Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2020/ Bhadra 24, Saka 1942

(Ministries : Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy; Corporate Affairs; Culture; Earth Sciences; Finance; Health and Family Welfare; New and Renewable Energy; Power; Science and Technology; Tourism)

Total number of questions -- 160

Central Research Institutions under Atmanirbhar Bharat

161 Dr. Banda Prakash:

Will the Minister of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the delay in establishing AYUSH Central Research Institutions (CRIs) in various States under Atmanirbhar Bharat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the States that have provided/offered land free of cost for the establishment of CRI in their respective States;
- (d) the details of the funds provided by Government for establishment of CRI in such States along with the utilisation thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken by Government to promote Yoga and Naturopathy globally?

Conflicts between Modern Medicines and AYUSH System

162 Dr. Vikas Mahatme:

Will the Minister of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that there exists a conflict between modern medicine and AYUSH systems with regard to efficacy of medicines, treatments and procedures and also there is huge status gap between the two which is detrimental to AYUSH resources:
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to introduce a framework to integrate the modern and traditional systems so as to facilitate a meaningful, cross learning and collaboration between the two systems: and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Yoga in helping recovery of COVID-19 patients

163 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

Will the Minister of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy be pleased to state:

- (a) whether yoga is helping COVID-19 patients in the country, if so, the details thereof and research conducted so far; and
- (b) the details of this year's programme having theme as 'Yoga at Home and Yoga with Family' conducted in States and response received thereon?

Indian medicinal system for treating Covid-19

164 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

Will the Minister of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to promote Indian Medicinal System to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has made any assessment to assess the impact of Indian Medicinal System in tackling Coronavirus;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds for herbal cultivation

165 Shri M. Shanmugam:

Shri Vaiko:

Will the Minister of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has earmarked any funds for herbal cultivation by local farmers in the country;
- (b) whether the National Medicinal Plant Board has undertaken any exercise for allotment of land in various States, including Tamil Nadu (in Western Ghats, Kolli Malai, Palani, Theni etc.) (c) if so, the details thereof:
- (d) the amount spent so far in the current financial year: and
- (e) by what time the yield would come to benefit the farmers and the income that would be generated?

Ayurvedic formulations to fight coronavirus

166 Shri K.J. Alphons:

Will the Minister of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any ayurvedic medicines or formulations to create immunity against coronavirus;
- (b) whether there is any Government or private institutions doing research on this; and
- (c) the results of the research?

Pharmacovigilance mechanism

167 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

Will the Minister of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of pharmacovigilance mechanism the Ministry has;
- (b) whether it is a fact that number of cases of misleading advertisements, misrepresenting drugs, etc., are going up;

- (c) if so, details thereof during last three years and current year, year-wise and State-wise;
- (d) how Ministry is going to contain this menace which also presents wrong picture of Indian System of Medicines in other countries:
- (e) whether there are pharmacovigilance centres in various States and, if so, details thereof and performance of each centre; and
- (f) the contribution made by AYUSH in containing or controlling COVID?

Identification of medicines for cure of Coronavirus

168 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:

Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

Will the Minister of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any initiative to identify effective medicines under Ayurveda, Unani ,Siddha and Homoeopathy systems to cure patients with symptoms of COVID-19:
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any collaborative project has been taken involving Allopathy, Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy to develop effective treatment of Coronaviruses in the country; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Illegal marketing of medicines for Covid-19 based on Indian systems of medicine 169 Shri K.K. Ragesh:

Will the Minister of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is in receipt of any proposals/ claims about medicines for Covid-19 based on Indian systems of medicine:
- (b) whether Government has come across illegal marketing of medicines for Covid19 based on Indian systems of medicine by flouting the mandatory norms; and
- (c) whether any action has been taken for such non-conformity of norms related to launching / marketing of medicines?

Seeking funds for PM Cares Fund

170 Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry issued directions to Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and Institute of Company Secretaries of India in the year 2019-2020 seeking funds for PM Cares Fund; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Converting loss making corporate units in profit making

171 # Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:

Will the Minister of Corporate Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of corporate units currently running in profits and losses respectively:
- (b) the efforts being made to strengthen corporate units (industries) more, in this era of competition; and
- (c) the efforts being made to convert the currently loss making units into the profit making

ones?

Extension of deadlines for filing due to COVID-19

172 Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

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

- (a) whether Government has extended the deadlines for filings for companies under the Companies Act of 2013;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) till when the deadlines have been extended?

Investment by Chinese agencies in Indian companies

173 # Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Will the Minister of Corporate Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large scale investment has been made by Chinese agencies in Indian companies, specially the start ups; and
- (b) if so, the details of the investment made by Chinese agencies company-wise and sector-wise along with the quantum of investment made?

Performance of corporate sector

174 Shri K.J. Alphons:

Will the Minister of Corporate Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) how COVID-19 has affected the performance of the corporate sector in India;
- (b) how does it compare with the impact of COVID-19 on corporate sector globally; and
- (c) the incentives provided to the corporate sector as part of the corona stimulus?

Companies closed and registered during last five months

175 Shri Ripun Bora:

Will the Minister of Corporate Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the wake of COVID-19 lakhs of private companies have been shut down in last five months:
- (b) if so, the details of units closed and new companies registered during April to August, State-wise:
- (c) the number of unemployment registered and losses incurred reported; and
- (d) the proposal of Government to assess the fact and reality and action to be taken in this regard?

Principles of UNGP

176 Shri Prashanta Nanda:

Will the Minister of Corporate Affairs be pleased to state:

how many private sector companies have started fulfilling their commitment towards UN Guiding Principles (UNGP)?

District Mineral Fund

177 Shri Prashanta Nanda:

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

- (a) whether there is any provision to manage regular spending of the District Mineral Fund which is being accumulated from mining royalties; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Tax evasion, manipulation of accounts by big corporates

178 Shri K.K. Ragesh:

Will the Minister of Corporate Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether reports about tax evasion, manipulation of accounts etc by the private sector establishments including the big corporates, national and multinational are available;
- (b) if so, the year-wise details of tax evasion, manipulation of accounts etc by the private sector establishments including the big corporate, committed during the last three years including the names of such companies and the respective loss occurred to exchequer; and (c) the details of actions taken by Government against each of the companies?

Policy shift of ASI

179 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

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

- (a) whether there is any policy shift of ASI with regard to preference on development activities like construction of boundary walls, laying of modern pathways, illumination, ultramodern washrooms, etc. over conservation/ restoration/archaeological investigations; and
- (b) the details of works along with expenditure incurred other than conservation/restoration/ archaeological investigations carried out in the last three years at ASI protected monuments including the names of executing agencies in each case, circle-wise?

Archaeological excavations and explorations during the current field season 180 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

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

- (a) whether approval for major exploration and excavation programme at ancient sites had been granted to ASI by Standing Committee of Central Advisory Board of Archaeology (CABA) during the current field season;
- (b) if so, the details of such sites, including the archaeological potential; and
- (c) the total budget allocated during 2019-2020 for taking up the explorations and excavations and the amount spent between October, 2019 to February, 2020;
- (d) the number of ancient sites that are under excavation during the current field season; and
- (e) whether summary progress reports in each case has been uploaded on the official website of ASI?

