RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Friday, November 18, 2016/Kartika 27, 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

MSPs of foodgrains

- *31. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of different foodgrains after each of the revisions in the last three years;
 - (b) the increase effected this year; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to change the formula for determining the MSPs of foodgrains, if so, the details thereof?

Jan Aushadhi Stores

- †*32. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Jan Aushadhi Scheme has been launched by the Central Government with the objective of ensuring quality and affordable drugs and healthcare to all in the country, if so, the details thereof;

- (b) whether 3000 Jan Aushadhi Stores are proposed to be opened in the country during the current year, *i.e.*, 2016-17;
- (c) if so, the number of Jan Aushadhi Stores opened, so far, State-wise; and
- (d) by when the set target will be achieved?

Losses to farmers due to changing weather pattern

- *33. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether sudden change in weather pattern has resulted in crop damage, poor yield and loss of income to the farmers;
- (b) if so, the total loss incurred by farmers during each of the last three years and the current year in each State/UT on this account, particularly Jharkhand and Gujarat;
 - (c) whether the sudden change of

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

climate has also resulted in heavy rains, hailstorms, cyclones, deficient rains, drought etc., if so, the regions prone to this abnormal weather pattern affecting agriculture and the farmers; and

(d) the contingency plan drawn by Government to overcome climate change?

Railway coach manufacturing plant at Palakkad, Kerala

- *34. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the present status of the proposed railway coach manufacturing plant at Palakkad in Kerala;
- (b) the outcome of the revised proposals invited for the purpose and whether the Joint Venture partner has been selected and work awarded; and
- (c) the details of the project and by when the construction is expected to be started?

Production of foodgrains

- *35. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the foodgrains production in the country in last three years, per-head, peryear;
- (b) the names of the top three countries in the world in foodgrains production; and
- (c) whether Government is contemplating to double the production in the coming three years?

Inland Container Depot at ICP, Attari, Amritsar

- *36. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Ministry is in the process of opening an Inland Container Depot (ICD) at Integrated Check Post (ICP), Attari, Amritsar; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Increasing production of pulses

- *37. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has projected to raise the production of pulses by 4 million tonnes by 2016-17, over and above the highest production during Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether there is a proportionate trend of increase in production of pulses irrespective of inhospitable climatic conditions; and
- (c) the additional steps taken by Government to achieve the target fixed?

Internet access in villages

- *38. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that people's access to internet in rural areas of the country is very limited, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government is formulating new plans/strategies to provide internet facility to the people in rural parts of the country at cheaper rates?

Raftaar Project

- †*39. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the amount spent under Raftaar Project;
- (b) by when this scheme will be completed in the entire country and the average increase in the speed likely to be achieved through it; and
- (c) whether there is a plan to change the design of train coaches in order to increase the speed?

Railway projects in Maharashtra

- *40. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of various railway projects in Maharashtra, the status thereof, project-wise;
- (b) the number of projects getting delayed and the reasons therefor, projectwise;
- (c) the cost over-run for each delayed project, project-wise; and
- (d) the efforts made by Government to complete the projects within the time schedule or extended time-frame?

Vacant plots of Department of Posts in Telangana

- *41. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether 111 plots belonging to Department of Posts are lying vacant in Telangana, if so, the details of places where they are situated, District-wise;

- (b) whether these plots are meant for construction of postal department buildings;
- (c) if so, whether the Ministry is going to construct buildings or to exploit that land for other commercial purposes so as to reduce its losses, which were running into more than 6,000 crore last year; and
- (d) whether any of the above plots is under encroachment, if so, the details thereof and efforts being made to vacate them?

Per capita income of farmers

- *42. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the per capita income of farmers in the country; and
- (b) whether any incentives have been given and steps taken by Government to increase the per capita income of farmers in the country during the last two years, if so, the details thereof?

Rise in prices of food items

- †*43. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) the increase in rates of retail and wholesale prices of food items during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government machinery has not been successful in curbing the inflation during the last three years:
- (c) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the reasons due to

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which prices of pulses increase intermittently; and

(d) the details and factual position of the hurdles in curbing the price increase of essential food items?

Reporting of online child sexual abuse

- *44. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is a complaint redressal platform to report the occurence of online child sexual abuse, if so, the details thereof:
 - (b) the number of complaints received

on online child sexual abuse from 2010 to 2016; and

(c) whether Government has, so far, issued an advisory to the Internet Service Providers to filter and block any objectionable images, if so, the details thereof?

Inflation in food items

- *45. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) the total production of foodgrains during 2015-16; and
- (b) the percentage of food items inflation?

New Delhi; *The 12th November*, 2016 *Kartika* 21, 1938 (*Saka*) SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF, Secretary-General.

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