

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, March 25, 2022/ 4 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

Fraudulent inspection of railway tracks

241 # **Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a case of fraudulent inspection of railway tracks has come to light in the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR);
- (b) whether the derailment and accident of Bikaner-Guwahati Express on 13 January, 2022 in Jalpaiguri is because of the fake rail-track inspection or other reasons have come to fore;
- (c) the details of the action taken on the cases of negligence in railway track inspection and repair works during the last three years; and
- (d) whether the chances of such accidents are increasing due to the lack of trained staff and privatisation in Railways?

Impact on Indian trade due to economic sanctions on Russia

242 **Shri Vaiko:**

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

- (a) in view of economic sanctions and punitive measures imposed on Russia by the USA and other Western countries, whether Government has examined the impact of such sanctions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the extent to which the implications of such sanctions would affect the Indo-Russia trade, the details thereof?

Impact of Ukraine crisis on industry and commerce

243 **Shri K.J. Alphonso:**

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

- (a) the impact of Ukraine crisis on Indian industry and commerce; and
- (b) the steps that are being taken by Government to reduce the adverse consequences?

Sharp decline in number of mobile subscribers

244 # Shri Rewati Raman Singh:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a sharp decline in the number of mobile subscribers in the country in the year 2020-21;
- (b) whether this decline has been registered due to the sluggish working style of mobile companies;
- (c) the guidelines issued by Government to these mobile companies to provide state-of-the-art and prompt service to mobile customers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Examination results withheld by RRB

245 # Smt. Chhaya Verma:

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

- (a) the number of results withheld by Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) after holding examinations including Non-Technical Popular Categories (NTPC) examination;
- (b) the number of examinations conducted by Railways during the last five years;
- (c) the number of persons who have been handed over the appointment letters by Railways and number of persons who have joined the services after the conduct of examinations during the last five years; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that Railways is showing lax attitude in carrying out recruitments and thus causing the unemployed not getting adequate opportunities to join Railway service?

Women workforce in agriculture sector

246 Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:

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

- (a) the total number of women engaged in sowing, hoeing, weeding and harvesting in agriculture sector;
- (b) the total women workforce in this sector since 2016 and the current year; and
- (c) the details of the number of women who left the agriculture sector due to COVID-19 and the steps taken by Government to prevent it?

Separate Railway Zone for North Eastern Region

247 Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:

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

- (a) whether the Railways received a proposal for creation of a separate Zone for North Eastern Region, i.e., eight States;
- (b) whether the Railways is considering the creation of the new Railway Zone by the next financial year; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

No footfall at Darjeeling Himalayan Railway converted museum

248 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that the railway press, which has been converted into a museum, is neither popular amongst tourists nor the locals;

- (b) whether the Ministry plans to convert it into a Central School, whereby a large number of people can get benefit; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Coach Midlife Rehabilitation Workshop at Kurnool

249 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

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

- (a) whether the Railways have sanctioned Coach Midlife Rehabilitation Workshop at Kurnool under South Central Railway (SCR) in the year 2013-14;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the progress of the Workshop as on date;
- (c) whether any funds have been allocated to this Workshop since its inception, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reasons for the inordinate delay in taking up the execution of the project?

Disbursement of loan under AIF

250 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

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

- (a) the total number of projects sanctioned from the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) in the country till date, State-wise;
- (b) the amount of loan that has been sanctioned and disbursed for the above projects under the said scheme, State-wise;
- (c) the details of number of farmers and entrepreneurs that benefitted from the said scheme, State-wise;
- (d) whether the recent modifications made to the scheme have extended benefits to small and marginal farmers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Protests against higher cotton and yarn prices

251 Shri M. Shanmugam:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that cotton garment units are protesting against higher cotton and yarn prices in the market, due to which they could not procure raw materials;
- (b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken to overcome the crisis;
- (c) whether Government would consider withdrawing customs duty of 10 per cent levied on cotton imports;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government would consider the proposal of advising Cotton Corporation of India to sell cotton only to the actual users, especially MSME sector, and maintain buffer stock for the next season; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Setting up of Software Technology Parks and electronic hubs

252 Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu :

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

- (a) whether Government has received proposals for setting up of Software Technology Parks (STPs) and electronic hubs in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

- (c) the action taken by Government to set up such parks, electronic hubs and Hardware Technology Parks in Tamil Nadu; and
 (d) the time by which the proposals are likely to be approved?

Promoting Zero Budget Natural Farming

253 # Shri Hardwar Dubey:

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

- (a) the efforts being made to achieve the goal of Zero Budget Natural Farming towards which Government is committed;
 (b) the efforts being made to promote the said farming among farmers and the way it is to be implemented for imparting education;
 (c) whether any financial assistance is also being provided to the farmers in this regard; and
 (d) if so, the details thereof?

Contribution of Startups

254 # Shri Ram Shakal:

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

- (a) whether the Startups are contributing in areas like rapidly increasing urbanisation, smart mobility, digitization of rural India, drone, agriculture, health in the country;
 (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) whether Government proposes to take local Startups to the global level, if so, the efforts made in this direction?

Support measures for agri-tech led Startups

255 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering to be a partner in Startups focused on digital solutions for agriculture;
 (b) whether the Ministry would consider proposals for providing equity grants, management costs and other support measures for agri-tech led Startups;
 (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 (d) if not, whether Government would give this suggestion a careful consideration?

New Delhi
The 19th March, 2022
 28 Phalgun, 1943 (Saka)

P. C. Mody,
 Secretary-General.

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