Exploration of ancient sites and monuments in North-Eastern Region

181 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

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

- (a) the ancient sites or monuments under the protection of the Central and the State Governments in North East India;
- (b) whether any special drive has been taken up by ASI in the last three years to identify ancient sites and monuments in North East India for declaration as of national importance;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether ASI has any plan to concentrate on major exploration in the north-east region

to locate ancient sites and monuments for declaration as of national importance, in future?

Speedy clearance for film shoots at monuments

182 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

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

- (a) the steps being taken for speedy clearance for film shoots at monuments and at iconic sites in the country; and
- (b) the demands of the film industry and action taken thereon?

Establishment of new science museums

183 # Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:

Will the Minister of Culture be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any intention to set up new science museums in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and place-wise; and
- (c) the details of probable expenditure on this, and by when these science museums would be set up?

New medical colleges set up in last three years

184 # Dr. Bhagwat Karad:

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

- (a) the names and number of medical colleges recognised by the Medical Council of India (MCI) in the country during last three years;
- (b) whether the funds were provided by Government to create facilities in colleges that started off after obtaining recognition from MCI; and
- (c) whether funds provided by Government, have been spent on the improvements in the colleges, such as building constructions, medical equipments, teaching system etc., if so, the details thereof?

Vacant posts for upkeep of protected monuments

185 Shri C.M. Ramesh:

Will the Minister of Culture be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of monuments that are declared protected in the country, the details thereof. State-wise:
- (b) the number of posts that are lying vacant for upkeep of such monuments, State-wise; and
- (c) whether there is any timeline for filling up such vacant posts, if so, the details thereof?

Development of Jaymangla Garh Temple in Begusarai

186 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

Will the Minister of Culture be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of Jayamangla Garh temple in Begusarai Bihar which is considered a great spiritual centre;
- (b) whether the Ministry considers to develop this as a spiritual tourist centre as lakhs of people visit this place every year but it lacks minimum required facility;
- (c) whether the Ministry is also aware of the fact that it is adjoining to the Kanwar Jheel, which is the destination for the migratory birds from Siberia and other parts of the world;

(d) whether the Ministry will consider a holistic plan along with the Ministry of Tourism to tap its tourism potential by appropriating the historical, cultural and spiritual importance of Jayamangla Garh Temple?

National Cultural Fund projects

187 Shri Rajeev Satav:

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

- (a) whether Government, which has set up National Cultural Fund (NCF), has achieved the objective to facilitate public-private partnership in the field of heritage conservation and promotion;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether many of NCF financed PPP conservation projects are reported to be substandard and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has taken steps to review the functioning of NCF for its effective implementation, if so, the details thereof?

Fund allocation to Purvasha Museum society in Odisha

188 Shri Prashanta Nanda:

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

- (a) whether Government has allocated central financial assistance to Odisha Purvasha Museum Society for development of Rural Literature for P.O. Ashram Patrice under the Museum grant scheme;
- (b) if so, the details of the quantum of central financial assistance made to the Odisha Purvasha Museum under the scheme during FY 2018-2019; and
- (c) the utilisation of the allocated funds under the scheme during FY 2018-2019?

Frequency of natural disasters

189 Dr. Vikas Mahatme:

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

- (a) whether there has been an unexpected increase in natural disasters like cyclones and floods during the last three years, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government is planning to take steps to improve the data collection capacity of IMD helping it to predict natural events with more accuracy, if so, the details thereof?

Cyclone warning centres in the country

190 Shri Rajeev Satav:

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

- (a) the details of Cyclone Warning Centres (CWCs) functioning in the country, State-wise, location-wise;
- (b) whether Government proposes to establish more CWCs in view of increasing number of cyclones in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has been successful in developing technology for safety from cyclonic storms, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether our technology is not proving as effective as it should have been in comparison to other developing countries, if so, the steps taken to improve the said technology?

Prediction system for earthquakes

191 Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia:

Will the Minister of Earth Sciences be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that several earthquakes of medium intensity have been reported in the country during the last few months, if so, the details thereof; and (b) whether the National Centre for Seismology or other concerned agencies have not yet been able to create any prediction system for earthquakes, if so, the reasons therefor?

Funds allocated to the States under Atmanirbhar Bharat

192 Dr. Banda Prakash:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has allocated any funds to the States for labour and self employment groups and others under different schemes like Atmanirbhar Bharat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Increase of FRBM of States

193 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

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

- (a) whether Government has received any proposal from any State Governments requesting for increase of limit of FRBM of the States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the response of the Union Government in this regard?

Restrictions on Loan Transfer

194 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

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

- (a) whether the attention of Government is drawn to the matter of moratorium facility offered by the government due to covid-19 conditions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether to avail moratorium on EMIs, the borrower has to pay the interest for the period of moratorium availed;
- (d) if so, what is the benefit of moratorium to the borrower;
- (e) whether he would be denied from balance transfer to other bank, if a borrower availed moratorium;
- (f) in the above circumstances, what benefit would a borrower get by moratorium; and
- (g) the remedial measures provided by Government in this regard?

Release of balance funds to Polavaram Project

195 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

- (a) whether Union Uovernment has been in receipt of any request from Andhra Pradesh requesting to release the balance funds for early construction of the Polavaram project as per the schedule:
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of funds released so far and balance to be released; and

(d) whether any assurance has been given in this regard?

Study on after effect of lockdown

196 Shri K. Somaprasad:

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

- (a) whether Government or any agency has conducted any study on the after effect of the total lockdown imposed across the nation;
- (b) whether Government has arrived at a conclusion on the depth and volume of the financial loss and damage and loss of jobs in organised and unorganised sectors during and after the lockdown; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Revenue shares to States

197 Shri Kumar Ketkar:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) how much of the State's revenue share according to the Union Budget 2020-21 has been released to the States during this financial year till now. State-wise:
- (b) the details of pending amount, State-wise;
- (c) how much of the promised budgetary allocation to the States in the Union Budget of 2019-20 has been released to the States; and
- (d) the shortfall thereof?

Interpretation of Section 13A of IT Act

198 Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

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

- (a) whether Government is awre of the interpretation of Section 13A and proviso 1 and 2 of Income Tax Act when read with Subsection (3) of 29C of Representation of People's Act;
- (b) if so, whether Income Tax exemption under Section 13A of IT Act will be withdrawn on the total income including "income from house property", "income from other sources" or "capital gains" if a political party fails to provide name and address of all but one voluntary donor whose donation exceeds Rs. 20000/- given all other compliance is fulfilled; and
- (c) if so, whether that is in line with the intent of the legislation?

GDP decline

199 Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation showed that India's Gross Domestic Product growth rate had contracted by 23.9 per cent for the April to June quarter;
- (b) whether Ministry is also aware that India's GDP decline is much steeper when compared to other countries which went into Covid-19 related lockdowns; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

GST Compensation Cess

200 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry proposes to limit GST compensation to States only to collections by way of GST Compensation Cess;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it does not violate the provisions of GST legislation; and
- (d) the details of GST dues to States in the current fiscal, State-wise?

