

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, December 16, 2016/Agrahayana 25, 1938 (Saka)*

(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

Introduction of a new Rajdhani Express between Ranchi and New Delhi

*316. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Jharkhand has requested Railways for introduction of a new Rajdhani Express train to run between Ranchi and New Delhi, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any decision has been taken on this request; and

(c) the response of Railways in the matter?

Reduction of MSP

†*317. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minimum Support Price (MSP), given by

Government to farmers, has proved to be beneficial;

(b) whether many a times, Government reduces this amount in comparison to the previous year's MSP;

(c) whether farmers incur heavy losses due to this; and

(d) if so, whether Government is contemplating to make rules to provide that the MSP will not be less as compared to that of the previous year?

Development works in Railways under MPLADS

*318. SHRI JOYABRAHAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to continue the scheme under which MPs can recommend railway development works under MPLADS;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of MPs from Kerala and the various development schemes recommended by them under MPLADS and the status of such works as of now; and

(c) whether Railways would depute some senior officials to monitor and follow up the progress of the ongoing works taken up under MPLADS and to interact with the concerned MPs regarding the progress and early completion of such works in Thiruvananthapuram and Palakkad divisions?

Drugs under price control

*319. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether more drugs are proposed to be brought under price control;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the total number of medicines already under price control;

(c) the time-line fixed therefor; and

(d) whether the existing mechanism for monitoring retail price of medicines is working effectively?

Storage capacity of foodgrains

†*320. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total storage capacity of foodgrains in the country, as on date;

(b) the extent of storage capacity needed to be increased to save the foodgrains from being destroyed;

(c) whether Government has formulated any scheme to create the adequate storage capacity, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Co-ordination with NGOs for relief and rescue operations

*321. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the preparedness of Railways to quickly access the sites with rescue and relief operations in co-ordination with Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) within the initial hours of an accident;

(b) whether Railways' disaster management plan presently lacks cohesiveness and is ill-prepared to handle disasters;

(c) if so, the reaction of Railways thereto along with the corrective measures taken in this regard; and

(d) whether Railways have taken a decision to utilise the services of private entities, such as NGOs, with a view to improve the emergency services of Railways, if so, the details thereof?

Coverage of Digital India Programme

*322. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of Digital India Programme in the country;

(b) whether all villages and remote towns of the country have been covered by basic communication/internet services;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and how long will it take to cover the entire country; and

(d) how Government is going to attain the target of cashless society/mobile transactions, etc., as being propagated nowadays, in the absence of communication/ basic internet facilities?

Global hub for international arbitration

*323. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up a global hub for international arbitration in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has requested the International Chamber of Commerce, Paris, to set up the International Court of Justice in the country; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal and the road-map including location thereof?

Objections on registration of marriages

*324. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some people have raised objections on the registration of marriages;

(b) if so, the basis of those objections; and

(c) the process by which Government proposes to resolve them?

Difference in pricing of branded and generic medicines

†*325. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of branded and generic medicines vary even upto hundred per cent, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the reasons for such a big difference between prices of branded and generic medicines?

Manned and unmanned railway level crossings

*326. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of unmanned railway level crossings in the country, as on date;

(b) the details of accidents at railway level crossings, State-wise, during the last two years, indicating the lives lost and persons injured;

(c) the number of manned railway level crossings mechanized during these years; and

(d) the reasons for slow pace of work carried out in this regard?

Remunerative price for paddy growing farmers

*327. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the paddy growing farmers of various States,

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

particularly those of Gujarat and Jharkhand, are not getting remunerative prices for their produce;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure proper remunerative prices for paddy of farmers in these States and rest of the country?

Track Management System

*328. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are working on technological track management system, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the extent to which this system is likely to benefit Railways in maintaining the tracks and making them safe for travel/running of both passenger and goods trains; and

(c) the details of funds spent on this system during the financial years 2015-16 and 2016-17 so far, zone wise and year-wise?

Farmer households burdened with debt

*329. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the number of farmer households burdened with debt; and

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, State-wise?

Implementation of NFSM-Rice in Tamil Nadu

*330. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Rice in the State of Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether ensuring availability of water for irrigation of crops is also one of the mandate under this Mission; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure adequate water supply including the release of cauvery water to delta area in the State of Tamil Nadu?

NEW DELHI;
The 10th December, 2016
Agrahayana 19, 1938 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	:	317, 327, 329, 330,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	:	319, 325,
Communications	:	—
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	:	320,
Electronics and Information Technology	:	322,
Food Processing Industries	:	—
Law and Justice	:	323, 324,
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Railways	:	316, 318, 321, 326, 328.
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