RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Thursday, December 10, 2015/Agrahayana 19, 1937 (Saka)

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Development of North Eastern Region; Earth Sciences; External Affairs; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation; Human Resource Development; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Overseas Indian Affairs; Parliamentary Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Science and Technology; Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Social Justice and Empowerment; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Urban Development; Women and Child Development)

Total number of questions — 15

Improving literacy among SC population

- *121. SHRI P.L.PUNIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is a gap between the literacy rate of total population and Scheduled Caste population in States with high SC population;
- (b) if so, the measures taken to improve literacy among SC;
- (c) whether Government is aware of the fact that very less number of SC candidates reach the graduate studies; and
- (d) if so, the measures taken to increase the number of graduates from Scheduled Caste population?

Chinese help in infrastructure

- *122. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether during the visit of the President of National People Congress of China to Mumbai, Government was impressed by the infrastructure and speed of development in China especially the 42 km trans harbor link project that has been completed within a short span of time;
- (b) whether Government, on the lines of this would seek cooperation from Chinese companies to complete the trans harbor link in Mumbai; and
- (c) if so, the response of the Chinese Government thereto?

National Urban Rental Housing Policy

- *123. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the draft National Urban Rental Housing Policy suggests that in India housing shortage could be resolved if the vacant houses in urban areas are made available for rent:
- (b) if so, what is the total number of urban housing shortage at present in the country; and
- (c) the number of vacant houses in urban areas at present in the country?

Funding pattern of certain schemes

- *124. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that funding pattern of certain schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-Day-Meal Scheme has been changed and have been brought down to 60:40 pattern between Centre and State, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether this would not adversely affect the impact of such schemes in the States;
- (c) whether States have given concurrence to such formula; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and mechanism to monitor quality and impact of such schemes?

Tool rooms and technology development centres

*125. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government runs tool rooms and technology development centres to provide technological support to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the number of tool rooms and technology development centres, State-wise; and
- (c) whether there is no technology development centre in Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal?

Agreements signed during visit of PM to USA

- †*126. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Prime Minister has visited United States of America (USA) recently;
- (b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the main achievements of CEO Summit held in Silicon Valley during this visit; and
- (d) the details of agreements signed with renowned foreign companies in the direction of Digital India?

Amendment in reservation policy

- †*127. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether suggestions have been received for amendment in the reservation policy and whether any such proposal is under consideration;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) the details of poor persons on caste basis as per Census Report 2011 and the assistance received by different castes on the basis of reservation;
- (c) whether in the regulations of the Other Backward Class Commission, constituted under the recommendations of Mandal Commission, there is a provision for reviewing the other backward castes every 10 years and after review to change reservation as per their economic and social status; and
 - (d) if so, the action taken thereon?

Panel to re-assess the role of CVOs

- *128. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) has set up a panel to re-assess the role of Chief Vigilance Officers (CVOs) in PSUs;
- (b) by when the panel is expected to come up with its recommendations;
- (c) whether the panel would also be considering to discontinue the post, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether they would be given more powers considering their work which involves major decisions taken at the Board level, if not, the reasons therefor?

Latest CARA guidelines

- *129. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the major objectives sought to be achieved through the latest Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) guidelines:
- (b) whether Government is aware of apprehensions that these guidelines might further delay the process of adoption; and

(c) if so, the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken?

CBI investigation of cases against bureaucrats

- *130. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether CBI can investigate assets of bureaucrats at the time of joining service and till date after judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition No. 38/ 1997;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases and present status; and
- (c) whether CBI is planning to investigate such cases of bureaucrats of the Central Government and the State Governments in the light of the Supreme Court judgement?

New Skill Development Project

- *131. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:
- (a) the new skill development projects launched in the last six months in various parts of the country, alongwith the details regarding trade, region and districts, number of participants/beneficiaries, course length and implementing agency's names; and
- (b) the target for skill development of youth to be achieved till March, 2016?

NEC funds allocated to NE States

- *132. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that North East Council (NEC) funds are allocated to North Eastern States, if so, the details thereof;

- (b) the projects that have been retained for funding in the current financial year; and
- (c) the number of projects that have been selected for funding in the current financial year and the amount of funds released so far, project-wise?

Indians detained in jails of Iran

- *133. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that many Indians were detained in Iran jails for many years on charges of smuggling oil, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken up this issue with the Iran Government for their release; and
- (c) if so, the response received by Government from Iranian counterpart?

Reasons for not declaring Delhi as Smart City

*134. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that National Capital Region of Delhi (NCR) is the most polluted, dirtiest and congested city in the world, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for not declaring Delhi as Smart City being the capital of the country?

Recruitment of permanent faculties in Delhi University

- *135. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether despite growing scarcity of teachers in colleges under Delhi University, there has been no permanent recruitment of faculty in proportion to the need and requirement;
- (b) what are the major obstacles in recruiting permanent faculty in colleges under Delhi University; and
- (c) whether there is any plan to recruit permanent faculty in colleges under Delhi University, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

New Delhi; The 4th December, 2015 Agrahayana 13, 1937 (Saka) SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF, Secretary-General.

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