

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, January 4, 2019/Pausha 14, 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**

#### **Production and sale of coal by Singareni Collieries**

\*241. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Singareni Collieries has not increased the production and sale of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether less production of coal is directly affecting the power production in the neighbouring States; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made by Government to increase the production of coal and the outcome thereof?

#### **Criteria for declaring MSP for crops**

\*242. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the cost of factors like land, labour, fertilizers, diesel, etc., taken into account while deciding cost of production for declaring MSP for wheat and paddy during current year, along with factor-wise cost thereof; and

(b) the total cost of production taken into account for declaring MSP for Rabi and Kharif crops during 2018 along with the MSP declared, crop-wise?

#### **Direct Benefit Transfer in Fertilizers sector**

\*243. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the procedure for Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) has been changed from disbursement of subsidy from receipt of fertilizers in the district to sale of fertilizers to farmers through point of sale machines;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the entire fertilizer industry faced immense difficulties in generating DBT bills due to systemic issues;

(c) whether it is also a fact that huge amount of subsidy bills could not be generated by the fertilizer companies by year end and a meagre amount of subsidy payment was released by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Action against cellular companies for call drops**

\*244. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action is taken against the cellular companies for call drops;

(b) whether there is any law formulated against this for safeguarding interests of consumers;

(c) whether there is any case registered against a cellular company; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Establishment of concrete sleeper plant and railway apprentice training centre in Odisha**

\*245. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken by Government on the request of Government of Odisha to establish a concrete sleeper plant in the vast land available with Railways at Kantabanji and to establish a railway apprentice training centre in the backward Kalahandi Bolangir Koraput (KBK) region of Odisha to promote skill development and increase employability of the workforce, which in turn would contribute to the National Skill Development Mission; and

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

#### **Certification for agro products**

\*246 SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any mechanism for certification of agro products made by different companies in the country;

(b) if so, the detailed mechanism thereof, UT/State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any nodal officer has been appointed for the same, the details thereof?

#### **Mechanism to control prices of patented medicines**

\*247 SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has evolved any mechanism to control prices of exorbitantly-priced patented medicines to make them more affordable;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the difference between the reference pricing model and the negotiated pricing model; and

(d) the further steps taken by Government in the matter?

#### **Unmanned railway level crossings**

\*248 SHRI R. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken by Railways for eliminating unmanned railway level crossings across the country during the last four years;

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

(c) the number of accidents which occurred at unmanned railway level crossings during the last five years, State-wise?

#### **Hacking of data**

\*249 SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether hacking of data and illegal money transfers have grown in the last three years in the country;

(b) if so, the breach of data and money siphoned off from different banks through stolen data reported since 2014; and

(c) the initiatives taken by Government for ensuring high security system thereof?

#### **Procurement of paddy**

†\*250 SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of paddy procured by Government agencies on Minimum Support Price (MSP) from farmers after harvesting of paddy crop this year, State-wise;

(b) whether any study has been conducted to find out the rate at which the farmers are selling paddy to the private contractors;

(c) the reasons due to which the farmers are forced to sell their paddy crop to the private contractors; and

(d) the quantum of paddy procured from

the farmers in the last three years till date, State-wise?

#### **Remedial measures to extend help to loss making farmers**

\*251. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that high yield of vegetables, such as onions, tomatoes, brinjals, etc., caused loss to farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken to extend help to loss-making farmers; and

(c) whether Government has any proposal to train farmers to make value-added products from the yield, such as onions, tomatoes, brinjals, etc.?

#### **Instructions to take safety measures on spotting crowd near railway tracks**

\*252. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have come out with a set of fresh instructions for train drivers, gatemen, patrolling staff, guards, etc., to take appropriate safety measures on spotting a crowd or events related to festivals near railway tracks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are general as well as subsidiary rules that have fixed the responsibilities of every railway staff, including loco pilots, guards, switchmen, patrolling man, gangman, etc., and these rules are in place since 1890; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**More trains with new generation coaches in NER**

\*253. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that North East Frontier Railway (NER) is in the process of providing more trains with new generation coaches;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with names of the trains which would be provided with these coaches and the cost thereof; and

(c) the extent to which these coaches would provide safety and comfort to the passengers?

**Pathetic condition of landless agricultural labourers**

\*254. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minimum Wages Act is not being effectively implemented for agricultural labourers;

(b) whether landless agricultural labourers have also been provided with land during the last four years, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that landless agricultural labourers continued to languish in a state of weakness and vulnerability, if so, the steps taken by the Central Government to uplift the landless labourers and bring them to the mainstream, economically?

**Suicide by farmers in Andhra Pradesh**

\*255. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per a recently released report by NABARD, farmers are in deep distress in Andhra Pradesh due to loans, not getting MSP, etc., which resulted in their committing suicides;

(b) if so, the findings of report thereof; and

(c) the Ministry's view on the pathetic condition of farmers in Andhra Pradesh and how it is going to extend a helping hand to them?

NEW DELHI;  
The 29th December, 2018  
Pausha 8, 1940 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,  
Secretary-General.

## **I N D E X**

**(Ministry-wise)**

<b>Agriculture and Farmers Welfare</b>	: 242, 251, 254, 255,
<b>Chemicals and Fertilizers</b>	: 243, 246, 247,
<b>Coal</b>	: 241,
<b>Communications</b>	: 244,
<b>Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</b>	: 250,
<b>Electronics and Information Technology</b>	: 249,
<b>Food Processing Industries</b>	: —
<b>Law and Justice</b>	: —
<b>Railways</b>	: 245, 248, 252, 253.
<b>Statistics and Programme Implementation</b>	: —