shri Ram Prasad Chaudhary:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of essential food items have increased during the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof, food items-wise and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the role of hoarders/black marketers in the rise in prices of essential food items during the said period has come to the notice of the Government and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government to stabilize/reduce the prices of essential food items to protect the interest of common man?

Employment Outsourcing in Mahanadi Coalfields Limited

384. Shri Pradeep Purohit:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether most excavation, safety, OB dumping and transportation work of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) outsourced or assigned to private companies on temporary contracts. Is there a policy in place to ensure that local unemployed youth can secure jobs with these companies according to their qualifications and experience during these contract periods;

(b) if so, whether there is any policy in place to ensure that local unemployed youth can secure jobs with these companies according to their qualifications and experiences during these contract periods and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry is aware that when a contract ends, a new company often takes over and hires new workers for the same roles, leading to significant dissatisfaction among local unemployed youth;

(d) if so, whether there is any existing policy or law to protect the interests of these local workers who are engaged in contracted or outsourced work and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Ministry is considering introducing legislation to safeguard the interests of local workers involved in contracted or outsourced projects within MCL in case no such policy or law exists?

Demand for a Railway Station in Nalanda

†385. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that Rahui Road in Nalanda under East Central Railway, Danapur Division, a very old railway station was functional as a full-fledged railway station;

(b) whether the Government is aware that the residents of the area have been demanding to give the status of a railway station to Rahui Road Halt for the last several years;

(c) whether land has been acquired from the farmers for this purpose;

(d) whether the Express trains are not stopping there due to non-grant of the status of the railway station to it and owing to which the residents of the area are facing much difficulties; and

(e) if so, the time by which Rahui Road Halt is likely to be given the status of a railway station and if not, there reasons therefor?

Software Technology Park in Bihar

†386. Shri Ajay Kumar Mandal:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any Software Technology Park(STP) has been set up at Bhagalpur in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the target fixed for STP, Bhagalpur; and
- (d) the current status regarding the percentage of the target completed?

Coal Demand for Tamil Nadu

387. Shri K Gopinath:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government is aware that as per Government's report on Integrated Coal Logistics Plan for efficient coal evacuation, the maximum coal demand of power sector in Tamil Nadu would rise to 65.7 million tonnes by 2030;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to support and facilitate the power sector in Tamil Nadu for adequate supply of coal for functional thermal units and for the upcoming thermal plants viz., Ennore SEZ Super Critical Thermal Power Project of 1,320 MW, North Chennai Thermal Power Station Stage III expansion of 800 MW and Udangudi Super Critical Thermal Power Project Stage 1-1,320 MW?

Policy to reduce Railway Accidents

†388. Shri Zia Ur Rehman:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any new policy to bring down the number of railway accidents in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of policies implemented in this regard;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by when said policies are likely to be implemented by the Government?

Laying of New Railway Line in Gujarat

†389. Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the works related to laying of new railway lines, doubling and electrification of existing railway lines and their gauge conversion across the country including Gujarat during the last three years and current year;
- (b) the project-wise details of the estimated cost and the funds allocated and spent;
- (c) whether the Railways has set any target for completion of the said projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakaram

390. Shri N K Premachandran:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government initiated action for sanctioning Cancer Care Service Centre at Neendakara Taluk Hospital Kollam under Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakaram (PMJVK), if so the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government of Kerala utilised the fund for implementing the project;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the total amount sanctioned so far and the amount spent till date and the balance amount with the State Government and the percentage of progress of the scheme;

(d) whether the Government proposes to give special consideration to Cancer Care Service Centre as the coastal area Kollam is a cancer prone area and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government give special consideration for the benefit of minority communities in the locality and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether the State Government implemented the project as per the revised norms and if so, the details thereof?

Vande Bharat Express Train for Lucknow-Delhi-Kolkata

†391. Shri Virendra Singh:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of district headquarters in the country which are connected to railway lines but no major trains are being operated from the said district headquarters;

(b) whether the Government proposes to run any train with good facilities like Vande Bharat Express train from Lucknow to Delhi and Kolkata via Chandauli (Majhwar) Station in district Chandauli in Uttar Pradesh which has been a district headquarters for about 27 years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Biometric Authentication under National Food Security Act

†392. Shri Vijay Baghel:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of primary ration card-holder families in Chhattisgarh under the National Food Security Act;

(b) the details of the system of biometric authentication for obtaining eligibility for rice as prescribed by the Union Government;

(c) whether there is a provision for the State Government to provide additional rice from the State pool to Chhattisgarh State in addition to the Central Government and Biometric authentication is also recorded for this purpose;

(d) whether there is a provision to have the twice biometric done at present for the beneficiary to receive rice from the pool of the Central Government and the State Government;

(e) whether a proposal from State Government of Chhattisgarh to have said biometric once is pending with central level; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Solar Energy Plants through Foreign Investment

†393. Smt. Dhanorkar Pratibha Suresh:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the solar energy plants are being established through foreign investment in the country;

(b) if so, the details of investment made by foreign companies in the field of solar energy in the country;

(c) whether the Government is taking any steps in lines of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) for the promotion of the production of solar energy in view of potential of solar energy available in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Lack of cleanliness of Bedding in Trains

394. Shri Kuldeep Indora:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is lack of cleanliness of bedding provided by the railways to its passengers;

(b) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to ensure passenger comfort and safety by providing clean bedding;

(c) whether woollen blankets are washed only once a month while the passengers are paying for bedding that meets the basic hygiene standards; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to replace heavy woollen blankets with the lighter and easy to maintain alternatives?