AG's opinion about GST compensation to States

201 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has sought opinion of Attorney General about payment of GST compensation to States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and opinion given by Attorney General (AG); and
- (c) the steps taken by the Ministry to discuss AG's opinion in the GST Council?

Foreign and domestic investment

202 # Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:

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

- (a) the efforts made to promote foreign and domestic investments:
- (b) the achievements made so far through these efforts; and
- (c) the quantum of foreign and domestic investments made in the country during the last three years?

Special assistance for States

203 Dr. Bhagwat Karad:

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

- (a) the number of States which have received special development package/special assistance/financial assistance from the Union Government;
- (b) the reasons for granting such package to them;
- (c) the States from which proposals have been received for special assistance/financial assistance:
- (d) the current status of these proposals; and
- (e) the time by which they are likely to be cleared?

Relaxation of interest payment on credit card payments

204 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

- (a) whether the Ministry has provided for any relaxations on interest payment for default on credit card payments for the months of March to July 31st 2020;
- (b) whether any guidelines have been issued by Government for the above mentioned relaxations on interest payment for default on credit card payments during March to July 31st 2020; and
- (c) whether the interest rates have been increased for default on credit card payment by banks during the months of March to July 31st 2020?

Measures to improve falling GDP

205 # Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the GDP rate of the country is continuously falling down;
- (b) if so, the details of GDP rate of the last two years along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) the estimated rate of GDP in the third and fourth quarter of 2020; and
- (d) the details of corrective measures taken to improve the rate of GDP?

Payment of revenue to States under GST

206 # Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the Corona pandemic, the actual revenue collected by States under GST is less than estimated revenue, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government proposes to refix the formula for payment of compensation to the State Governments, if so, the details of the manner in which it will be carried out; and
- (c) whether the payment of revenue under GST has not been released to many States, if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with the reasons therefor?

Transfer of central funds to West Bengal

207 Dr. Santanu Sen:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is an inordinate delay in transferring funds due to West Bengal under devolution, Central share in Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), and other schemes:
- (b) if so, the details thereof:
- (c) the details of funds released to West Bengal under various heads from Government during last three years; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government for timely release of funds to States?

Slowdown in rural India

208 Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has noted reports that consumption in rural India has shown a slowdown during the last six Covid affected months in the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that rural economy has been plagued by falling crop prices and declining incomes, resulting in a severe slump in demand; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Decline in GDP

209 # Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Smt. Chhaya Verma:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a sharp decline has been reported in GDP of the country;
- (b) if so, the extent of decline and reasons responsible for current decline in GDP; and

- (c) the details of fluctuation in the GDP, during the last decade, year-wise; and
- (d) the extent of decline in the figures reported in first quarter of year 2020-21 and the reasons therefor?

PSUs identified for disinvestment

210 Shri C.M. Ramesh:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of PSUs which have been identified by Government for disinvestment, and the criteria adopted, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any Expert Committee was appointed for the purpose and recommended names of PSUs for disinvestment; and
- (c) out of these PSUs, how many are profit making and how many are running at a loss for the last three years, the details thereof?

Impact of COVID-19 on Economy

211 Shri K.J. Alphons:

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

- (a) the impact of COVID-19 on GDP and Indian economy;
- (b) the total stimulus provided to fight the corona impact; and
- (c) whether the stimulus producing the expected results?

Stimulus Packages to arrest fall in GDP

212 Shri Ripun Bora:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the economists have been calling for large stimulus packages amounting to double-digit percentages of GDP, despite the strain on the exchequer;
- (b) if so, whether it is also fact that India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has shrunk by 23.9 per cent in the first quarter of the financial year 2020-21 against 5.2 per cent growth in Quarter-1 of 2019-20 and would dip by minus 27.11 per cent in August 2020; and
- (c) if so, the constructive action plan taken for positive GDP growth?

Fixation of rates for insurance coverage of Covid-19 treatment

213 Shri Ripun Bora:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the general insurers and the TPA's have urged Government to fix rates for COVID-19 treatment procedures all over the country;
- (b) if so, the reaction of government on fixation of rates and necessary order to all hospitals therefor;
- (c) the reason behind not to impose 'emergency act' in the field of medical treatment and procedures during this COVID-19 pandamic period thereof; and
- (d) the problems behind thereof with details thereto?

Gross State Domestic Product

214 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is going into recession for the first time in four decades

due to COVID-19:

- (b) whether it is a fact that as per one estimate by SBI, Andhra Pradesh is going to lose 14.9% in 2020-21:
- (c) whether ₹ 30.3 lakh crores which is 13.5% of total GSDP are going to be lost by all States put together in 2020-21; and
- (d) the remedial measures proposed to be taken to help States, particularly Andhra Pradesh?

Complaints of financial corruption

215 Shri Javed Ali Khan:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether complaints of financial corruption of ₹ 250/- crores in Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board and misconduct by former Chairperson, IRDAI has been received;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, complaint-wise;
- (c) whether any inquiry has been initiated and responsibility has been fixed in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details of inquiry initiated and action taken to fix responsibility in this regard; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Transfer policy of IRDAI

216 Shri Javed Ali Khan:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether IRDAI has issued any transfer policy as Regulation80 under schedule VII of IRDAI staff regulations, 2016;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor:
- (c) whether above policy has been complied upon by IRDAI to curb corruption in IRDAI;
- (d) if so, the details thereof for the year 2018, 2019 and 2020 till date; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Loan disbursal by World Bank

217 Shri Vaiko:

Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:

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

- (a) whether the World Bank has agreed to provide one billion dollar more as loan to India in the COVID-19 pandemic situation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of sectors that would benefit by this term-loan; and
- (d) the status of loan disbursal by the World Bank?

Payment of GST Compensation to States

218 Shri Vaiko:

Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:

- (a) whether Government has paid compensation against the lesser GST collection to the States, during the last six months;
- (b) how long the States will cope up with the delay in payment of GST compensation, in view of their exceeding the limit of short-term liquidity and increase in ways and means

advance limit:

- (c) whether grants would be given in view of a number of States not agreeing for borrowing; and
- (d) any meeting held between the Finance Ministers of States and the Centre to resolve the crisis, if so, the details thereof?

Fall in GDP and measures to improve it

219 Dr. Sasmit Patra:

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

- (a) the reasons for the fall in GDP in India; and
- (c) action taken or being taken by Government in order to normalize the GDP and bring it back on track?

Borrowing by States to meet GST shortfall

220 Shri Sanjay Raut:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has proposed two options to States to meet the ₹ 2.3 lakh crore GST shortfall either by borrowing in 2020-21 only to meet the shortfall related to GST implementation (₹ 97,000 crore), with the rest payable after 2022 from surplus cess collections, or borrow in 2020-21 to meet entire shortfall;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a number of State Governments including Maharashtra State have objected to the proposed two options and told that this will be adversely impact their States' development funds if they have to borrow; and
- (d) if so. Government's response thereto?

