

## RAJYA SABHA

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### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, December 9, 2016/Agrahayana 18, 1938 (Saka)*

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(Ministries : Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers;  
Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution;  
Electronics and Information Technology; Food Processing Industries;  
Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs; Railways; Textiles)

Total number of questions — 15

#### **Wagon manufacturing units of Burn Standard Company Limited**

\*256. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased  
to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two wagon  
manufacturing units of Burn Standard  
Company Limited, situated at Burnpur and  
Howrah, are getting inadequate orders from  
Railways; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the  
aforesaid units are also facing non-  
availability of working capital?

#### **Shelving of Tanakpur-Ghat- Bageshwar railway route**

†\*257. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH  
MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS  
be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the railway routes in  
the country whose construction works have  
been shelved permanently after conducting  
a survey;

(b) whether Government has  
permanently shelved the construction  
work of the strategically important  
Tanakpur-Ghat-Bageshwar railway route  
in the border district of Uttarakhand, if so,  
the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, for how much time its  
construction work has been suspended?

#### **Direct Cash Transfer**

\*258. SHRIMATI JAYA  
BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of  
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan  
to introduce Direct Cash Transfer to  
farmers for procurement of fertilizers, if  
so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has set up any  
panel to study the impact of such a step, if  
so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons  
therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Inviting BRICS countries to cultivate pulses**

\*259. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the justification in inviting BRICS countries to cultivate pulses and oilseeds in the country;

(b) whether this move would push more and more farmers out of agriculture and add to unemployment; and

(c) if so, how Government is planning to go ahead?

**Controlling the prices of essential medicines**

\*260. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of several pharmaceutical products, including essential medicines, have increased manifold during each of the last three years and the current year, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken/being taken by Government to control the prices of essential medicines in the country?

**Raising level of the platforms in Mumbai Suburban Railway Networks**

\*261. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Mumbai Suburban Railway Networks of both Central and Western Railways, there

is a gap between the EMU rakes' entrance footboard and the level of the platforms;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this has led to numerous fatal accidents and mishaps;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways have decided to raise the level of platforms; and

(d) if so, the detailed programme of implementation of this project?

**Review of MSP of some crops**

\*262. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has announced increase in MSP of wheat and pulses along with other Rabi crops in November, 2016, if so, the details thereof, crop-wise;

(b) whether Government is aware that the increase announced is not in accordance with the cost of production and the promise of the Prime Minister, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would review it; and

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

**Simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies**

\*263. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to propose to work for the conduct of general elections to both Lok Sabha and various State Assemblies at the same time;

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

(c) whether Government plans to invite views and suggestions from State Governments, members and representatives of various civil societies, etc., if so, the details thereof?

#### **Rail Coach Factory in Assam**

\*264. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no Rail Coach Factory under North East Frontier Railway in Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether there is any plan to set up a Rail Coach Factory in Assam under the North East Frontier Railway; and

(d) if so, how much budget is earmarked for the purpose?

#### **Action taken on the enquiry report of Indore-Patna Express train accident**

†\*265. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the facts that emerged from the enquiry into the Indore-Patna Express accident in November, 2016 and the details of the action taken on the basis of the enquiry; and

(b) the details of train accidents in last three years involving derailment and claiming lives of more than 100 passengers?

#### **Entry of foreign law firms**

\*266. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is deliberating on allowing entry of foreign law firms;

(b) if so, whether such firms shall be regulated by the Bar Council of India; and

(c) whether foreign lawyers will be governed by the Advocates Act, 1961?

#### **Production and marketing facilities for organic produces**

\*267. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of organic crops being produced and the marketing facilities available therefor in the country;

(b) whether Government proposes to accord priority to organic farming; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken therefor, so far?

#### **Condition of cold storages**

\*268. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has maintained any data regarding total produce and the percentage of perished foodgrains and fruits for last three years, if so, details thereof, State/UT, foodgrain and fruit-wise;

(b) details of any survey conducted to review the condition of cold storages, their life, etc., State/UT-wise, if not the reasons therefor; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether a Cold-Chain Development Scheme was proposed with financial assistance @50 per cent of the total cost in general areas and @75 per cent for North Eastern/difficult areas, if so, the details and status of this scheme, till date?

#### **National Livestock Mission**

\*269. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the National Livestock Mission (NLM) which has been launched in 2014, along with the details of the progress of the Mission, so far;

(b) the details of funds allocated to various States by the Central Government during 2015-16 and 2016-17, so far, under the Mission;

(c) the status of implementation of NLM; and

(d) the various steps taken by Government to promote NLM in the country?

#### **Problems in booking of Tatkal tickets**

†\*270. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in spite of improvements and safeguards to a large extent, problems are persisting in getting Tatkal reservations and there is much scope for its misuse and deceitful use by agents/touts;

(b) whether due to seeking reservation through website by a large number of persons at ten o' clock in the morning, the prescribed time for opening of Tatkal reservation, it becomes difficult for genuine passengers to use above booking website; and

(c) whether it is a fact that touts/agents provide Tatkal tickets at a premium rate than the fixed rate?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 3rd December, 2016*  
*Agrahayana 12, 1938 (Saka)*

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,  
*Secretary-General.*

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**I N D E X**  
(Ministry-wise)

<b>Agriculture and Farmers Welfare</b>	:	259, 262, 267, 268, 269,
<b>Chemicals and Fertilizers</b>	:	258, 260,
<b>Communications</b>	:	—
<b>Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</b>	:	—
<b>Electronics and Information Technology</b>	:	—
<b>Food Processing Industries</b>	:	—
<b>Law and Justice</b>	:	263, 266,
<b>Parliamentary Affairs</b>	:	—
<b>Railways</b>	:	256, 257, 261, 264, 265, 270.
<b>Textiles</b>	:	—