Expedition of Chikkaballapur-Sri Satya Sai Prashanti Nilayam Line

395. Dr. K Sudhakar:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken/being taken by the Government to expedite the Chikkaballapur-Sri Satya Sai Prashanti Nilayam (Puttaparthi) BG Line (103 KM) and if so, the

details thereof;

(b) whether the proposal regarding the above line has been placed before CCEA for approval and if so, complete details thereof;

(c) the present status of Chikkaballapur-Gauribidanur BG Line;

(d) the steps and measures taken/being taken by the Government to expedite the process of pending projects at Chikkaballapur Lok Sabha constituency;

(e) whether there has been a long delay in completion of survey works conducted by the Government for the said Constituency and if so, the steps taken to expedite the same; and

(f) new projects that have been sanctioned by the Government for constituency?

Status of National Rail Plan, 2030

396. Shri Benny Behanan:

Shri Tanuj Punia:

Adv. Adoor Prakash:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the coverage of Kavach Safety system in terms of length, along with the percentage of coverage in regards to the total rail network;

(b) current status of the National Rail Plan, 2030, including the progress made towards identifying new dedicated freight and high-speed rail corridors; and

(c) the number of reported rail accidents during the past five years and the reasons increasing number of rail accidents and the measures taken by the Government to address the situation?

Aspirational Districts

397. Shri G Kumar Naik:

Will the Minister of PLANNING

योजना मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Aspirational Districts identified in each State under the Aspirational Districts Programme;

(b) the details of total funds allocated, released and utilized by each State under the said programme till date;

(c) whether State-specific variations in fund allocation and release have occurred and if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the progress and performance of Karnataka's Aspirational Districts during the last five years, based on socio-economic and development indicators, District-wise;

(e) whether the Government has conducted any research or assessments on the program's implementation and its impact and if so, the findings thereof;

(f) whether the Government plans to revise or introduce new indicators for assessing and identifying Aspirational Districts and if so, the details thereof; and

(g) whether there is any plan to expand the number of Aspirational Districts and if so, the details thereof?

Programmes for Rural People in Forest Areas

†398. Shri Ashish Dubey:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has emphasized on broadcasting more programmes related to rural people living in the forest areas of the country to promote their culture during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the number of such programmes broadcasted by All India Radio, Jabalpur?

North East Infrastructure Development Scheme

399. Shri Biplab Kumar Deb:

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government is sanctioning many projects under the North East special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) for the North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the sanctioned projects with cost during the last three years, State and scheme-wise;

(c) whether the Government has implemented a monitoring mechanism for NESIDS projects for timely completion and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the eligibility criteria for each State for sanctioning projects under NESIDS or the manner in which these projects are sanctioned?

Upgradation/Beautification of Railway Stations in Rajasthan

†400. Smt. Sanjna Jatav:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the names and details of railway stations upgraded/beautified or being upgraded/beautified during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of quantum of funds allocated as well as spent, State-wise/division-wise for upgrading/beautifying railway stations so far;

(c) the quantum of funds spent on each station and the percentage of work completed so far, division-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken/to be taken by the Government to complete the pending works at stations in different States of the country, especially Rajasthan within the stipulated time period?

Unreserved Compartments in Trains

401. Dr. Dharamvira Gandhi:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of trains having unreserved compartments attached to a train on an average;
- (b) whether the Government has reduced the number of unreserved bogies attached to trains from the year 2014 onwards;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government has any plans to further discontinue the unreserved compartments?

New and Pending Rail Projects in the Country particularly in Bihar

†402. Shri Devesh Chandra Thakur:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of new and pending rail projects in the country including Bihar;
- (b) whether the progress of these projects is as per schedule and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to complete the said projects with in time limit?

Foreign Satellite Internet Services

403. Shri Konda Vishweshwar Reddy:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plans to launch or permit foreign satellite internet services, such as Starlink, to operate in India and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the regulatory framework established to govern such services, particularly regarding data security and compliance with Indian laws;
- (c) the steps taken to promote domestic satellite internet services to ensure affordable internet access, especially in remote and underserved areas; and
- (d) whether the Government has assessed the potential impact of foreign satellite internet providers on local telecom and internet service industries and if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of PM-SGMBY

404. Shri Janardan Singh Sigiwal:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is implementing Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana (PM-SGMBY);

- (b) if so, the details and salient features thereof;
- (c) the present status of the said yojana;
- (d) whether the Government is providing financial and technical support for the implementation of schemes to promote New and Renewable Energy (N&RE) including solar, wind energy and other schemes in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the effective measures taken by the Government to harness the huge potential of new and renewable sources and solar energy in Government buildings, hospitals, universities and colleges in the country?

