

(c) A high growth rate in per capita income during the last three years is reflected in improved standard of living of people. India's consumption has improved. Evidence is also available with regard to people in rural areas also spending more on durable goods. Improvement in average expectancy of life, reduction in children's mortality rate etc. are also to some extent reflective of higher per capita income. In addition, Government has been undertaking various targeted interventions in the area of health, education, employment, housing, poverty alleviation, social empowerment among others. The key interventions include Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), National Social Assistance Programme, Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, Targeted Public Distribution System/National Food Security Act, DeenDayalUpadhyayaGrameen Kaushal Yojana (DDU-GKY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana. Government has also been leveraging technology, for instance in use of Direct Benefit Transfers to improve delivery of benefits directly to poorer sections of society to improve upon their effective incomes.

Inclusion of Meera Circuit under Swadesh Darshan Yojana

*205. DR. SONAL MANSINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state whether any provision has been made to include a MEERA Circuit Scheme under Spiritual Circuit to cover Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat under Swadesh Darshan Yojana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): All the tourist places in the country related to spirituality are covered under the Spiritual Circuit theme of Swadesh Darshan Scheme of Ministry of Tourism.

The projects for development under the scheme are identified in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, submission of suitable detailed project reports, adherence to scheme guidelines and utilization of funds released earlier.

Based on the above criteria, Ministry has sanctioned funds to the tune of ₹ 2.29 crore for development of Parking near Meera Bai Temple (Chittorgarh); Light and Sound Show and Flood Illumination of Main Gate and surroundings at Meera Bai Smarak (Merta) under the project 'Development of Heritage Circuit: Rajsamand (Kumbhalgarh Fort)- Jaipur (Nahargarh Fort)-Alwar (Bala Quila)-Sawai Madhopur (Ranthambore Fort and Khandar Fort)-Jhalawar (Gagron Fort)-Chittorgarh

(Chittorgarh Fort)-Jaisalmer (Jaisalmer Fort)-Hanumangarh (Kalibangan, Bhatner Fort and Gogamedi)-Jalore (Jalore Fort)-Udaipur (Pratap Gaurav Kendra)-Dholpur (Bagh-i-Nilofar and Purani Chawni)-Nagaur (Meera Bai Smarak) in Rajasthan under Swadesh Darshan Scheme'.

No proposal has been received for development of sites related to Meera Bai in Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat.

Immunisation of children and pregnant women in Punjab under UIP

*206. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the numbr of children and pregnant women still to be immunised, under the Universal Immunisation Programme, in Punjab against the threatening diseases; and

(b) whether Government proposes to take action on the same without further loss of time?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) As per the report of National Family Health Survey-4 (NFHS-4)-2015-16, around 89% children aged 12-23 months are fully immunized and similarly 89% of the pregnant women in Punjab received two or more doses of Tetanus Toxoid (TT) Vaccine.

(b) Government has launched Mission Indradhanush with an aim to increase the full immunisation coverage to 90% through focus on pockets of low immunisation coverage. During the various phases of Mission Indradhanush, 14 districts of Punjab have been covered. Further, 1261 villages across 22 districts and 461 villages across 2 districts were also covered during Mission Indradhanush under Gram Swaraj Abhiyan and Extended Gram Swaraj Abhiyan respectively. During various phases of Mission Indradhanush, 1,94,674 children and 42,337 pregnant women have been vaccinated. Further, strengthening of routine immunisation microplans and awareness generation activities have been taken up to improve the immunization coverage and sustain the gains of Mission Indradhanush.

Removing economic inequality

†*207. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that economic inequality is constantly increasing in the country causing poor people to become poorer and rich people to become even richer;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.