

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, December 28, 2018/Pausha 7, 1940 (Saka)*

**(Ministries : Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers;  
Coal; Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution;  
Electronics and Information Technology; Food Processing Industries;  
Law and Justice; Railways; Statistics and Programme Implementation)**

**Total number of questions — 15**

#### **Assistance to tackle drought in Maharashtra**

\*166. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has submitted Memorandum to the Central Government asking for drought assistance in 2018, if so, details thereof and action taken thereon;

(b) whether Prime Minister had promised to help Maharashtra in tackling drought, during his visit there in October, 2018, if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the names of the districts in Maharashtra covered by crop contingency plans and relief provided thereunder;

(d) the details of direct and indirect assistance to Maharashtra in tackling the current drought; and

(e) the special steps that are being taken to address droughts in the country?

#### **Operations of India Post Payments Bank**

\*167. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India Post Payments Bank has commenced its operations with 650 branches across the country w.e.f. 1 September, 2018;

(b) the total transaction carried out by these branches of India Post Payments Bank during the last three months;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is no information with many post offices about this Bank, except for the launch ceremony; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Drip and sprinkler irrigation in the country**

\*168. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Government each year for providing drip and sprinkler irrigation system to farmers in the country from 2015-16 to 2017-18, year-wise;

(b) the area of land, in hectares, that has been irrigated by drip and sprinkler irrigation during this period; and

(c) the number of farmers who have been benefited from such irrigation systems and the area of land in hectares irrigated in Gujarat?

**Status of the Personnel Data Protection Bill, 2018**

\*169. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the Personal Data Protection Bill, 2018;

(b) the details of submissions received by the Ministry on the public consultation carried out by the Srikrishna Committee for the Personnel Data Protection Bill, 2018;

(c) the reasons that copies of comments received through consultation have not been made publicly available; and

(d) whether Government intends to make these comments publicly available now, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Services provided by Department of Posts**

\*170. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various services provided by the Department of Posts in the country and the revenue being earned from each of these services over the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been a declining trend in the use of various postal services; and

(c) if so, the details thereof over the last three years, service-wise?

**Remuneration for farm produces**

\*171. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has devised any new schemes and programmes for the benefit of small and marginal farmers;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes and the system of farm credit to farmers;

(c) whether Government has recently assessed the reasons for slow growth of agriculture, marketing problems being faced by farmers and non-availability of proper remuneration for their farm produce; and

(d) if so, whether Government proposes to bring radical agricultural reforms to alleviate the difficulties faced by farmers and if so, the details thereof?

**Animal Husbandry Infrastructure  
Development Fund (AHIDF)**

\*172. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has come up with a proposal to approve ₹ 2,477 crore towards Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) which would finance infrastructure requirement of dairy, livestock and fisheries sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the fund would be directly given to the States or released through Central Government schemes, if so, the details thereof?

**Availability of fertilizers**

\*173. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of national policy on supply of quality fertilizers to farmers;

(b) the annual requirement of fertilizers and reasons for short supply;

(c) the quantum of fertilizers imported during last three years and current year along with the value of such imports;

(d) the details of subsidies extended on fertilizers during the said period, year-wise;

(e) whether Government is planning to scale down these subsidies and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether Government is aware of smuggling of fertilizers from our country to neighbouring countries and if so, the

details thereof along with the action taken to check the same?

**Denial of entitlement to beneficiaries  
on Aadhaar authentication**

\*174. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether UIDAI had issued an exemption circular in October, 2017 to ensure that no beneficiary is denied entitlement due to authentication failures or other extraneous failures like internet outage, etc.;

(b) if so, the State-wise list of exemption handling mechanisms put in place, number of beneficiaries who have availed these mechanisms since October, 2017;

(c) whether any action has been taken against authorities where it was found that entitlement was denied for Aadhaar-related reasons despite orders for exemption;

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

(e) the remedial actions taken to prevent such incidents from happening in future?

**Unspent MPLADS funds**

\*175. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of ₹ 12,000 crore of the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) funds remain unspent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that

Government asks district administration to provide regular information on work-wise, MP-wise and year-wise details on progress of projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Unremunerative agricultural sector**

\*176. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the fact that India is an agriculture-based country and agro production has a big role in the economy of the country, agriculture is proving unprofitable as agro production has become unremunerative; and

(b) if so, the action Government has taken to improve the agricultural sector in the country and if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

#### **Renaming of Allahabad High Court**

\*177. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state whether Government proposes to rename the Allahabad High Court to Prayagraj High Court, as the name of Allahabad city has been changed officially?

#### **Quality of legal education**

\*178. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to improve the quality of legal education in the country;

(b) whether there exist guidelines to declare a Law University as National Law University (NLU), if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Law Colleges/ Universities in the country have been bestowed the tag of institutes of National Importance" or "Institute of Eminence";

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Effect of climate change on agriculture**

\*179. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is cognisant of the annual report of ICAR, published recently, which states that one-third of the districts in the country would be susceptible to extreme effects of climate change;

(b) if so, whether Government has a strategy to counter extreme weather events and act swiftly to mitigate damage, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which Government would deal with 15-18 per cent average decline in farmers' income, as projected in the ICAR report?

#### **Changes in Drought Management Manual**

\*180. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the changes made in

the Manual for Drought Management, 2016  
from the previous Manual of 2009;

(b) the reasons for making changes in  
the Manual for Drought Management;

(c) the details of the districts affected  
due to drought in the last two years, State/  
UT-wise; and

(d) the assistance provided by  
Government in this regard?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 22nd December, 2018*  
*Pausha 1, 1940 (Saka)*

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,  
*Secretary-General.*

## **I N D E X**

**(Ministry-wise)**

<b>Agriculture and Farmers Welfare</b>	: 166, 168, 171, 172, 176, 179, 180,
<b>Chemicals and Fertilizers</b>	: 173,
<b>Coal</b>	: —
<b>Communications</b>	: 167, 170,
<b>Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</b>	: —
<b>Electronics and Information Technology</b>	: 169, 174,
<b>Food Processing Industries</b>	: —
<b>Law and Justice</b>	: 177, 178,
<b>Railways</b>	: —
<b>Statistics and Programme Implementation</b>	: 175.