Constitutional Status for National Commission for Minorities

405. Dr. D Ravi Kumar:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to confer constitutional status to National Commission for Minorities (NCM) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2017-18), in its 53rd report which noted that the NCM is “almost ineffective” in its current state to deal with cases of atrocities against minorities; .
- (c) the number of annual reports submitted by the NCM so far along with details of actions taken by the Government based on their recommendations; and
- (d) the details of decision made regarding the NCM's recommendation to incorporate Chapters III and IV of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Act, 1993, in place of Chapter III of the NCM Act, 1992 to strengthen the NCM's effectiveness?

Anti-collision Device in Railway Zones

406. Shri Praveen Patel:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of sections and length (in kms.) under various railway zones (including State of Uttar Pradesh) that are covered by Kavach Safety System;
- (b) whether all rakes like passenger coaches, AC and non-AC coaches have been fitted with anti-collision devices in each railway zone, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Railways proposes to give more attention to these basic requirements, if so, the details thereof?

Announcement of New Rail Project in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh

†407. Shri Bhumare Sandipanrao Asaram:
Shri Ravindra Dattaram Waikar:
Shri Gyaneshwar Patil:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new rail projects announced in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh during the last five years;

(b) the number of projects started so far and the projects which are lagging behind their schedule and the budgetary allocation made for these projects particularly in Sambhaji District of Maharashtra, the details thereof, zone-wise;

(c) the time by when said projects are likely to be completed along with the schedule thereof;

(d) the status of projects not started and the time by when they are likely to be started; and

(e) whether the Government has taken any steps to complete the said projects as soon as possible and to prevent cost escalation in future, if so, the details thereof?

Objective of Data Innovation Lab

408. Shri Khagen Murmu:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the objective of data innovation lab; and

(b) whether it will be instrumental in promoting innovation and improving quality in the field of official statistics and if so, the details thereof?

Rail Line connecting Muzaffarpur to Bairganja via Dekuli Dham

†409. Smt. Lovely Anand:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to construct rail line connecting Muzaffarpur to Bairganja via Dekuli Dham; and

(b) if so, the time by when the said work is likely to be started?

Accidents due to Old Railway Tracks

410. Shri Sukhdeo Bhagat:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rail traffic has increased and old tracks are not able to carry the increased load and accidents are frequent;

(b) if so, the details of safety measures taken/being taken by the Government to tackle the situation; and

(c) the data and reports of accidents caused by human error, equipment failure and outdated infrastructure?

Digital Bharat Nidhi

411. Shri Jagdambika Pal:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the measures, the Government is taking to ensure effective implementation of the newly notified 'Digital Bharat Nidhi' rules; and

(b) the manner in which the rules will help in enhancing telecom access for marginalized communities?

FM Radio Stations

412. Shri Selvam G:

Shri C N Annadurai:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of FM radio stations currently operational across the country along with the number out of them which are licensed under the Government's policies;

(b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to expand the coverage of FM radio stations in remote, rural and underserved areas and the timeline fixed for achieving nationwide FM coverage;

(c) the places identified for setting up new FM stations in the country, State/UT-wise particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(d) whether the Government is auctioning channels in all cities of the country including Tamil Nadu under the Private FM Radio Phase-III Policy and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of community Frequency Modulation (FM) Radio Stations presently functional in the country?

Chengannur Railway Station in Kerala

413. Shri Kodikunnil Suresh:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any ongoing or proposed development projects for Chengannur railway station in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of these projects, including specific plans for infrastructure improvements, modernization of facilities, and estimated costs and approval status thereof;

(c) the current status and expected timelines for the completion of these development projects;

(d) whether the Government has consulted local stakeholders, including passengers and representatives, regarding the requirements and upgrades needed at said railway station;

(e) if not, whether the Government plans to address the identified needs of said railway station in the near future to enhance passenger amenities and services, the details thereof; and

(f) the benefits expected from these projects for passengers, particularly in terms of improved accessibility, convenience, and infrastructure at said railway station?

Nuclear Safety Regulatory Authority Bill, 2011

414. Shri Rao Rajendra Singh:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made progress on framing the Nuclear Safety and Regulation Bill, 2011 after incorporating several rounds of recommendations from the respective Standing Committee, if so, whether there is any timeline within which it seeks to achieve the same and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government has a well-defined nuclear safety radiation policy framework as envisaged by the AERB constitution of 1983, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has taken into account the recommendations of the CAG Report which talked about several discrepancies present in the operation of nuclear power plants, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Government has any timeline within which work on the Unit 7&8 of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (Rawatbhata) will be finished and if so, the details thereof?

