RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Friday, November 25, 2016/Agrahayana 4, 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

Adoption of PMFBY by States

- *106. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the amount insured under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), State-wise and yearwise;
- (b) whether some States have capped the insurance benefit of land at seven hectares, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details regarding loanee and nonloanee farmers who have availed PMFBY scheme, State-wise and year-wise; and
- (d) the total number of States that have opted for PMFBY scheme?

Alleged irregularities in BSNL's purchase order

*107. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be

pleased to state:

- (a) whether irregularities have been reported in BSNL's purchase order no. CT/PO/20/2015 for expansion of National Internet Backbone and in annual maintenance contract along with purchase of new hardwares, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has inquired into the alleged scam involving more than ₹ 300 crore and has fixed responsibilities in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Optical fibre cable/internet to villages

- †*108. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of progress made so far with regard to the scheme relating to connecting all the villages with optical fibre cable/internet under the Digital India programme;

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

- (b) the number of villages of all States/ Union Territories which are connected with optical fibre cable/internet, district-wise; and
- (c) the details of targets set by Government to achieve this milestone, yearwise?

Steps taken for judicial reforms

- *109. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:
- (a) the present number of cases pending in courts across the country *vis-a-vis* the number of Judges/judicial officers;
- (b) whether, as per a recent study of the National Court Management System (NCMS), the number of pending cases in courts is likely to go up to 20 crore; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government for judicial reforms and also to improve the Judge-population ratio?

Vacancies of Judges and other staff in Supreme Court

- *110. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of vacancies of Judges and other staff in Supreme Court;
- (b) the reasons for delay in filling up these vacancies; and
- (c) by when the process will be completed to avoid delay in providing justice to the needy?

Expanding the number of medicines under NLEM

*111. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND

FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to expand the number of medicines under the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM):
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps to include drugs used for cancer treatment under the NLEM; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Strengthening of railway infrastructure at Jodhpur station

- †*112. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Jodhpur railway station of Rajasthan is strategically the most important railway station;
- (b) if so, the details of planning of Railways for Jodhpur railway station; and
- (c) whether the Ministry of Defence has requested for strengthening of railway infrastructure by upgradation and interlinking of this station with other railway stations, if so, the details of action taken in this regard?

Wastage of foodgrains

- *113. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a Government study has recently revealed that India is growing more foodgrains but also wasting upto 67 million tonnes of it every year; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

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

Digitize India Platform

- *114. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of user organizations and digital contributors registered on the Digitize India Platform in 2015 and 16; and
- (b) whether any steps have been taken by Government to encourage more number of user organizations and digital contributors to register on the platform, if so, the details thereof?

Introduction of high-speed trains

- †*115. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) by when and on which routes, highspeed trains are going to be introduced;
- (b) whether high-speed trains will be run on the busiest routes; and
- (c) whether basic infrastructure requirements have been completed for this, the details thereof?

Development of high yielding seeds

- *116. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has taken any initiative to develop high quality and high yielding seeds in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether such seeds have made their way to the farmers, if so, the details, outcome and benefits thereof; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Modernization of Indian Telephone Industries units

- *117. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether all the six manufacturing units of Indian Telephone Industries are almost sick because of huge advancement of technology in the last decade and certain management issues, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the plans of the Government for modernization of these units, especially in view of the major thrust Government has laid in the fields of communication and information technology by launching Digital India scheme, which has huge potential for growth in future?

Recent auction of spectrum

- *118. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:
- (a) how much amount Government had anticipated and how much it could realize through the recently held auction of spectrum;
- (b) whether it is a fact that 700 MHz band spectrum has not been auctioned due to poor response;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor and how Government is planning to go ahead in this regard; and
- (d) how much amount Government is planning to generate through the auction of 700 MHz spectrum?

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

Research and Development in agriculture sector

- *119. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the total amount allocated and spent for Research and Development (R&D) in agriculture and allied fields, under the centrally funded schemes during the period 2014-16;
- (b) the major achievements made in the field of R&D in agriculture and allied fields during the last three years; and

New Delhi; The 19th November, 2016 Kartika 28, 1938 (Saka) (c) the contribution of R&D in improving the productivity of major crops in last three years?

Increase in assistance under area expansion programme of NHM

- *120. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there will be increase in the assistance under area expansion programme taken up under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM); and
- (b) if so, the details of the quantum of increase and if not, the reasons therefor?

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF, Secretary-General.

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