

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, December 14, 2015/Agrahayana 23, 1937 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Coal; Drinking Water and Sanitation; Environment, Forests and Climate Change; New and Renewable Energy; Panchayati Raj; Planning; Power; Road Transport and Highways; Rural Development; Shipping; Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation)

Total number of questions — 15

Steps taken to increase land under forests

*151. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) how much percentage of land in the country is under forests;

(b) whether this percentage has changed during the last few years and if so, the details thereof along with data of each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the current percentage of land under forests in the country is satisfactory; and

(d) if not, what is the ideal percentage and what are the steps taken by Government to increase the percentage of land under forests in the country?

Rural electrification in Uttar Pradesh

†*152. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation has considered a proposal for rural electrification in Uttar Pradesh specially in SC/ST dominated areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of amount sanctioned and spent in the State during the Eleventh Five Year Plan and the Twelfth Five Year Plan period so far?

Toll collection under TOT mode

†*153. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, under the new Toll-Operate-Transfer (TOT) mode, toll collection on National Highways would be awarded to foreign agencies and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether TOT mode would be implemented on those National Highways also where full cost has been recovered and on which other companies are already collecting toll and if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Status of work on NHs in Assam

*154. SHRI BISWAJIT DAIMARY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for non-completion of four laning of National Highway No. 37 from Srirampur to Manipur Border;

(b) the reasons for non-completion of Bogibeel bridge in Assam;

(c) the reasons for non-maintenance of National Highway No. 52 starting from Baihata Chariali to Itanagar; and

(d) whether the above mentioned projects are within the Act East Policy?

Improvement of National Highways in Odisha

*155. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of National Highways (NHs) in the country, State-wise;

(b) the proposals for new projects pending with the Ministry, State-wise;

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to improve NHs in Odisha during the Twelfth Five Year Plan; and

(d) by when the improvement work of NH 23 and NH 42 would be awarded?

Renewable energy for electrification of villages, etc.

†*156. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide electricity to villages, suburbs,

hamlets, settlements and inaccessible remote areas across the country by using renewable sources of energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the expenditure estimated to be incurred thereon;

(c) the number of villages identified for this purpose, State-wise; and

(d) by when those villages, suburbs and hamlets would be electrified?

Elephant deaths in Dooars area of West Bengal

*157. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of elephant deaths in train accidents are increasing in West Bengal's Dooars area;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial measures are taken to stop such accidents?

Illegal coal mining

*158. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of illegal mining of coal that is going on in some States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has assessed the loss incurred due to illegal coal mining;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to stop illegal mining of coal?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Establishment of National Elephant Conservation Authority

*159. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise data regarding the recommended amount for Project Elephant as well as, the amount actually sanctioned;

(b) the current status regarding the establishment of a National Elephant Conservation Authority (NECA) as recommended by the Elephant Task Force in their report titled, 'Gajah: Securing the future for Elephants in India' which was submitted on the 31st August, 2010; and

(c) what are the reasons for the delay in the establishment of NECA?

Pilot project for Underground Coal Gasification

*160. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and the Russian Federation had entered into an agreement in 2004-05 for undertaking a pilot project for Underground Coal Gasification (UCG);

(b) the progress registered during the last decade on the project that was to be started in or near Mehsana in Gujarat;

(c) the details of Government's evaluation of significance and potential of UCG for domestic energy security; and

(d) the steps being taken to expedite the pilot project with a view to commercialize UCG?

Funds allocated to Bihar under PMGSY

†*161. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated to Bihar under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the current year, district-wise;

(b) whether these funds are sufficient to implement the policy of connecting habitations with a population of 1,000 with all weather roads;

(c) if not, the reasons for allocation of less than required funds;

(d) by when such habitations would be connected with all weather roads; and

(e) the details of expenditure incurred in this regard, so far?

Cleaning of river Yamuna in Delhi

*162. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India has given any judgement for cleaning of river Yamuna in Delhi;

(b) whether the Court has also ordered to install Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) at the bank of the river to stop industrial wastes and sewage polluting the river;

(c) if so, the number of STPs installed;

(d) whether all the industrial wastes and sewage are now going to these STPs for treatment; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Use of diesel in cars

*163. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cleaning of air is a part of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan;

(b) what is Government's policy on use of diesel in private cars;

(c) whether it is a fact that diesel cars are allowed in Delhi but not diesel taxis; and

(d) whether Government is considering a ban on all diesel vehicles in Delhi?

Release of funds to Bihar

†*164. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state by when

the amount announced by the Prime Minister for the development of Bihar is proposed to be released, the details thereof?

Mandatory provisions for six laning of NHs

*165. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for construction of flyovers/subways/pedestrian paths/service roads under mandatory provisions in terms of six laning of National Highways in different States of the country; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to adopt these provisions and get them strictly implemented, so as to avert accidents on National Highways?

NEW DELHI;
The 8th December, 2015
Agrahayana, 17, 1937 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

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|--|-----------------------|
| Coal | : 158, 160, |
| Drinking Water and Sanitation | : — |
| Environment, Forests and Climate Change | : 151, 157, 159, 163 |
| New and Renewable Energy | : 156, |
| Panchayati Raj | : — |
| Planning | : 164, |
| Power | : 152, |
| Road Transport and Highways | : 153, 154, 155, 165, |
| Rural Development | : 161, |
| Shipping | : — |
| Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation | : 162. |