Policy/Scheme to set up IT Companies

†415. Dr. Lata Wankhede:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is formulating any special scheme or investment policy to set up IT companies in various parts of the country so as to encourage setting up of more companies outside the big cities and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Government proposes to develop the small and medium cities as IT hubs where technical and educational resources are already available and if so, the details thereof?

Survey of New Railway Line in Rajahmundry

416. Smt. Daggubati Purandeswari:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of survey approved for new railway lines in the country during the last three years and the current year along with the present status thereof, zone/section-wise particularly in the Lok Sabha constituency of Rajahmundry;

(b) the details of funds allocated and spent on these surveys during the last three years, zone-wise;

(c) whether the Railways has sanctioned projects for laying of new railway lines for which

surveys have already been completed, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, zone/section-wise;

(d) whether any time-frame has been fixed to reach a final decision on the completed survey reports for laying of new railway lines and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to expedite the projects for which surveys have already been completed?

National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG)

417. Shri Jagannath Sarkar:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the current research projects being undertaken at the National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG) and their impact on healthcare and disease prevention in India;

(b) the specific contributions of NIBMG in the field of genomics that have led to advancements in personalised medicine and genetic research in India;

(c) whether the Government has plans to expand the infrastructure or initiate new research programmes at NIBMG in light of emerging global trends in genomics and biotechnology; and

(d) the extent of collaboration between NIBMG and international research institutions for joint studies and exchange of knowledge in the field of genomics?

Outcome of Survey by Odisha Rail Infrastructure Ltd. (ORIDL)

418. Shri Sukanta Kumar Panigrahi:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the outcome of survey by Odisha Rail infrastructure Development Ltd. (ORIDL) report on linking Kandhamal District Headquarters with Gopalpur and Rairakol Railway station under Kandhamal Parliamentary Constituency;

(b) the time when the project is going to start and expected to be completed;

(c) whether the budget has been earmarked and spent for the same; and

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

Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh Projects in Andhra Pradesh

419. Shri Appalanaidu Kalisetti:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of critical safety assets identified, approved, and pending for renewal, replacement and upgradation under the Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK) in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the total amount of funds approved and released for each project under RRSK in Andhra Pradesh over the past five years, including a year-wise breakdown of these funds;

(c) the current status of each approved project under RRSK in Andhra Pradesh, specifying whether they are completed, in progress, or pending, along with reasons for any delays;

(d) the measures taken by the Ministry to expedite pending RRSK projects in Andhra Pradesh, particularly in high-risk and accident-prone areas; and

(e) the projected allocation of RRSK funds for new safety projects in Andhra Pradesh over the next five years, in light of the recent extension of RRSK?

Pre-Matric Scholarships

420. Shri Anand Bhadauria:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes for pre-matric scholarships for minority students from classes I to VIII being run by the Government as on date along with the budget allocation for the same during the last five years, Scheme-wise, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of students benefitted from these scholarship schemes, Scheme-wise and State-wise;

(c) the number of students in class IX and X benefitted from these scholarship schemes, Scheme-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the details of scholarship schemes for minority students which have been stopped during the last five years along with the reasons therefor?

Modernisation of Amritsar Railway Station

421. Shri Gurjeet Singh Aujla:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to modernise and development of Amritsar Railway Station into a world-class facility; and

(b) if so, the details on planned developments, funding allocations, or timelines for the modernisation of Amritsar Railway Station?

Access to Rooftop Solar System

422. Smt. Sajda Ahmed:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to ensure equitable access to rooftop solar systems under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (PM-SGMBY);

(b) the reasons behind the Renewable Purchase Obligation for discoms discontinued and the manner in which this affect India's renewable energy targets;

(c) the details of the mechanisms put in place to help discoms and consumers transition to renewable energy under this yojana;

- (d) whether the Government has targeted or listed the beneficiaries under this yojana; and
 (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including West Bengal ?

Telephone and Mobile charges on Minimum Amount

423. Md Abu Taher Khan:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is thinking about keeping the minimum amount of telephone bill or mobile recharge as a surprising phenomenon has been observed in the past few years where the minimum recharge has been made mandatory to keep the mobile number active for few mobile operators which as a matter of concern as even the poor people have to spend this money constantly to use their mobile number for the bank Account, Aadhaar card, LPG connection and to get many other Government benefits compulsorily;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government is aware about this issue and abolish such type of problems and give some relief to poor people?

Expansion of Railway Network in North-Eastern States

†424. Shri Dilip Saikia:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects relating to construction of new railway line currently underway in the country and their details, State/UT-wise;

(b) the number of railway projects implemented in the country during the last ten years and their current status;

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to expand the railway network in the North-Eastern States of the country;

(d) whether the Government has taken any concrete steps to connect Darang district of Assam State with railway line; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the current status in this regard?

