

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, April 7, 2017/Chaitra 17, 1939 (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

Import duty on wheat

*376. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan of hiking import duty on wheat so that wheat prices do not crash in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what steps have been proposed to be taken to protect the interests of farmers?

Strengthening cold storage and warehousing infrastructure in Andhra Pradesh

*377. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to strengthen cold storage and warehousing infrastructure facilities in Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the quantum of funds sanctioned for this purpose, the details thereof?

Passenger services on newly constructed broad gauge lines

*378. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have extended passenger services on the newly constructed broad gauge lines during the last three years, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that such broad gauge lines are in the pipeline for inauguration soon in various zones of Railways, if so, the details thereof?

Funds for upliftment of farmers in Punjab

*379. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sanctioned

any funds for upliftment of farmers in Punjab; and

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

Revenue generation in Railways

*380. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are planning to earn revenue from non-fare sources so that the passengers are not burdened by raising train fares;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways are planning to earn a revenue of about ₹ 2000 crore by way of offering branding packages of full trains; and

(c) whether only the products of the advertiser will be sold in the whole train or platform, leaving no choice to the public/passengers visiting the platform or travelling by the train?

Assistance for drought affected Karnataka

*381. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 27 districts in 2015-16 and 25 districts in 2016-17 have been declared as drought affected in Karnataka;

(b) whether Government of Karnataka has sought ₹ 5250 crore for 2015-16 and ₹ 4700 crore for 2016-17;

(c) if so, the justification in approving only ₹ 2260 crore for the two years against a demand of ₹ 9950 crore;

(d) the report given by the Central Team that visited the State to assess the damage, year-wise; and

(e) the amount so far released out of the approved amount?

Job creation in Food Processing sector

*382. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jobs generated in the Food Processing sector in the last three years, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(b) the target for job creation in this sector by 2024?

RKVY in Maharashtra

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

(a) the number and details of projects undertaken for agriculture improvement in Maharashtra under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) in 2016-17, district-wise;

(b) the details and amount of funds allocated under RKVY, year-wise, since 2014, for all the States, State-wise;

(c) the amount of funds released under RKVY for Maharashtra in 2016-17, month-wise and district-wise; and

(d) the procedure for selection of projects and release of funds under RKVY?

Ghost beneficiaries under Aadhaar's Direct Benefit Transfer scheme

*384. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has identified ghost beneficiaries under Aadhaar's Direct

Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme in the previous year, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the details of losses reported, if any, due to ghost beneficiaries of social welfare schemes such as pensions, LPG, scholarships, etc., State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry to eradicate/prevent ghost beneficiaries?

Income from berth reservations in trains for children

*385. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data of increase in income from berth reservations in the trains by charging full fare on half tickets for children; and

(b) the details thereof, State-wise?

Improving judicial infrastructure for quick disposal of cases

†*386. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking speedy steps to fill the vacancies in lower judiciary;

(b) whether Government has carried out a survey about the time needed to dispose of all the pending cases in lower courts of the country with the help of existing infrastructure; and

(c) whether Government would take initiative to expand the basic infrastructural framework for speedy disposal of pending cases if the delivery of justice is getting inordinately delayed owing to the existing infrastructure?

Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemical Investment Regions

*387. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemical Investment Region (PCPIR) projects in the country have not met their expected targets even after eight years since policy formulation;

(b) the current status of existing PCPIRs and expected period of their completion, including the details of actual benefits received, targets and actual infrastructure created, employment generated, investments made, PCPIR-wise;

(c) the steps taken to expeditiously complete PCPIR projects;

(d) whether the Ministry is intending to create PCPIR in West Bengal; and

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

Supply of Rail Neer in trains

†*388. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided that passengers would be supplied only Rail Neer in trains;

(b) if so, the current status of supply of Rail Neer in trains; and

(c) whether Government is cognizant of the fact that Rail Neer is not supplied to passengers in New Delhi-Jaipur Double Decker train by hawkers even when passengers insist for it, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Transcontinental rail freight service

*389. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Railways, along with seven other countries, will explore the possibility of transcontinental rail freight service connecting India with Iran and Turkey, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a conference was held recently on this issue to chalk out strategies to turn this into reality; and

(c) if so, the details of the deliberations made in the said conference?

Contract labourers in Railways

*390. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of contract labourers are working in Railways;

(b) if so, the number thereof as on date, Zone-wise;

(c) whether these labourers are paid wages and provided facilities according to the prescribed rules; and

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

NEW DELHI;
The 1st April, 2017
Chaitra 11, 1939 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	:	376, 377, 379, 381, 383,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	:	387,
Communications	:	—
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	:	—
Electronics and Information Technology	:	384,
Food Processing Industries	:	382,
Law and Justice	:	386,
Parliamentary Affairs	:	—
Railways	:	378, 380, 385, 388, 389, 390.
Textiles	:	—