

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Monday, November 21, 2016/Kartika 30, 1938 (Saka)*

**(Ministries: Coal; Drinking Water and Sanitation; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Mines; 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**

#### **Achievement of aims and objectives of 73rd and 74th Constitution amendments**

\*46. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the aims and objectives of 73rd and 74th amendments to the Constitution have been achieved;

(b) whether Government has made any study about it;

(c) whether these amendments have helped in improving the life of marginalized people and reduce the socio-economic divide; and

(d) if so, to what extent and by when the objective would be fully realized?

#### **Surplus coal stock at coal mines and power plants**

\*47. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is encountering a situation of surplus coal stock, both at coal mines as well as power plants;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the production target of many coal mines have been cut down during the current year because of lack of demand; and

(d) if so, whether Government is going to revise its coal production target set for the year 2020 and 2030?

#### **Accident at NTPC unit in Telangana**

\*48. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an accident took place in one of the units of NTPC in Telangana;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind the same;

(c) whether earlier also one accident took place in the same unit three years ago;

(d) whether NTPC has not learnt any lesson from the earlier accident resulting into the present one; and

(e) what action the Ministry has taken on the errant officials?

#### **Reduction of green house gases**

\*49. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has pledged that it would reduce green house gas (GHG) emissions by 33-35 per cent of its GDP by 2030;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India has also pledged to create an additional carbon sink of 0.25-3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide through additional tree cover;

(c) whether India is expected to emerge as one of the largest emitters of GHGs in the coming years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Allocation of funds to Jharkhand under NRLM**

\*50. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the allocation made and funds released under the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) during the last three years to Jharkhand;

(b) how the objectives of organizing rural poor women into Self Help Groups (SHGs) have been addressed during that period in that State;

(c) the targets fixed and achievements made in this regard in the State; and

(d) how the objectives of financial inclusion have been met for the State along with the details of targets set and achievements made, district-wise?

#### **Impact of mining in forest areas**

\*51. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether mining activities in forest areas have severely affected bio-diversity in various parts of the country;

(b) whether environment clearances given by the Ministry before permitting mining activities in forest areas are as per the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006;

(c) if not, whether any exemptions have been given during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, project-wise and State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Ministry to regulate mining activities in forest areas in order to ensure minimum damage/disturbance to flora and fauna of the country?

#### **States joining UDAY**

\*52. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of States have joined the Ujwal Discom Assurance Yojana (UDAY);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these States are expected to see reduction/decline in their distribution losses under UDAY;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to make the remaining States also join UDAY to reap the benefits of the scheme?

#### **Under-utilised thermal power capacity**

\*53. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of under-utilisation of existing capacities of thermal power generation;

(b) if so, the percentage of thermal power capacity lying idle; and

(c) the steps proposed by Government to ensure the optimal utilization of power generating capacities?

#### **Production of minerals**

\*54. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of minerals has increased after the enactment of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, in 2015;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of production of minerals under the Ministry during the years 2010 to 2016?

#### **Fire safety and protection systems in coal mines**

\*55. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given instruction to the Director General of Mines Safety (DGMS) to provide adequate fire

safety and protection systems in all the coal mines and to be prepared to combat and control any fire mishaps/accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any incident of fire or any other mishap occurred in any of the coal mines in the country during the last three years and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons for recurrence of such fire in coal mines and the effective measures taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Nagpur-Mumbai Super Communication Expressway**

\*56. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to take up the work on 706 Km. eight lane Nagpur-Mumbai Super Communication Expressway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Maharashtra Government has also agreed to ₹ 46,000 crore prosperity corridor to be developed along the above Expressway;

(d) if so, whether any time schedule has been fixed for their completion; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme**

\*57. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of

the Ministry that the Telangana Government is taking up the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme;

(b) whether the Central Water Commission (CWC) has given any clearance and Andhra Pradesh and Krishna River Management Board have given approval to this project;

(c) if not, how the Telangana Government is going ahead with this project;

(d) how much water has been allocated to this project; and

(e) whether the economic viability of this project has been assessed and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Protection of Royal Bengal tigers of Sundarbans**

\*58. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has initiated any joint programme with the Government of Bangladesh to protect the Royal Bengal tigers of Sundarbans and its habitat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 15th November, 2016*  
*Kartika 24, 1938 (Saka)*

#### **Pollution in rivers of Assam**

\*59. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the problem of wide-scale pollution of Bharalu, Deepar Bill, Burhidihing and Brahmaputra rivers of Assam;

(b) whether Government is formulating any action plan to eradicate the problem of pollution of Burhidihing and Brahmaputra rivers, as in the case of river Ganga; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Four laning of National Highways**

†\*60. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all National Highways are planned to be converted into four lanes and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of National Highways which are four laned, at present and which are not, State-wise;

(c) the condition of National Highways in Assam; and

(d) the specific efforts being made to improve the condition of highways in that State?

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,  
*Secretary-General.*

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**I N D E X**  
(Ministry-wise)

<b>Coal</b>	<b>:</b>	47, 55,
<b>Drinking Water and Sanitation</b>	<b>:</b>	—
<b>Environment, Forest and Climate Change</b>	<b>:</b>	49, 51, 58, 59,
<b>Mines</b>	<b>:</b>	54,
<b>New and Renewable Energy</b>	<b>:</b>	—
<b>Panchayati Raj</b>	<b>:</b>	46,
<b>Planning</b>	<b>:</b>	—
<b>Power</b>	<b>:</b>	48, 52, 53,
<b>Road Transport and Highways</b>	<b>:</b>	56, 60,
<b>Rural Development</b>	<b>:</b>	50,
<b>Shipping</b>	<b>:</b>	—
<b>Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation</b>	<b>:</b>	57.