Global Hunger Index

425. Shri K Radhakrishnan:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that India is placed at 101st position among 116 countries in the Global Hunger Index 2021 with the level of hunger described as serious;

(b) if so, the details of action taken thereon;

(c) the product-wise details of foodgrains collected as well as got damaged in the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government has taken any decision to utilize the rotten foodgrains for the production of ethanol in the country; and If so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government intends to resume the allocation of food grains to Kerala under the category 'Welfare Institutions and SC/ST/OBC Hostels Scheme' which has been stalled since 2018; and

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

Construction of New Rail Line from Kishangarh to Jalalgarh

†426. Shri Rajesh Ranjan:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on sanctioned project for the construction of a new rail line from Kishangarh to Jalalgarh under the Northeast Frontier Railway in the Kosi Seemanchal Region, Bihar has not yet commenced;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government is aware that the construction of the new rail line from Kishangarh to Jalalgarh will significantly enhance connectivity to the 'Chicken's Neck' region thereby strengthening India's strategic position; and

(d) the time by when the construction work of the said rail line is likely to be commenced by the Government?

Strengthening of Public Broadcasting Services

427. Shri E T Mohammed Basheer:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to strengthen public broadcasting services to ensure reliable communication during emergencies; and

(b) the steps taken/being taken to combat misinformation and fake news on digital platforms?

New Railway Line Projects

- †428. Shri Tejasvi Surya:
 Shri Chavda Vinod Lakhamshi:
 Dr. Hemant Vishnu Savara:
 Shri Vijay Baghel:
 Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram:
 Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh:
 Shri Mukeshkumar Chandrakaant Dalal:
 Shri Jaswantsinh Sumanbhai Bhabhor:
 Smt. Smita Uday Wagh:
 Smt. Himadri Singh:
 Shri Dineshbhai Makwana:
 Shri Parbhubhai Nagarbhai Vasava:
 Shri Manish Jaiswal:
 Shri Suresh Kumar Kashyap:
 Smt. Aparajita Sarangi:
 Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi:
 Shri Mukesh Rajput:
 Shri Ashish Dubey:
 Smt. Shobhanaben Mahendrasinh Baraiya:
 Shri Ashok Kumar Rawat:
 Shri Balabhadra Majhi:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the specific steps undertaken by the Government to ensure that new railway line projects will enhance connectivity in the aspirational districts across the country especially in Nabarangpur, Malkangiri in Odisha, Himachal Pradesh, Mirik and its surrounding districts in Uttar Pradesh and Dahod;

(b) the number of aspirational districts connected with Railway Projects in Gujarat during the period from 2014 to 2024 and the amount of budget increased thereon;

(c) the Government plans to monitor and evaluate the environmental impact of these new railway projects, particularly in terms of reducing CO2 emissions and oil imports, as well as their contribution to achieving India's climate goals;

(d) the details of the new and running railway line projects particularly in Palghor district of Maharashtra, major cities like Hazaribag-Ramgarh in Jharkhand and Rajasthan;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to increase the current speed of trains, division-wise; and

(f) the delay caused per month in the operation of trains, division wise and the steps taken by the Government to improve the same?

Insurance to Victims of Rail Accidents

429. Shri S Venkatesan:
 Shri Subbarayan K:
 Shri Gaddigoudar Parvatagouda Chandanagouda:
 Com. Selvaraj V:
 Shri Balwant Baswant Wankhade:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major Rail accidents that took place during the last five years, i.e. during the period from 01.11.2019 to 31.10.2024 along with the details of loss of lives and injured in the above accidents;

(b) total financial loss incurred by the Government on this count;

(c) the number of victims who had availed insurance through e-tickets;

(d) the number of nominees of the insured secured death claims;

(e) reasons for non-settlement of death claims, if any;

(f) the details of investigation made into these accidents; and

(g) action taken/being taken by the Government thereon?

Fortified Rice under PMGKAY

430. Smt. Shambhavi:

Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde:

Shri Rajesh Verma:

Shri Naresh Ganpat Mhaske:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by the Government taken to monitor continuation of the supply of free fortified rice under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY);

(b) whether this initiative aligns with the government's Anaemia Mukht Bharat strategy and the expected impact on reducing malnutrition and anaemia among vulnerable populations, particularly women and children and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the measures taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that fortified rice reaches the most remote and underserved communities;

(d) whether the Government plans to monitor effective implementation of financial outlay of extension of fortified rice distribution and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any studies or assessments have been conducted on the health benefits and outcomes of rice fortification since its introduction and if so, the details thereof?

Issues Faced by Women in Film Industry

431. Shri Suresh Kumar Shetkar:

Shri Eatala Rajender:

Smt. D K Aruna:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether some reports on the issues faced by women in the film industry have revealed horrid tales of sexual exploitation, illegal bans, discrimination, drug and alcohol abuse, wage disparity and in some cases, inhuman working conditions and notes that the industry is in the clutches of certain male producers, directors and actors, and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon along with the corrective steps being taken to protect the film industry also?