Parking funds by banks with RBI

221 Shri Sanjay Raut:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of Indian banks have made nearly ₹ 23,500 crore (\$3.1 billion) by parking their funds with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) during the lockdown instead of lending money to the various needy sectors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the reserves of Indian Banks held with RBI during the last three years; and
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to discourage the banks to park their reserves with RBI and start lending to the various core sector to boost the ailing economy?

Ease of living of people

222 Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

Shri P. Bhattacharya:

Dr. Amee Yajnik:

- (a) whether Government focuses on the ease of living of people of the country:
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken by Government in this

regard;

- (c) whether Government has undertaken any survey to improve and mitigate problems in India's growth model: and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the survey?

Impact of bank merger

223 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

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

- (a) whether the merger of Union Bank of India, Andhra Bank and the Corporation Bank will lead to any loss of jobs for the present employees or loss of any future employment opportunities for the people;
- (b) whether Government plans to preserve the strong regional focus which the Andhra Bank had towards the Telugu speaking States; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Revival of economy

224 Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:

Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

Shri M. Shanmugam:

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

- (a) whether Government has made any comprehensive assessment regarding the slump in economy of the country due to COVID-19 epidemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any scheme/measures to tackle the severe slump occurred in the economy;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Charter of Taxpayers rights

225 Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:

Shri Vaiko:

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

- (a) the salient features of first charter of taxpayers rights and duties issued recently by the Prime Minister:
- (b) the percentage of income-tax annual returns and assessment cleared by the Department, during the last three years, year-wise;
- (c) the percentage of refund of tax over and above paid, pending with the Ministry, during the last three years; and
- (d) whether there was delay in scrutiny and disposal of the returns by the Department, if so, the details thereof?

GST Compensation to States

226 Shri Elamaram Kareem:

- (a) how much is the GST compensation fund pending to be disbursed to States, Statewise;
- (b) whether Government of Kerala has requested the Central Government to disburse the

pending GST compensation to the state, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when the current dues on GST compensation is expected to be paid to the States?

Gold smuggling in India

227 Shri Elamaram Kareem:

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

- (a) the details of gold smuggled to India during the last three years;
- (b) the details of seizure of smuggled gold, its quantity and the name of airport or seaport it was caught since last three years, year-wise;
- (c) the details of top 10 airports and seaports from where maximum quantity of smuggled gold got caught during the period; and
- (d) how many of such cases are being investigated by NIA along with Customs and DRI?

Faceless Tax Assessment

228 # Shri Mahesh Poddar:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Faceless Tax Assessment is a new process like GST, whereby Government has adopted the policy of giving relaxation to the tax payers by not assuming their omissions as a crime and also taking an immediate cognizance of their suggestions;
- (b) if so, whether any provision has been made to give relaxation from any kind of penal action in case of delay or omissions; and
- (c) the details of application of data analytics and artificial intelligence by Government towards selection of any particular tax payer for tax assessment under this system?

GST council's recommendations

229 # Shri P.L. Punia:

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

- (a) whether GST council has recommended to increase or decrease the taxes, cess and surcharge levied by the Central Governments, State Governments and local bodies in view of fall in GST collection, if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether the GST council recommended to determine an additional rate for a specific period of time to collect additional resources during Corona pandemic, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the GST council has recommended to implement special provisions of GST in connection with North Eastern and Hill States, if so, the details thereof?

GST on healthcare products used in treatment of COVID-19

230 Shri Binoy Viswam:

- (a) the total GST collection on healthcare products such as ventilators, masks, sanitisers, PPE, testing kits, etc that are used in the treatment or prevention of COVID-19; and
- (b) whether Government has considered reducing the GST on healthcare products used in the treatment and prevention of COVID-19?

Sale and disinvestment of PSUs

231 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

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

- (a) whether Government has listed Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for disinvestment and sale during the current financial year:
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the PSUs listed for sale and disinvestment include any profit making PSUs also; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Fall in GDP

232 Shri Ravi Prakash Verma:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether GDP for April to June 2020 quarter has fallen to -23.9 per cent, the worst ever contraction of GDP in the history;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether economy was on bad track before COVID-19 and 21 days complete lock down has exposed it;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the measures Government would take to check fall of GDP and to ameliorate the economic chaos in the country?

Allocation of funds to States for battling COVID-19

233 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

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

- (a) the amount requested by each State for the months of March, April, May, June, July, and August 2020 for battling the pandemic, State-wise;
- (b) the amount allocated to each state for the months of March, April, May, June, July and August 2020 for battling the pandemic, State-wise; and
- (c) the actual percentage share of the total expenditure incurred by the States on treating COVID-19 patients that is borne by the Centre for the months of March, April, May, June, July and August 2020?

Health insurance coverage in India

234 Shri Derek O' Brien:

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

- (a) whether Government has State-wise details of health insurance coverage in the country:
- (b) if so, the numbers thereof and details of rural-urban divide in health insurance coverage; and
- (c) if not, whether Government has details of other measures that serve as a proxy for health insurance coverage and details thereof?

Employment of PHC level staff

235 Shri Derek O' Brien:

- (a) whether Government has State-wise details of employment of Primary Health Centre level staff including medical and para-medical staff;
- (b) if so, numbers thereof and State-wise details of vacancies in PHC level staff; and
- (c) the percentage of expenditure as a share of total expenditure of the Ministry that has been incurred on PHC level staff in the last three years?

Availability of doctors per capita in India

236 Shri Derek O' Brien:

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

- (a) whether Government has details of per capita availability of doctors in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof as well as rural-urban distribution, State-wise; and
- (c) how many doctors per 1000 people are specialists, in rural as well as urban India?

Out of pocket expenditure

237 Shri Derek O' Brien:

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

- (a) whether Government has details of out-of-pocket expenditure incurred by patients as a percentage of total medical expenditure in a year and, if so, the numbers thereof, Statewise:
- (b) the out-of-pocket expenditure incurred by patients as a percentage of total medical expenditure for the last three years; and
- (c) the details of rural-urban distribution of out-of-pocket expenditure as a percentage of total medical expenditure for the last three years?

Increase in the burden on healthcare system

238 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

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

- (a) whether there are any estimates of increased burden of unattended healthcare needs due to the Covid-19 burden on the health system:
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are plans of strengthening the health system to improve on management of infectious diseases in the country:
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (u) ii so, the details thereof, and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Corona Vaccine Procurement Policy

239 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

- (a) whether Government has been in receipt of any proposal from the State Government of Telangana requesting to prepare guidelines for licensing, and distribution of corona vaccine which is expected to be marketed in the recent future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) The steps being taken by Government in this regard?

Initiatives taken to find solutions to address COVID-19

240 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken initiative to find solutions to address the Coronavirus pandemic, if so, details thereof;
- (b) the areas in which such research is being done and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether there have been partnerships with other countries in this respect and details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the progress made in manufacture of vaccine to fight COVID-19?

Increase in mental health issues during the pandemic

241 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

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

- (a) the details of initiatives Government has taken to map effect of COVID-19 on mental health of population, if not, reasons therefor;
- (b) whether it is a fact that mental health of children has been badly affected;
- (c) whether Government has taken steps to address this in particular, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that the country does not have sufficient number of mental health practitioners;
- (e) details of mental health practitioners in the country in last three years, State-wise; and
- (f) steps which Government plans to take to increase number of mental health practitioners in future?

