

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, November 28, 2016/Agrahayana 7, 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

Eco-friendly approach for households

*121. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of India's ratification of Paris Climate Change Agreement, Government is planning to propose regulations for each household to adopt a more eco-friendly approach at ground level;

(b) by when the domestic law incorporating the Agreement would be enforced; and

(c) the environmental regulations meant for industries in the light of Paris Agreement?

Open defecation free villages

*122. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages which have been declared open defecation free in the country, State-wise details thereof;

(b) the villages, blocks and districts awarded for eradication of open defecation by the Prime Minister during the current year, State-wise details thereof; and

(c) the details of villages, blocks and districts which have been declared open defecation free on the fake data, State-wise, with particular reference to Chhattisgarh, district-wise?

Air pollution in the National Capital

*123. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that air pollution in the National Capital has recently reached the highest dangerous level making it a gas chamber which is adversely affecting the

children, senior citizens and patients of respiratory diseases the most;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a meeting of Delhi and adjoining States was called by the Central Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what remedial measures Government proposes to take in the matter?

Allocation of funds for Ganga rejuvenation

*124. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated for Ganga rejuvenation during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the total length in kilometres, area or stretch of the river which could now be termed as clean?

Bill for restructuring of Brahmaputra Board

*125. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to introduce a Bill for restructuring of Brahmaputra Board;

(b) if so, whether it would be an authority or a corporation under the proposed Bill; and

(c) when the Bill would be introduced in Parliament?

Development of waterways

*126. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government would augment the process of development of 36 waterways in the first phase and soon float tenders to invite bids for the project;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has received draft feasibility reports for those waterways;

(c) whether this environment friendly and cost effective mode of transportation would reduce the logistics costs significantly from as high as 18 per cent in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Borrowings by NHAI

*127. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is likely to get into debt trap very soon;

(b) whether it is also a fact that NHAI has to make payments of thousands of crores for debt servicing and annuity payments;

(c) whether any efforts have been made to renegotiate such high payments by NHAI; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that NHAI does not borrow beyond its means?

Amount collected from diversion of forest land

*128. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected from various projects for diverting forest land over the years as corpus fund during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) what is the share of States per annum for conservation, protection, improvement and expansion of forests and wildlife resources;

(c) whether relevant rules, detailing the procedure and regulation of corpus fund to be spent, have been notified and if not, by when it would be notified; and

(d) the details of steps taken to see that the funds are efficiently used and research and technical support is provided to the States?

Opening of IIFMs

†*129. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to open new Indian Institutes of Forest Management (IIFMs) in various States, including Madhya Pradesh; and

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

Construction of Amaravati-Anantapur Expressway

*130. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any detailed proposal alongwith project report from Andhra Pradesh regarding construction of expressway from Amaravati to Anantapur connecting Kadapa and Kurnool districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry has taken any decision in this matter and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Improvement in quality of Ganga water

*131. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any improvement in quality of Ganga water is reported by any testing laboratories after implementation of present Ganga cleaning projects;

(b) if so, the details of such reports; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not making tests on quality of Ganga water?

Survey on construction of toilets

†*132. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of families or houses where there are no toilets and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) if not, whether Government is conducting any survey in this regard and if

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

so, by when the survey is likely to be completed;

(c) the details of assistance being provided by Government for construction of toilets; and

(d) whether Government has received any complaints regarding distribution of financial assistance for construction of toilets and if so, the details thereof?

Assessment report of GM crops

†*133. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Research and Information System for Developing Countries has submitted any report regarding assessment of Genetically Modified (GM) crops to the Ministry and if so, by when this report would be made public and whether Government is contemplating to implement the report;

(b) the steps being taken by Government for clearing the doubts of specialists as well as farmers regarding GM crops; and

(c) the number of companies in the country which have applied for GM crops and the present status thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 22nd November, 2016
Agrahayana 1, 1938 (Saka)

Status of Kutku Dam at Lohardaga, Jharkhand

†*134. SHRI GOPAL NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of Kutku Dam at Lohardaga in Jharkhand;

(b) whether Government is aware that the dam is complete but it is of no use due to absence of sluice gates and if so, by when the work would be completed;

(c) the capacity of the dam and the expected benefits to be availed by farmers of that region;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government is incurring losses due to the delay; and

(e) if so the details thereof?

Concessions on solar energy

*135. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of concessions offered to households opting for solar energy for domestic use;

(b) whether there is any proposal to change the financing guidelines for setting up of rooftop and stand-alone small grid-connected power plants; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Coal	:	123,
Drinking Water and Sanitation	:	122, 132,
Environment, Forest and Climate Change	:	121, 128, 129, 133,
Mines	:	—
New and Renewable Energy	:	135,
Panchayati Raj	:	—
Planning	:	—
Power	:	—
Road Transport and Highways	:	127, 130,
Rural Development	:	—
Shipping	:	126,
Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation	:	124, 125, 131, 134.