Schemes for Upliftment of Minorities

432. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of welfare schemes and programmes launched for the upliftment of minorities and the funds allocated to each scheme during the last five years;

(b) whether the Government has identified specific focus areas or communities affected by riots for social and economic rehabilitation, if so, the details of special provisions made under these schemes for such areas;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve education levels among minority communities, particularly in riot-affected regions along with is the status of enrollment and retention rates in schools within these areas; and

(d) the details of the number of scholarships loans, and financial assistance schemes specifically for students from minority communities along with the percentage of such benefits which have been reached to riot-affected or marginalised minority groups during the last five years?

Prices of Essential Commodities

433. Shri Murasoli S:
Shri Eswarasamy K:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government is aware of the sky-rocketing of prices of essential food and domestic commodities;

(b) if so, the effective steps taken by the Government to mitigate the price rise crisis and its impact on the common people;

(c) whether the Government has allocated any additional foodgrains and essential commodities to States/UTs; and

(d) if so, the appropriate steps taken by the Government to mitigate the issues and problems faced by the poor and middle class people due to the steep rise in prices of essential commodities?

Alarming rate of Heat Waves in the Country

434. Shri Amar Sharadrao Kale:
 Shri Nilesh Dnyandev Lanke:
 Shri Mohite Patil Dhairyasheel Rajsinh:
 Shri Bhaskar Murlidhar Bhagare:
 Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe:
 Shri Bajrang Manohar Sonwane:
 Smt. Supriya Sule:
 Prof. Varsha Eknath Gaikwad:
 Shri Sanjay Dina Patil:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES

पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the alarming rate of heat waves in the recent years and if so, the details of the steps taken to reduce the causes of heat waves in the upcoming years, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether heat waves have impacted economy in the last climate year and if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent life and economic loss due to heat waves in the upcoming years and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Maharashtra State has submitted Heat Action Plan to the Union Government, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the manner in which Government collaborate with local authorities and relevant stakeholders to implement heat wave preparedness and response plans;
- (e) the details of financial resources Government has allocated for mitigating the impacts of heat waves; and
- (f) whether the Government coordinates with meteorological departments and climate experts to enhance early warning systems for heat waves and improve preparedness across different regions of the country?

Resumption of Train from Delhi to Sitapur

- †435. Shri Arun Kumar Sagar:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to run train no. 54075/54076 that used to run from Delhi to Sitapur and is presently running from Delhi to Bareilly, again from Delhi to Sitapur;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps or is considering to take any steps to restart the operation of train no. 64221/64222 Shahjahanpur-Lucknow Memu Train;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has received requests from public representatives in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof as well as progress made so far in this regard?

Exploring Solar and Wind Energy

- †436. Shri Arun Govil:
 Shri Lumba Ram:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the efforts made by the Government to explore the possibilities of solar and wind energy in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan including their Sirohi, Jalore, Meerut and Hapur districts;
- (b) the total megawatt of electricity being produced from solar and wind energy at present in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh; and
- (c) the time by which an affordable option of hundred percent solar and wind energy is likely to be made available in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan including the said districts as an outcome of these efforts?

Quality of Food in Trains

†437. Shri Murari Lal Meena:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the standard procedures or rules being followed by the Railways to ensure the quality of food;
- (b) the steps being taken to ensure the compliance thereof;
- (c) whether there is any special programme for the training of employees associated with the catering service in the Railways so that incidents of misbehaviour with passengers can be checked; and
- (d) the steps taken to check the problem of overcharging in the catering service and whether any surprise inspection campaigns are also conducted in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

Rail Projects for Rajasthan

†438. Smt. Manju Sharma:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) details of the rail projects sanctioned for the State of Rajasthan since 2019, zone and year-wise;
- (b) the number of ongoing projects out of the said projects along with the details of expenditure incurred thereon so far and the steps taken by the Government for timely completion of these projects, project-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to allocate funds after analysing projects of the last rail budget and sanction funds for other new projects for the State in the budget of financial year 2024-25;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the operation of new trains declared for Rajasthan during the last three years?

Digital Radio and Direct to Mobile Broadcast

†439. Shri Chavda Vinod Lakhamshi:
 Shri Vijay Baghel:
 Shri P P Chaudhary:
 Shri Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri:
 Shri Shankar Lalwani:
 Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey:
 Shri Yogender Chandolia:
 Shri Tejasvi Surya:
 Smt. Shobhanaben Mahendrasinh Baraiya:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the role of digital Radio and Direct to Mobile (D2M) Broadcast as an affordable mass communication tool;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to support the emerging technologies in the Broadcast sector along with the expenditure incurred thereon;
- (c) whether the Government has collated any details on the number of such digital radio and D2M channels in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the State-wise distribution thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any assessment of digital radio and Direct to Mobile (D2M) broadcasting as mass communication tools in the country, if so, the details thereof including their potential reach and cost-effectiveness, State-wise;
- (e) the specific plans and timeline for rolling out digital radio and D2M broadcasting services across the country, State-wise; and
- (f) whether any pilot projects for D2M broadcasting have been initiated and if so, the details thereof including the locations and outcomes?