Funds received from PM Cares Fund

242 Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has received any funds from PM Cares account towards the fight against Coronavirus;
- (b) if so, the procedure and details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Writing of medical prescriptions in capital letters

243 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

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

- (a) whether Government had issued orders asking doctors to write prescriptions in capital letters as it was finding it difficult to decipher medical records in various instances and due to having adverse medico-legal implications; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and steps being taken by the States in this regard?

National Covid-19 bio-repositories

244 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:

- (a) whether Government has operationalised national COVID 19 bio-repositories and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government has formulated any specific guidelines for the disposal of COVID

19 samples and if so, the details thereof?

District Public Health Labs

245 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:

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

- (a) the list of District Public Health Labs (DPHLs) for testing of epidemic prone diseases, State-wise;
- (b) the total number of DPHLs strengthened since July 2019 till present to test epidemic prone diseases; and
- (c) the total number of Japanese Encephalitis cases since 2016 till present, the details thereof State-wise?

Indian Food Sharing Alliance

246 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:

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

- (a) the number of food collection organisations that are operational under Indian Food Sharing Alliance (IFSA):
- (b) the number of volunteers working for the IFSA;
- (c) the number of people/households that received food under the initiative in the current financial year;
- (d) the number of beneficiaries of the initiative that live in rural area as a percentage of the total beneficiaries; and
- (e) whether Government has any plans to increase the scope of the IFSA to include household donations?

Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme

247 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:

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

- (a) the total number of blocks with rapid molecular diagnostics presently, the details thereof. State-wise:
- (b) the total percentage of patients tested for Rifampicin resistance since August 2019 till present, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the total number of TB cases notified from the year 2016 till present the details thereof, State-wise?

Mobile ventilators and equipments from US to fight Covid-19

248 Shri V. Viiavasai Reddy:

- (a) whether it a fact that the US has sent mobile ventilators and other equipment to India to fight COVID-19;
- (b) if so, the details of equipment so far sent by the US and the States to whom Government has sent them for use:
- (c) whether Government has sought any other medical equipment, etc., from the US to deal with COVID-19;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the status of progress of vaccine for Corona-virus jointly being researched by India and US?

Fire accidents in Covid-19 hospitals/ hotel-turned Covid hospitals

249 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

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

- (a) the details of fire and other accidents in COVID-19 hospitals/hotel-turned-COVID-hospitals in the country; and
- (b) the reasons for such accidents and the action Government has taken against the culprits?

Sub-standard masks

250 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

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

- (a) Whether Government has taken note of the fact that many sub-standard masks have flooded the market which made the life of the common people, who are already battling with Corona Virus/Covid-19 pandemic, more dangerous;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any concrete steps in this regard to sensitise the common people to use standard mask;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Guidelines/Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) issued by the World Health Organisation (WHO)

251 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

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

- (a) whether Government is strictly following all the guidelines/Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) issued by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in combating the Covid-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has come across any instances of violation of guidelines/Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) issued by WHO; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Health insurance cover for health workers

252 Shri M. Shanmugam:

Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:

- (a) whether Government had made arrangements for health insurance cover for frontline health workers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof:
- (c) if not, who will give adequate compensation to these health workers who are warriors in the fight against Covid-19;
- (d) whether any direction has been given to the State Governments for providing insurance cover to the health staff working under them, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) how many States have provided insurance cover to health staff, the details thereof?

Draft Digital Health Management Policy

253 Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

Shri Parimal Nathwani:

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

- (a) whether Government has released the draft Health Data Management Policy for public feedback:
- (b) if so, the details thereof:
- (c) whether this policy sets out the manner in which data privacy will be maintained once the National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) is implemented;
- (d) whether the NDHM aims to digitise health records and maintain registries for healthcare professionals and health facilities; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Achievements made under NUHM

254 Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) the achievement made by Government under National Urban Health Mission (NUHM);
- (b) whether Government has increased the scope of National Rural Health Mission to National Health Mission, if so, the details of the programme; and
- (c) the action taken by Government to provide cheap and quality health services to the urban and semi-urban poor?

Covid testings

255 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

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

the number of Covid-19 tests done for the months March, April, May and June 2020 throughout India, month-wise and State-wise?

Covid-19 testing labs

256 Shri Tiruchi Siva:

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

- (a) the total number of testing labs all over India authorised and set up for testing of Covid-19 for the months March, April, May, June and July 2020, month-wise; and
- (b) the total number of authorised testing facilities functioning during the months of March, April, May, June and July 2020, month-wise and State-wise?

Loss of lives due to Covid-19

257 Dr. Anil Agrawal:

- (a) the details and number of people affected and lost their lives due to Coronavirus/Covid-19 in the country during the last six months, till date, State-wise and month-wise;
- (b) the number of people in the hospitals under treatment at present in the country, Statewise: and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to control the situation?

Shortage of doctors to handle Covid-19 pandemic

258 Dr. Anil Agrawal:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of doctors in the Government hospitals in the country to cope with the Corona Virus/COVID-19;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to face the situation?

University Examinations during pandemic

259 Dr. Santanu Sen:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry was consulted by the Education Ministry ahead of the start of various examinations like University, competitive and recruitment exams;
- (b) if so, looking at the widespread pandemic whether the Ministry was in favour of allowing the exams to be conducted or did it advise otherwise; and
- (c) the advice at different stages?

District hospitals under PPP Model

260 Dr. Santanu Sen:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to link Government district hospitals with the private medical colleges under Public Private Partnership (PPP) model;
- (b) whether Government is aware that this move to commercialize public health system will convert almost half of the hospital beds into paid beds and will further reduce poor people's access to public health institutions;
- (c) if so. Government's reaction thereon:
- (d) whether Government is facing scarcity in resources and finances to meet the basic health needs of common citizens; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Deaths due to Coronovirus

261 Shri Anil Desai:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people have lost their lives due to coronavirus:
- (b) if so, the number of deaths, State and UT-wise; and
- (c) the remedial measures taken by Government to contain the virus?

Availability of beds in hospitals

262 Shri Anil Desai:

- (a) the number of beds available for corona patients in Central Government hospitals in India:
- '(b) the number of beds available for such patients in the National Capital;
- (c) the number of patients availing treatment in these hospitals; and
- (d) whether any shortage of hospital beds has been reported from any part of country, if so

, how Government planned to address the same?

Usage of HCQ for the treatment of COVID-19.

263 Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia:

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

- (a) whether Government had allowed hydroxychloroquine(HCQ) to be used in treatment of Covid19 virus;
- if so, details of using pattern of HCQ among Doctors, Nurses, health workers, and other frontline Corona warriors during the pandemic;
- (b) the details of HCQ produced, exported, supplied to States/ UTs and used by them till date:
- (c) whether Government did not have any accurate data regarding efficacy of HCQ in treating Covid-19 and despite it permitted use of HCQ in treatment process; and
- (d) whether any HCQ study showed increased mortality in COVID-19 patients but the ICMR widened its use in India:

if so, details thereof?

