RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Thursday, July 23, 2015/Sravana 1, 1937 (Saka)

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Development of North Eastern Region; Earth Sciences; Environment, Forests and Climate Change; External Affairs; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Overseas Indian Affairs; Parliamentary Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Science and Technology; Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Social Justice and Empowerment; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Urban Development; Women and Child Development)

Total number of questions — 15

Polluted cities in country

- *31. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that National Capital of India, Delhi and coal capital of India, Dhanbad are the worst hit by pollution;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Delhi is the most polluted city in the country whereas Dhanbad is the most polluted city in Jharkhand and stands at 13th position in the most polluted city in India;
- (c) whether it is a fact that because of high toxicity, air filled with coal dust and various other pollutants, people of Dhanbad area are falling prey to asthma, TB, cancer and other deadly ailments and are dying; and

(d) the efforts taken, if any, to check the menace?

New Aanganwadi Centres in Gujarat

- *32. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Gujarat has submitted the demand for starting 1,464 new Aanganwadi Centres in different districts of Gujarat;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that only 26 Aanganwadi Centres have been sanctioned so far;
- (c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and
- (d) by when the sanction for remaining Aanganwadi Centres is likely to be accorded?

Cancellation of passports of absconders

- *33. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the number of absconders whose passports have been cancelled by Government during last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the details of absconders whose passports were restored by courts, during last three years;
- (c) the details of the cases in which Government has not moved higher court for appeal against restoring passports of absconders by lower courts during last three years, case-wise; and
- (d) the authority in the Ministry of External Affairs who has taken decision not to file appeal against the lower court's verdict for restoring the passports of absconders?

Smart cities in most backward districts

- *34. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's Smart City project is limited only to already developed cities or Government proposes to extend the project in next phases to the most backward, tribal dominated districts also; and
- (b) the existing criteria for selecting a city to be included in smart city project?

People living in extreme poverty in India

*35. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that as per a new Oxford University analysis, a little over a quarter of people living in extreme poverty in the world are living in eight Indian States:
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto:
- (c) whether it is a fact that the country does not have better survey data about the poverty of its citizens, if so, the reasons therefor: and
- (d) in what manner Government is going to ensure that the benefits of various welfare schemes running in the country actually reach the needy people and improve their living standard?

Puri as smart city

- *36. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is proposing to enlist hundred cities to develop as Smart Cities with the help of Bloomberg Philanthropist;
- (b) if so, whether the holy city of Puri in Odisha is also a part of it where millions of devotees of Lord Jagannath throng the city for every festival particularly the Lord Jagannath Rath Yatra every year; and
- (c) if so, by when would the proposal take shape?

Exemption of builders for constructing educational universities

- *37. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has exempted builders from obtaining green nod for

constructing educational universities and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether the exemption from obtaining prior environmental clearance is subject to certain conditions and if so, the details thereof?

Offer for nuclear site from Andhra Pradesh

- *38. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is considering the offer of a site from Andhra Pradesh to set up a Russian Nuclear Power Plant which was originally planned to be set up in Eastern India, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is considering to set up a Nuclear Fuel Complex in the State; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the outlay, installed capacity, job creation and time-frame for completion?

Toilets in upcoming metro stations

- *39. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the upcoming metro stations will have toilets in paid area; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof along with the funds sanctioned/spent in this regard so far?

Online job seeking portal

- *40. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:
 - (a) the participation of public on the

- online job seeking portal www.Ecx.Dcmsme.gov.in till date;
- (b) whether the Ministry is considering to provide incentives to industries and employers to hire candidates who register on this website and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the portal is limited to manufacturing sector only, if so, the reasons therefor?

Use of vision-2022 for rural development

- †*41. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:
- (a) the social issues of 'vision-2022' which National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog is considering to include for a comprehensive development of the rural areas;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Aayog is considering the proposal of decreasing the number of centrally sponsored schemes; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the effect on the work undertaken under such centrally sponsored schemes which the Aayog is considering to discontinue?

Accommodation to homeless

- †*42. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has set target to provide accommodation to all by the year 2022;
- (b) the total number of estimated homeless persons in the urban areas in the

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

country by December, 2014 and the details thereof, State-wise;

- (c) whether Government proposes to provide accommodation to the concerned families by constructing the houses on its own to maintain uniformity in the houses, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the said recommendations cannot be transferred to anyone else's name;and
- (e) what is Government's plan to ensure timely completion of construction of the acommodations?

Amendment in Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961

- *43. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the National Commission for Women has made recommendations to amend the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, if so, the details of the recommendations; and
- (b) whether Government has taken/ taking any steps to implement the said recommendations, and if so, the details thereof?

New Delhi; The 17th July, 2015 Asadha 26, 1937 (Saka)

Damage to environment by plastic waste

- *44. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has assessed the extent of damage caused to the environment by plastic waste in the country, if so, the outcome, thereof; and
- (b) the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Number of BPL families in the country

- *45. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of BPL families in the country as on date, State-wise;
- (b) whether 50 per cent of rural families are BPL in the country as per the recent data of the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, and reasons for increase of poors in the country; and
- (d) the details of steps Governments would take to reduce the number of BPL families in the country?

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF, Secretary-General.

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