

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, April 1, 2022/ 11 Chaitra, 1944 (Saka)

**(Ministries : Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Commerce and Industry;
Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Electronics and
Information Technology; Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; Food
Processing Industries; Heavy Industries; Railways; Textiles)**

Total number of questions -- 15

Implementation of PMGKAY

316 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has extended free foodgrains to the poor till November 2021 under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of beneficiaries, State-wise and district-wise;
- (c) the details of foodgrains allotted to various States under PMGKAY since April 2020, State-wise;
- (d) the details of foodgrains lifted by States so far since April 2020, State-wise and month-wise;
- (e) the reasons that one kilogram pulses given earlier have not been given under PMGKAY since 23 April, 2021; and
- (f) whether Government would consider extending PMGKAY for another six months as the scheme ends in March 2022?

Malpractices in procurement of paddy from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

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

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total MSP given for procurement of different crops in the last three years, crop-wise and year-wise, in quantity and value terms;
- (b) the cost of procurement and comparison in costs between FCI direct procurement States and decentralised procurement States;
- (c) whether any complaints have been received relating to malpractices in procurement of paddy from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and
- (d) if so, the nature of complaints so received and the action taken in this regard?

Release of funds for DMIC and CBIC

318 **Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total funds released for infrastructure packages for the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) and Chennai – Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (CBIC) for the last two years;
- (b) the total number of projects appraised since the years 2020-21 till date; and
- (c) the status of completed projects under DMIC and CBIC till date?

Honouring the art of skilled artisans

319 # **Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

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

- (a) whether Government has organized "All India Crafts Mela" to honour the art of highly skilled artisans of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the other steps taken by Government during the last three years to honour the art of skilled artisans of the country?

Setting up of committee to review MSP and farmers' issues

320 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formed/set up a committee to review issues on Minimum Support Price (MSP) and other farmers' issues such as promotion of Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) and organic farming; and
- (b) if so, the details and the present status thereof?

Support to Gaushalas in the country

321 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry provides fund support to Gaushalas in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details of the targetted number of Gaushalas constructed and the actual achievement made in fodder support alongwith other support provided in the country, State-wise and year-wise from 2017 to till date?

Use of drones for spraying pesticides

322 **Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to draft a policy on using drone technology for spraying pesticides as well as other soil and crop nutrients in the farm sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any plans to either provide subsidies for purchasing drones or providing drones on rent by Panchayats to farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and how it would be helpful in generating employment?

Startups in clean energy and innovations

323 **Shri Y. S. Chowdary:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is supportive of innovations led by Startups in clean energy and emerging technologies, supportive of transformation of Indian businesses and creating a road map;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made thereon; and
- (c) the steps being taken for an effective collaborative partner towards creating a new future for the manufacturing sector under Atal Innovation Mission, the details thereof?

Increasing speed of trains in Kerala

324 **Shri K.J. Alphons:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the average speed of trains in Kerala is too slow;
- (b) whether Government has any action plan to increase the speed to reasonable levels; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Amount transferred towards MSP to farmers for paddy procurement

325 **Dr. Sasmit Patra:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total Minimum Support Price (MSP) towards paddy transferred to bank accounts of farmers in the country over the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the discrepancies, if any, found in transfers of such funds; and
- (c) whether the procurement of paddy and provision of MSP to farmers is the primary responsibility of the States or the Centre?

Representation on crisis in jute industry

326 **Shri Sanjay Raut:**

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

- (a) whether Government has received any representation from trade unions regarding the crisis plaguing the jute industry and seeking speedy action to protect the livelihood of mill workers, growers and others associated with the industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto; and
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to protect the workers in jute industry?

Growth rate of agriculture sector

327 **Shri Ripun Bora:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether growth rate of agriculture sector during 2021-22 is 3.9 per cent against 4.3 per cent in 2019-20; and
- (b) if so, the action taken and proposed to be taken to double the farm incomes as committed by Government for peasants, landless, women farmers and tenants thereof?

Allocation of funds for C-DAC

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

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

- (a) the total funds allocated for Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) during the last three years and the current year so far, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the total number of students who have been trained in the said C-DAC centres in the same period, State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether these centres are imparting the training effectively and the students are showing interest in these trainings;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve the quality of training in these C-DAC centres?

Activities undertaken by FPOs in the country

329 **Shri Prakash Javadekar:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) that have been formed in the last two years and the activities that are carried out under them;
- (b) the concept of FPOs; and
- (c) the amount of grants that have been given by Government to these FPOs?

Heritage preservation in Railways

330 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to promote heritage preservation in Railways and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps to identify various heritage items or artefacts that are currently lying unnoticed or overlooked at different locations and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Central Government proposes for the maintenance of Railways in hilly areas and bring them to the world standard to promote tourism; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Central Government in this regard?

New Delhi
The 25th March, 2022
 4 Chaitra, 1944 (Saka)

P. C. Mody,
 Secretary-General.

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