Status of health services during Corona epidemic

264 # Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Smt. Chhava Verma:

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

- (a) the State-wise and hospital-wise number of such patients who were not suffering from Corona but still have been treated in AIIMS and Central Government run hospitals after 24th March. 2020 in the country:
- (b) whether it is a fact that due to poor health services during Corona pandemic more people have died from other diseases than Corona in the country; and
- (c) the percentage of GDP currently being spent on health sector and whether it is sufficient in view of population and diseases prevalent in the country?

Guidelines on breastfeeding of infants by mothers suspected with Covid-19 suspected

265 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

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

- (a) whether Government has issued guidelines to all Field functionaries/ healthcare providers to reassure and support all mothers to initiate and continue to breastfeed their infants as per its own guidelines and the guidelines of WHO in this regard even if they are suspected or confirmed to have Covid-19; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Tele-consultation service for CGHS beneficiaries

266 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has commenced a tele-consultation service for CGHS beneficiaries with specialist doctors in view of the COVID-19 pandemic to help them from various quarters, including senior citizens; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof.

Testing of TB patients for Covid-19

267 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has advised for all newly diagnosed TB patients or those currently on treatment should be tested for Covid-19;
- (b) whether Government has any plan to give special medical care to such patients with TB; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

New healthcare scheme for Covid-19 victims

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

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to introduce new healthcare scheme for the victims of COVID-19.
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the criteria laid down for getting the benefits by the victims; and
- (d) the funds allocated for the purpose, State/UT-wise including Uttar Pradesh?

Trauma Centre in Begusarai- Barauni, Bihar

269 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the number of reported and unreported deaths on National Highway-31 due to heavy traffic is alarming;
- (b) whether Government will consider to open a trauma centre which will cater to a large population between Mokama to Purnia, as being the only industrial area in Bihar in Begusarai-Barauni, a large number of people frequently visit but there is no facility to deal with fatal accident: and
- (c) if so, the scale of the Trauma centre to be established and if not, what is the alternative for the people injured in the Highway?

Setting up a National Institute of Sickle cell Disorder

270 Shri Prasanna Acharya:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that sickle cell disorder is a serious health concern in tribal and western parts of Odisha and in some States of eastern India e.g. Assam, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal etc.;
- (b) whether Government will constitute an expert committee to study the causes and treatment of this disease; and
- (c) whether Government will set up a National Institute of Sickle cell Disorder at V S S. Institute of Medical Sciences and Research at Burla, Odisha in view of the high incidence of Sickle cell disorder in Western Odisha?

ICU beds and ventilators

271 Shri Rajeev Satav:

- (a) the number of ICU beds and Ventilators available and operational in different Government-run hospitals, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether Government has taken steps to augment the number of ventilators in Government hospitals in view of surging cases of coronavirus in India;
- (c) if so, the quantum of fund released from PM CARES fund for this purpose; and
- (d) the number of ventilators that are being manufactured and the agency which has been assigned to manufacture these ventilators and the States that are going to be benefitted most?

Publicly funded health research institutes

272 Dr. Amee Yajnik:

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

Shri P. Bhattacharya:

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

- (a) the number of public funded health research institutes and apex public institutions established under the Department of Health Research for strengthening healthcare policy in the country:
- (b) the number of Government and privately run medical institutes that are engaged in doing research on health policies;
- (c) the amount of funds allocated to these institutions to continue health research activities and the outcome thereof; and
- (d) whether Government plans to establish more such institutes in the country in next two years, if so, the details thereof?

Establishments of new AIIMS under PMSSY

273 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe:

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

- (a) the progress made under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), in the establishments of 21 new AIIMS Project, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) the total amount of funds released for the construction of these projects in the last three years and the details thereof; and
- (c) the total capacity in terms of number of doctors and students in these new medical and healthcare institutions, and the details thereof?

Spending of healthcare sector

274 # Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

- (a) the percentage of GDP currently being spent on health sector in the country;
- (b) whether current spending in health sector is sufficient in view of population and diseases prevalent in the country;
- (c) whether it is a fact that due to poor health services during Corona more number of people are dying from other diseases than Corona in the country; and
- (d) whether the Government would propose to spend more than 10 per cent of GDP on health in the country so that poor health services could be improved?

Discharging of critically ill patients from AIIMS hospitals

275 # Smt. Chhaya Verma:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

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

- (a) the details of serious/critical patients admitted in various All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and Central Government hospitals of the country before the imposition of lockdown in March, 2020, State-wise and hospital-wise;
- (b) whether after the imposition of lockdown, such serious/critical patients were discharged from the hospitals without complete treatment due to which they had to face many problems; and
- (c) whether during the lockdown period other than the Corona patients, the treatment of patients suffering from other diseases was stopped in Central Government hospitals due to which large numbers of people became victims of untimely death?

Programmes to develop Covid-19 vaccines

276 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

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

- (a) the present status of vaccine programme/clinical trials for COVID-19 undertaken by ICMR and other private research centres in the country;
- (b) the details of vaccine programme for COVID-19 undertaken by various other advanced countries;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government is also collaborating with other vaccine research labs and countries to find a vaccine;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the expected date of vaccine for this deadly disease?

Replicating best practices to contain Covid-19 pandemic

277 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

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

- (a) the efforts being made to contain COVID-19;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government had asked States to replicate the best practices, such as comprehensive contact tracing, household survey, plasma donation, etc., being implemented in some States to contain pandemic;
- (c) How Government is convincing States to shift asymptomatic patients to special care centres instead of hospitals;
- (d) the steps taken to ensure that private hospitals charge only rates fixed by Central/State Governments; and
- (e) whether there are any plans before Government to takeover States which are failing to control pandemic?

Disposal of bio-medical waste by quarantine centres during COVID-19

278 Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that the various quarantine hospitals and spaces throughout the country are not following all the rules in disposing of bio-medical waste, thereby increasing the risk of spread of the infection;

- (b) if so, the details of the directions/guidelines issued by Government in this regard; and
- (c) to what extent those guidelines have been followed by hospitals and quarantine centres?

Central assistance to states in dealing with COVID-19

279 Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia:

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

- (a) whether Government has sent several health and disaster response teams to various States where coronavirus cases have increased:
- (b) if so, the details of the teams sent to various States and also the details of assistance provided to State Governments to contain the spread of infection; and
- (c) to what extent the State Governments have succeeded in containing the spread of coronavirus infection?

Steady rise in Covid-19 cases

280 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that India"s daily average COVID cases are showing a frightening steady rise;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that COVID 19 has reached community outbreak since June,2020 and most cases in cities are being received from rural and remote areas, if so, the details thereof:
- (c) whether Government is planning to increase the availability of intensive care beds and the capacity of hospitals in remote areas to cope with a large-scale outbreak of COVID-19; and
- (d) if so, the details therefor and if not the reasons thereof?

