

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, December 31, 2018/Pausha 10, 1940 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Defence; Drinking Water and Sanitation; Earth Sciences;
Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Information and Broadcasting; Mines;
Panchayati Raj; Parliamentary Affairs; Road Transport and Highways;
Rural Development; Science and Technology; Shipping; Water
Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation;
Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions — 15

Large-scale plantation on unused vacant land

*181. SHRI SAMBHAJI
CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND
CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn any
action plan for large-scale tree plantation
on unused vacant Government, public and
private land, with an objective to check
pollution and global warming;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any effort has been made to
undertake large-scale plantation along roads
and highways, canals, rivers, railway tracks,
industrial areas, etc., if not, the reasons
therefor; and

(d) whether Government has any
proposal to put a complete ban on cutting
of trees from reserved forests for timber at
least for another ten years or more and
liberalise import of timber from other
countries for domestic requirement?

Re-employment of ex-servicemen of Armed Forces

*182. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH
DHINDSA: Will the Minister of
DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-servicemen
belonging to three wings of the Armed
Forces, who have registered themselves for
re-employment; and

(b) the manner in which Government
proposes to utilise the services of the
willing retired ex-servicemen?

Disposal of surplus defence land

*183. SHRI G.C. CHANDRA-
SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of
DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that
Report No. 35 of 2010 by CAG has found
excess land held by his Ministry in
Bengaluru and Belgaum and recommended

its disposal in public interest, if so, details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(b) whether Ministry had asked for land of equal value against surplus/unused defence lands required for infrastructure works in Bengaluru/Belgaum and if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether the said land was originally given by Karnataka Government, free of cost, but when it is required by State Government for public infrastructure projects, it has been denied by Ministry, if so, reasons therefor?

National project status to Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project

*184. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any request from Telangana Government to declare Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project as a national project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has considered the proposal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Social media monitoring tool

*185. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry had any plan to float a tender to create a social media monitoring tool that will create digital profiles of citizen to gauge their opinions about official policies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any plan or attempt made by the Ministry to hire a private agency to create a tool for the above mentioned matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Ban on mining in Goa

*186. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that over six lakh people have lost their livelihoods due to the mining ban in Goa;

(b) if so, legislative measures taken by Government till now or action plan proposed to address this issue; and

(c) whether Government is considering to amend the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulations) Act, 1953, so that mining operations can be resumed in Goa?

Expenditure on capital outlays in Defence Sector

*187. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, despite reports of the defence forces operating with limited and vintage equipment, the percentage share of expenditure on capital outlays which includes expenditure on purchasing defence equipment, weaponry, etc. has decreased over the past few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of measures taken by Government to correct this situation in order to ensure defence preparedness?

Land banks for compensatory afforestation

*188. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the areas for which the Ministry has granted approvals for creation of land banks for compensatory afforestation, under the Guidelines issued on 8th November, 2017; and

(b) details of districts, States and the area in hectares and type of land over which land banks have been created?

Projects on unused defence land in Kerala

*189. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total defence land (in acres) under the administrative control of the Ministry in the State of Kerala;

(b) total defence land lying unused at present; and

(c) the proposal to set up any defence project on the vacant land?

Allocation for AIBP in Rajasthan

*190. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of irrigation projects identified under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme;

(b) the details regarding their completion timelines;

(c) whether any irrigation projects have been identified for Rajasthan, if so, the

details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details regarding quantum of funds allocated for projects in Rajasthan and status of their completion?

CAMPA rules, conflict with Forest Rights Act and PESA

*191. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for excluding free, prior and informed consent of the Gram Sabha, a legal requirement under FRA and PESA, from the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018;

(b) the reasons as to why Village Forest Committee (VFC) has been put at par with Gram Sabha, in matters of consultation in managing compensatory afforestation activities, when Gram Sabha is a statutory body under FRA, while VFC is not;

(c) the Ministry's opinion on the recommendation suggested by Ministry of Tribal Affairs, that no afforestation activity shall be approved without the concurrence of Gram Sabha; and

(d) the details of stakeholders consulted in finalising the rules?

Status of implementation of MGNREGA

*192. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of MGNREGA is successfully progressing in different States, if so, the number of families which got 100 days job in the country;

(b) the number of families which got 100 days job, in West Bengal; and

(c) the name of the State which secured first position in MGNREGA in terms of utilisation of fund and mandays creation?

Construction of road over bridges

†*193. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending with Government as regard to construction of road over bridges on National Highways in the State of Chhattisgarh;

(b) the name of the places to which these cases relate to; and

(c) the efforts made by Government for speedy disposal of pending cases?

Reduction of air pollution

*194. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has fixed a target of reducing air pollution by 20 to 30 per cent in 102 cities across the country by 2024;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the target is part of Government's forthcoming National Clean Air Programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002

*195. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (BD Act) provides for preservation of biological diversity in India and a mechanism for equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of traditional biological resources and knowledge;

(b) whether the National Biodiversity Authority, a statutory autonomous body, under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change was established to implement the provisions under the Act;

(c) number of States that are implementing this Act; and

(d) number of farmers across India benefited by BD Act and details of penal actions, if any, taken in the cases of non-implementation of benefit sharing?

NEW DELHI;
The 24th December, 2018
Pausha 3, 1940 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Defence	: 182, 183, 187, 189,
Drinking Water and Sanitation	: —
Earth Sciences	: —
Environment, Forest and Climate Change	: 181, 188, 191, 194, 195,
Information and Broadcasting	: 185
Mines	: 186,
Panchayati Raj	: —
Parliamentary Affairs	: —
Road Transport and Highways	: 193,
Rural Development	: 192,
Science and Technology	: —
Shipping	: —
Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation	: 184, 190.
Youth Affairs and Sports	: —