Expansion of Radar Network for Himachal Pradesh

†440. Shri Suresh Kumar Kashyap:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES

पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any measures to expand radar network to improve accuracy of system for weather forecast under Mission Mausam along with the status thereof with regard to Himachal Pradesh; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Exploring Alternative Energy Sources

441. Shri Dushyant Singh:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is exploring alternative energy sources such as coalbed methane and underground coal gasification to mitigate the energy crisis in many States of the country and if so, the details thereof and the current progress on these initiatives;

(b) the manner in which the Ministry is addressing environmental concerns associated with coal mining in many States particularly regarding reforestation efforts and compliance with legal regulations; and

(c) whether the Union Government is collaborative with the coal-producing States to enhance coal availability and ensure an uninterrupted power supply for other States, including any specific agreements or projects in place, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Critical Mineral Mission

442. Shri Balya Mama Suresh Gopinath Mhatre:
Shri P P Chaudhary:
Shri Kripanath Mallah:
Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey:
Shri Parshottambhai Rupala:
Shri Khagen Murmu:
Shri Balabhadra Majhi:

Will the Minister of MINES

खान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched the Critical Minerals Mission and if so, the detailed framework and objectives thereof including the list of minerals identified as critical;

(b) the specific steps taken to enhance domestic production of critical minerals including the allocation of funds and the identification of potential mining sites, if any State-wise;

(c) whether any policy framework has been developed for recycling of critical minerals and urban mining and if so, the details thereof along with the targets set;

(d) the details of steps taken for overseas acquisition of critical mineral assets including the countries identified and agreements signed, if any; and

(e) whether any monitoring mechanism has been established to oversee the implementation of the Mission across domestic production, recycling and overseas acquisition and if so, the details thereof?

Consumer Protection Act

443. Dr. Kadiyam Kavya:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether consumer courts in the country are strictly following the Consumer Protection Act which stipulates three months (90 days) for resolution of complaints by the Consumer Commissions; and

(b) if so, the details of pending cases along with average adjournment period (in days) in Telangana for the last three years, year-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

Modified Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem

444. Shri B K Parthasarathi:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of approved semiconductor and display manufacturing units in India under the modified Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem;

(b) the funds allocated, disbursed and utilized for the development of these facilities under the aforementioned programme;

(c) the details of proposals received from Andhra Pradesh to establish semiconductor manufacturing units/facilities during each of the last three years;

(d) the details of approved projects from Andhra Pradesh under the programme including their status and the costs incurred thereon; and

(e) the details of proposals received from the State of Andhra Pradesh during each of the last three years still pending for clearance?

Installation of Mobile Towers in Maharashtra

445. Dr. Kirsan Namdeo:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL proposes to install more towers in Gadchiroli, Maharashtra to provide better telecom connectivity;

(b) if so, the details of towers proposed to be installed, location-wise;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested the Union Government to set up more such towers in remote and naxal affected areas so as to improve the communication network of security forces;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Dual Recovery by Pay Channels

446. Shri Eswarasamy K:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that on one hand the pay channels are charging money from the advertising companies and on the other hand they also collect money from the people who watch these programmes;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government to check the same; and

(d) the countries where the practice of dual recovery of revenue is prevalent?

Difficulties faced by Ration Card Holders

†447. Shri Imran Masood:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the number of ration card holders in urban and rural areas;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the fact that even after applying for ration card by very needy applicant, the cards are not being made for one or two years;

(c) whether the Government intends to have continuous monitoring of the Public Distribution System by public representatives; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done and if not, the reasons therefor?

Promotion of Green Hydrogen

448. Shri Subbarayan K:

Com. Selvaraj V:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has decided to promote green hydrogen and solar energy as new renewable source of energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to establish more electrolyzer and green hydrogen manufacturing units in the country?

Growth Hubs Programme

449. Shri Kesineni Sivanath:

Will the Minister of PLANNING

योजना मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is working on the City regions as Growth Hubs Programme;

(b) if so, the details of the cities and regions in the State of Andhra Pradesh that have been selected for the said programme;

(c) the details of the study conducted along with the progress made in these studies for the regions in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether any plan has been prepared to achieve economic targets under the program for the regions of Andhra Pradesh;

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

(f) whether the Government will be utilising this study to make investment decisions in the region of Andhra Pradesh; and

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

Capacity of FCI

450. Shri Navaskani K:
Shri Selvam G:
Shri C N Annadurai:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री
be pleased to state:

- (a) the current storage capacity of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) across the country including Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the details of the percentage of FCI's storage capacity being currently utilized and the data on utilization rate during the last three years;
- (c) whether there are any plans to expand FCI's storage capacity to meet growing foodgrains procurement needs and if so, the details of the locations prioritized for this expansion;
- (d) the details of the budget allocation made for enhancing FCI's storage infrastructure in the current financial year;
- (e) the status of FCI storage facilities in remote and difficult areas and challenges does the Corporation face in maintaining or expanding storage in these regions; and
- (f) the measures that are being implemented by FCI to reduce foodgrains wastage due to inadequate or substandard storage facilities and the progress made in this regard?