Strategic approach to combat Covid-19

281 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

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

- (a) whether Government had launched any strategic approach to combat COVID-19 particularly in the event of a possible outbreak, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government failed to achieve the desired results in containing the spread of decease, and facilitating the treatment adequately, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government has made scientific assessment of the reasons for low rate of deaths due to Covid 19 in India as compared to other seriously impacted countries if so, the details thereof?

Research on development of vaccine for coronavirus

282 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

- (a) whether India's average overall global health security score continues to be very low compared to several developing countries, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether India, and other countries are conducting research for developing medicine or vaccine for Coronavirus, if so, the status of outcome and details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has signed or proposes to sign bilateral or multilateral agreement with other countries to find vaccine/drugs to prevent COVID-19, if so, the details

thereof?

Airborne spread of COVID-19

283 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Coronavirus will also spread by air as per the WHO:
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the above brief is entirely different from an earlier brief by WHO:
- (c) if so, how Government looks at this and how it is going to prevent airborne spread of COVID-19:
- (d) whether India has entered into community transmission stage; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Development of Corona vaccine

284 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

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

- (a) the details of companies/institutes working for Corona vaccine in the country;
- (b) the details of companies/institutes which have completed Phase-I and Phase-II trials and details of results:
- (c) the details of companies whom Government has given permission to conduct Phase-III trials:
- (d) by when the country can expect to get the vaccine;
- (e) whether Government has studied vaccines announced by Russia and China; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Status of development of COVID vaccine in India

285 Dr. Sasmit Patra:

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

- (a) by when the vaccine for COVID is going to be ready for use in India;
- (b) the arrangements that have been made by Government to ensure adequate supply of COVID vaccines for the entire country;
- (c) the present status of development of the COVID vaccine in India; and
- (d) the quantum of Government funding or financial support, if any, in development of COVID vaccine in India?

Checking overcharging by private hospitals

286 Shri Abdul Wahab:

- (a) the details of actions/effort made by Government to contain Covid-19, monthly-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that, the private hospitals are charging high prices for Covid-19 treatment:
- (c) the actions taken by Government to control the heavy price charged by Private hospitals in treating Covid patients;
- (d) whether Government has given any guidelines to private hospitals about the maximum treatment cost related to Covid-19; and
- (e) if so, the details therefor?

Fatalities from snake bite

287 Shri Sanjay Raut:

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

- (a) whether it is fact that more than 50,000 people died due to snakebite and most cases of snakebites are not recorded because they either do not reach the hospital or the doctor cannot diagnose:
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) the number of institutes producing anti-snake venoms in various parts of the country;
- (d) whether Government is not providing sufficient financial assistance to these institutes to produce more anti-snake venoms as some institutes are closed due to funding in the country; and
- (e) if so, details thereof and steps proposed in this regard?

Inadequacy of medical infrastructure and personnel to handle Covid-19 out break 288 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

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

- (a) to what extent Government felt the inadequacy of medical personnel and infrastructure across the country in the wake of Covid-19 outbreak;
- (b) the details of steps taken/being taken to augment the infrastructure keeping the future for such need in view;
- (c) whether the facilities created in the railway coaches for Covid-19 patients ever required to put to use;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other immediate steps taken by Government to cope up with Covid-19 pandemic?

Insufficient number of beds and ventilators for Corona patients

289 # Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

Smt. Chhava Verma:

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) whether sufficient number of beds and ventilators for Corona patients were not available after 24th March, 2020 in AIIMS and Central Government run hospitals of the country:
- (b) whether it is a fact that an increase in the number of deaths of patients has been reported due to non-availability of sufficient number of beds and ventilators in the hospitals; and
- (c) the details of availability of beds and ventilators for Covid-19 patients in the Government hospitals of the country and increase in their numbers from March, 2020 to till date?

Covid-19 certificate for entering hospitals

290 # Shri Ram Nath Thakur:

- (a) whether such news are in the cognizance of Government that patients have been asked for bringing Covid-19 test report before entering the Government hospitals;
- (b) if so, whether it would be fair to force poor people to bring this test report, which involves an expenditure of ₹ 2400/-; and
- (c) whether Government could make such a system on the gates of hospitals by which all the patients could be tested before entering the hospitals?

Medical aids to States to fight pandemic

291 # Shri P.L. Punia:

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

- (a) the details of medical help sought by the State Governments in terms of Medicines, Ventilators etc. to fight Cororna virus;
- (b) details of medical help provided/to be provided in terms of Medicines, Ventilators to the States as per their demand, State-wise; and
- (c) whether medical facilities like Medicines and Ventilators etc. are currently available with the State of sufficient quantity, if not, the plant chalked out for the supply of same and the details thereof?

COVID-19 fatalities amongst healthcare workers

292 Shri Binoy Viswam:

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

- (a) the number of healthcare staff, including doctors ,nurses , support staff and ASHA workers who have been affected by and died from COVID19? (b) the measures have been taken to protect frontline healthcare workers from the disease;
- (c) whether Government has received any complaints from Covid-19 designated hospitals regarding the lack of protective gear for staff and doctors; and
- (d) the number of families of healthcare workers who have died from Covid-19 have availed the insurance scheme "Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan"?

Early indications of Covid 19 pandemic outbreak in the country

293 Shri Binoy Viswam:

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

- (a) when did the Ministry first take notice of the Covid-19 outbreak;
- (b) the strategies adopted by the Ministry to ensure that the spread of the Covid-19 outbreak would be curtailed before the national lockdown was announced; and
- (c) despite multiple warnings about the Covid-19 pandemic, the reasons for no precautions being taken up such as quarantining or contact tracing, taken for international travellers prior to March 2020?

Doctors and paramedics falling victims to Covid-19

294 Shri Ravi Prakash Verma:

- (a) the details of the number of persons including doctors and medical staff died due to Covid-19 in India as on date, State-wise;
- (b) the details of fund allocated, released and utilised for testing and treatment of corona patients. State-wise:
- (c) the reasons for failure of Government to contain spread of corona cases inspite of early inputs from WHO and other affected countries in the beginning of the year; and
- (d) the mechanism Government follows to check concealing/under reporting of deaths due to Covid-19?

Role of solar energy in achieving goals of Atmanirbhar Bharat

295 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

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

- (a) whether solar energy will play a big role in achieving goals of Atmanirbhar Bharat in future; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and progress made in this regard, State-wise?

Growth and investment in Renewable Energy sector

296 Dr. Bhagwat Karad:

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

- (a) the rate of growth of India's Renewable Energy Sector specially in solar and Wind energy market; and
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to encourage investment in the area of renewable energy sector?

Solar energy generation in the country

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

Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

Dr. Amee Yainik:

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

- (a) the target set and achievements made in the field of solar energy generation during the last three years;
- (b) the steps being taken by Government for achieving the target;
- (c) the funds released to and spent by each State during this period; and
- (d) the expenditure likely to be incurred to promote and popularise the solar energy in the country during the current financial year?

Renewable energy facilitation centre

298 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is setting up renewable energy facilitation centre;
- (b) whether these centres are set up in all states, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the objectives and aims of these renewable energy facilitation centre?

