RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Tuesday, December 15, 2015/Agrahayana 24, 1937 (Saka)

(Ministries: Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH); Civil Aviation; Corporate Affairs; Defence; Finance; Health and Family Welfare; Information and Broadcasting; Minority Affairs)

Total number of questions — 15

Regulation of salaries of Directors/ MDs of listed companies

- *166. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to reports that a number of publicly listed companies are not paying dividend to their shareholders while offering very high salaries to the promoter Directors and MDs even though the balance sheet is in the red:
- (b) if so, whether Government will consider regulating the salaries of the promoter Directors/MDs by putting a cap on such outgo, and by limiting salary revision to the years in profit; and
- (c) whether Government will consider making the companies pay minimum dividend to small shareholders for whom the dividend is main source of income?

Investment of pension funds in stock market

*167. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering the proposal to raise investment limit of pension funds in stock market to 50 per cent, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is in line with the recommendations of the Bajpai Committee to review investment guidelines for National Pension System;
- (c) what is the total amount that is likely to be available for investment in the current year; and
- (d) what precautions/guidelines will be followed to ensure that the funds are invested prudently without exposing to higher risks and the details thereof?

Shortage of officers in the Armed Forces

- †*168. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of officers at various ranks in the Armed Forces;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the detailed reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether ministry has ever tried to find out the reasons behind this, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, whether Government would consider to constitute a committee of higher officers of Armed Forces to study the reasons for this shortage?

Response to Atal Pension Scheme

- †*169. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that people have shown lack of interest in the Atal Pension Scheme:
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) if not, the number of people who joined the Atal Pension Scheme since its inception and the steps being taken by Government to encourage people?

Implementation of Jan Dhan Yojana

- †*170. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Bank Accounts opened under Jan Dhan Yojana, announced by Prime Minister, so far, and the amount received by Government through these
- (b) whether the purpose for announcing this scheme has been achieved;
- (c) whether Government has made any changes keeping in view the problems coming in the way of implementation of this scheme; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Waiver on educational loans

- †*171. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government provides education loans to students for obtaining higher education;
- (b) if so, whether interest on that loan becomes effective from the very date on which it is disbursed;
- (c) whether charging interest like this will not put heavy burden on the students;
- (d) whether Government will make such provisions in the terms and conditions of education loan that interest on loan may be recovered from the students after completion of education and getting employment; and
- (e) whether Government proposes to waive off loan of students in the eventuality of meeting with an accident, if so, the details thereof?

Sharing of information on black money by Swiss Government

- *172. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Swiss Government's refusal to acknowledge stolen data has hurt India's probe into a list of 600 accounts of suspected black money holders;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Swiss Government has approved a bill that would allow the

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Government to share stolen data with other countries in a move that could add bite to India's war on black money, if so, the details thereof?

Rise in breast cancer cases

- *173. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that breast cancer is on the rise among young women;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the doctors are concerned that young women are ignoring warning signs; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that India is expected to have a whopping 200,000 new cases of breast cancer each year by 2030, if so, the details thereof?

Increase in deaths caused by AES

- *174. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is an increase in the deaths caused by Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) in the country:
- (b) whether Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam and West Bengal are the major regions where this problem has been going unabated:
- (c) the number of such deaths that have taken place during the last three years; and
- (d) whether Government has devised some action plan to save lives from this disease in the country, if so, the details thereof?

Scholarship schemes

- *175. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the scholarship schemes being run by the Ministry;
- (b) the details of allocations made under these schemes in the current financial year; and
- (c) the details of beneficiaries under the various scholarship schemes run by the Ministry for the current financial year, State-wise?

Shutting down of NNMB

- *176. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has shut down the National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau (NNMB);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the anti-poverty schemes which will be starved from such decision and remedial measures taken in this regard?

Rise in respiratory infection cases in Delhi

- *177. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that air pollution in Delhi is posing a rising health risk as number of cases of acute respiratory infection have risen by more than 5 million, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) what steps Government has taken to control the respiratory infection due to rise in pollution in Delhi?

Checking misuse of drugs on animals

- *178. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware that due to lack of comprehensive list of approved veterinary medicines, there is often drug overdose, drug resistance and misuse of medicines on animals which not only poses threat to humans (through milk, poultry etc.) but also impacts animals health badly;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) to draw an inventory of prescribed veterinary medicines in order to check use of potentially risky and banned drugs?

Harassment of tax payers during scrutiny of IT cases

- *179. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) what method is used by Income-Tax Department for selection of scrutiny cases;

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- (b) whether IT payers are harassed by officers by calling them again and again to income tax offices; and
- (c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to abolish the random scrutiny of cases, especially involving senior citizens?

Pending corporate litigations

- *180. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Ministry is aware about the large number of corporate litigations pending in the country;
- (b) the details of pending corporate litigations in courts including cases pending with Company Law Board (CLB), Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), Official Liquidator (OL) separately showing the corporate litigations pending for more than 5, 10 and 20 years respectively, State-wise;
- (c) the steps taken to speed up the solution of pending corporate litigations in the country; and
- (d) the current status of setting up of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and the expected time for its operationalisation?

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF, Secretary-General.

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