Coal Allocation through e-auction

451. Shri Godam Nagesh:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री
be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantities of coal allocated by the Government through the spot e-auction of coal, special forward e-auction for power sector and exclusive e-auction for non-power sector till date; and
- (b) the total quantity of coal imported in the country during the current financial year till date?

Weather Radars under Mission Mausam

452. Shri Manoj Tiwari:
Shri Basavaraj Bommai:
Shri Shankar Lalwani:
Shri Tejasvi Surya:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES

पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken measures to increase the weather radars in the country for enhancing the accuracy of forecasting system under Mission Mausam; and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the current setup deploys the latest available technology in the world and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the current setup of weather radars effectively predict high to very high rain in a

specific area in order to warn and prevent natural disaster and if so, the details thereof along with the list of alerts sounded in the last one year?

Ombudsman for Fake News

†453. Shri Ramvir Singh Bidhuri:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is taking any steps against those spreading fake news on social media across the country; and

(b) whether the Government is taking any steps to ask/get the social media companies to appoint an Ombudsman to prevent spreading incidents of fake news?

Study on Frequent Earthquakes

454. Dr. Nishikant Dubey:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES

पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study to understand the frequent earthquakes affecting the country;

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

(c) the details of measures taken/being taken by Government in order to reduce the vulnerability and risk involved in this respect; and

(d) the proposed measures to be taken/being taken by the Government?

Establishment of International Animation Power House

455. Shri Jai Prakash:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has explored the possibilities of establishing an international animation power house in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the time by which the Union Government is likely to roll out its decision?

Inadequate MPLAD Fund

456. Thiru D M Kathir Anand:

Shri Deepender Singh Hooda:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the functioning of the MPLAD Scheme across the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is aware that Rs. 5 crore per annum is inadequate to complete local area development works in view of increase in the cost of building material and wage hike of skilled and unskilled labourers and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any plans to increase the MPLAD fund from Rs. 5 crore to Rs. 10 crore per annum, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any such proposal has been sent to the Finance Ministry and if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)

457. Shri Kota Srinivasa Poojary:
Shri Gyaneshwar Patil:
Shri Ravindra Dattaram Waikar:
Smt. Delkar Kalaben Mohanbhai:
Shri Bhumare Sandipanrao Asaram:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of India Post Payment Banks functioning in the country from the last five years till date;

(b) the details of the services provided by the Government through the India Post Payment Banks;

(c) the State-wise, district-wise and post office-wise details thereof including Sambhaji Nagar (Aurangabad) district in Maharashtra;

(d) the effective steps being taken by the Government to increase the service of India Post Payment Banks in the country;

(e) the provisions made by the Government to expand the Government schemes through these banks in the country including Madhya Pradesh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Karnataka and Maharashtra; and

(f) the details thereof and the number of people benefitted through the scheme in Madhya Pradesh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Karnataka and Maharashtra in this regard?

No Railway Network in Sirohi (Rajasthan)

†458. Shri Lumba Ram:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Sirohi parliamentary constituency is not connected with railways even after seventy six years of independence and development is not taking place due to lack of railways network in the district and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Government proposes to connect all the aspirational districts of the country including Sirohi headquarter with railways on priority basis and if so, the details thereof?

Internet Connections

†459. Smt. Delkar Kalaben Mohanbhai:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rural villages in different parts of the country have been connected to the internet;

(b) if so, the details of those villages in Dadra and Nagar Haveli which have internet connections and the present status of these connections in each such village;

(c) whether the number of internet users has increased in Dadra and Nagar Haveli during the last five years and if so, the details thereof including the increase in number of such users/villages; and

(d) the effective steps taken or being taken by the Government to provide internet connections in the said villages of each district in Dadra and Nagar Haveli?

Analogue Mission in Tibet Region by ISRO

460. Shri Dhairyasheel Sambhajirao Mane:
Shri Sudheer Gupta:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched its first analogue mission in Tibet region of the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the aims and objectives of this mission;

(c) whether the Government is planning to send its first human to space under the Gaganyaan Mission and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the manner in which this analogue mission will be a game changer in sending the first Indian to space;

(e) whether ISRO is also planning to set up its first space centre by the year 2035 and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of the progress made in this regard and total amount of expenditure likely to be incurred on the mission?

New Delhi
Monday, November 25, 2024/
Kartika 30, 1946 (Saka)

UTPAL KUMAR SINGH
SECRETARY-GENERAL

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Remarks

LOK SABHA
CORRIGENDUM

to the List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS on
November 27, 2024/Agrahayana 6, 1946 (Saka)

Question No.	Correction
265	Name of Ministry: for “Science and Technology” read “Earth Sciences”

New Delhi;
November 25, 2024
Agrahayana 4, 1946 (Saka)

UTPAL KUMAR SINGH
Secretary General

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Science and Technology	delete	“265”
Earth Sciences	insert	“265”