Reduction of imports of solar panels and solar cells from China

299 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

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

- (a) whether Government is taking any steps to reduce the import of solar cells and panels from China; and
- (b) whether there are any plans to manufacture solar cells and panels in India, if so, the details thereof?

Plan for investment in renewable energy sector

300 # Shri Neeraj Dangi:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to formulate a plan for investment in the field of renewable energy, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the amount of the allocated money spent on the renewable energy plans during the last three years, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the target in Megawatt fixed for the production of renewable energy; and
- (e) the quantum of total power distributed every year?

Completion of New and Renewable Energy projects

301 Shri Mahesh Poddar:

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

- (a) the total number and the breakup of new and renewable energy projects for which 5-month deadline extension was provided on 25 March 2020, State-wise;
- (b) the total number and breakup of projects completed by the new deadline of 24 August 2020. State-wise:
- (c) the steps Government intends to take with regard to projects that have not been completed by the new deadline?

Higher electricity charges hampering growth and competitiveness of Indian industries

302 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

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

- (a) whether abnormal high electricity charges and erratic supply in a few States are the major impediments in achieving competitiveness by Indian industries globally:
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to lower down the electricity charges for industries at par with domestic consumers and farmers since the electric supply has substantially improved in certain States considerably to better the health of export-oriented Indian industries, if not, the reasons thereof?

Violation of Power Purchase Agreements by State Governments

303 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the fact that Power Purchase Agreements announced by Government has been violated by State Governments including the State of Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government has issued any advisory in this regard to State Governments including the State of Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof?

Closed power projects in the country

304 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

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

(a) the number of power projects lying closed as on date;

- (b) the reasons for the closure of such power projects; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to revive such projects if so, the details thereof?

Ongoing power projects in Kerala

305 Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:

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

- (a) the details of the ongoing power projects along with the power produced by them within the country including Kerala;
- (b) the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised under these projects during the last two years across the country:
- (c) whether some of the projects are facing huge cost/time overrun, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the action taken by Government for timely completion of these projects in future?

Total installed capacity of power

306 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe:

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

- (a) the total installed capacity of power in the last five years, the details thereof, Centrewise and State-wise:
- (b) the contribution of private and public sector in the total installed capacity, the details thereof: and
- (c) the share of Renewable Energy in the total installed capacity in the last five years, the details thereof?

Incentives provided to Discoms during Corona crisis to maintain liquidity

307 # Shri Mahesh Poddar:

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government to support power Distribution Companies (DISCOMs) financially, in order to maintain liquidity in power sector during corona crisis and the details of the type and amount of economic burden on the institutes of Central Sector:
- (b) the details of total profits accrued to domestic and industrial consumers in the wake of financial assistance being provided to DISCOMs by Government, the details thereof including the mode and quantum thereof; and
- (c) the details of relief provided to domestic and industrial consumers due to financial assistance rendered by Government in terms of total fixed charged, late payment, surcharge payment;

the type and quantum thereof?

Policy to encourage students/ youth towards S&T

308 Shri P. Bhattacharya:

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

- (a) whether Government has framed any policy to encourage the students/ youth of the country towards the field of Science and Technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the achievements made in this field; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government for promoting affordable sustainable innovation in the field of Science and Technology?

Foreign assistance through international agreements for research programmes 309 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

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

- (a) whether Government has received foreign assistance through international agreements for carrying out research programmes/ project in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the foreign assistance received during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the details of the direct and indirect conditions imposed on recipient institutions/ bodies by the donors?

Bi-national Science and Technology Centres

310 Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe:

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

- (a) whether Government has launched any programme to support bi-national S&T Centres which are independent entities established under inter-governmental bilateral agreements in the last three years, the details thereof, country-wise;
- (b) the various modes of cooperation in selected areas of mutual interest with different countries/organisations under these programmes; and
- (c) the number of Indian scientists who are engaged in collaborative scientific research under these bilateral agreements in the last three years?

Revenue losses to tourism sector

311 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

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

- (a) whether there are estimates and/or projections for revenue losses incurred by tourism sector in the year 2020-21;
- (b) whether the Ministry plans to adopt new strategies to boost tourism going forward, if so, details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Measures to boost domestic tourism post COVID-19

312 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Will the Minister of Tourism be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to give incentives to the domestic tourists to boost local tourism during FY 20-21;
- (b) if so, the details thereof stating the steps being taken by Government to boost domestic tourism post COVID-19, if not, the reasons thereof; and
- (c) the measures taken by Government to boost tourism in the state of Odisha post COVID?

Job losses in tourism sector during COVID-19

313 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

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

(a) whether Government has an estimate of the number of people who lost jobs in the tourism and allied sectors during the COVID-19 lockdown period starting March 2020 till July 2020, if so, the details thereof;

- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government is planning to take any steps to alleviate the strife of lost work in the tourism sector owing to COVID-19. if so, the details thereof?

Effect of COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism sector

314 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

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

- (a) the contribution of the tourism sector to India's economy during the past 5 years;
- (b) the number of jobs and businesses does the sector support;
- (c) how badly has the tourism sector been hit due to the outbreak of COVID-19;
- (d) the plan to revive the sector given the uncertainty about the duration of the crisis; and
- (e) whether any efforts have been made to address the issue, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Development of new religious tourist circuits in Bihar

315 # Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:

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

- (a) whether Government has any plan to build new religious tourist circuits in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Inclusion of places from Marathwada region into Religious Tourism Circuit

316 Dr. Bhagwat Karad:

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

- (a) whether Government has any action plan for developing the religious places in the country by connecting them in a tourism circuit;
- (b) whether Government is planning to add places from Marathwada Region of Maharashtra into this circuit, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Fund allocation and revenue generated from tourism sector

317 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

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

- (a) the details of revenue earned by Government in the tourism sector during the last three years, till date, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the amount allocated for the development of tourism sector, State-wise;
- (c) the details of the major works carried out for the promotion of tourism during the last three years;
- (d) the details of the projects for which these funds have been allocated; and
- (e) the total funds allocated, sanctioned and released to the State Government of Maharashtra under various schemes during the last three years and in the current year?

Village Tourism in the country

318 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

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

(a) whether the Ministry has contemplated any plan extending the tourism to Indian Villages

which reflects India's true cultural and social Identity;

- (b) whether the Ministry has contemplated and mooted a plan for "Village Tourism";
- (c)If so, the number of villages that are included for "Village Tourism" and the details of their locations: and
- (d) if not, whether the Ministry will discuss and promote the idea of "Village Tourism" in India?

Funds for Iconic Tourist Sites development

319 Dr. Sasmit Patra:

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

- (a) the total funds released for the development of the Iconic Tourist Sites as announced by the Government:
- (b) the total funds released for Konark Temple as an Iconic Tourist Site as announced by the Government: and
- (c) the progress of work in the Iconic Tourist Sites?

Revival of tourism sector

320 Shri K.K. Ragesh:

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

- (a) whether any proposal for revival of tourism sector which suffered heavy losses due to COVID-19 pandemic is under consideration, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether any special schemes for small scale operators in tourism sector is under consideration?

New Delhi The 11th September, 2020 Bhadra 20, 1942 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma, Secretary-General.

[#] Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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