

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, March 19, 2021/ 28 Phalgun, 1942 (Saka)

(Ministries : Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Commerce and Industry; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; Food Processing Industries; Panchayati Raj; Railways; Rural Development; Skill Development and Entrepreneurship)

Total number of questions -- 15

Welfare packages for fishing community

256 **Shri Abdul Wahab:**

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is committed to the welfare of fishing communities in the coastal regions;
- (b) if so, the effort made by Government for the welfare of the fisherman community in Kerala; and
- (c) whether Government is willing to consider a special subsidy in petrol and diesel for the fishing boats in the light of the continued hike in petrol and diesel prices that has burdened the expenses of the fishing community?

Asset monetization of Railways

257 **Shri G.C. Chandrashekar:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning for monetization of asset of Indian Railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of Government thereto; and
- (c) the investment expected from private and public sectors?

Impact of pandemic and lockdown on indirectly dependent persons on Railways

258 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has undertaken a study to estimate the job loss or work loss post lockdown in March, especially for those who were indirectly dependent on Railways for their livelihood or those who were employees of contractors and sub-contractors of Railways as Railways are one of the biggest source of employment, both direct and indirect, ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether Government is planning to take up such study to assess the impact of the lockdown and pandemic on those indirectly employed with Railways, the details thereof;

and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Constraints on adopting organic farming

259 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to convert from conventional farming to organic farming, a farmer has to give a gap of three years of farming, apart from other guidelines laid down by international and Indian bodies;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry would consider giving some compensation to farmers for three years as they cannot grow anything; and

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

Development of railway stations under PPP model

260 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated a programme to develop railway stations on PPP model and that the work on a few railway stations is already in progress;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the time for completion of each such work;

(c) the additional railway stations in the country identified for modernization in the next phase through PPP model; and

(d) the net benefits that would accrue to the Railways through modernization of railway stations under PPP model and whether some development charges would be levied on the passengers?

Implementation of PMAY-G

261 Shri Syed Zafar Islam:

Will the Minister of **Rural Development** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any record of the number of houses constructed and the quantum of funds utilized under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise and State-wise, including Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) whether Government has set any target regarding the completion of works under PMAY-G and if so, the details thereof?

Development of climate resilient agriculture system

262 Shri Sanjay Singh:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost 19 crore people in the country are undernourished and the country is placed at 94th position out of 107 countries in the Global Hunger Index 2020;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures taken to tackle the problem;

(c) whether Government is aware of the serious effects of climate change on crop yields which is causing droughts, floods and famines which would further aggravate the problem of hunger in India; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to develop more climate resilient agricultural systems for farmers?

Third phase of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY 3.0)

263 Dr. Banda Prakash:

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has started third phase of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY 3.0) throughout the country and is planning to skill 8 lakh youths under PMKVY 3.0;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has exclusively designed PMKVY 3.0 to boost demand for job roles at the regional level, adopting a demand-driven approach to connect local youths with local jobs;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of Skill Development Centres opened and operational in the country during the last three years, State/ UT-wise; and
- (f) the details of persons who have been provided employment by these Centres, State/UT-wise?

Makhana products

264 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the rising demand for Makhana products locally and globally, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of nation-wise import and export of Makhana products in the last three years;
- (c) the details of the expected growth in the market size of Makhana products;
- (d) the steps taken to promote Makhana products and the details of funds allocated;
- (e) the details of collaborations with foreign countries to bring better technological expertise in production of Makhana products into the country, if any; and
- (f) the details of the names of the companies producing Makhana products, State-wise ?

Storage of wheat and rice in steel silos

265 Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that traditional storage of wheat and rice in jute gunny bags in godowns is resulting in wastage of 10-20 percent;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government has begun a pilot project to set up steel silos for storage of rice and wheat in Kaimur and Buxar districts of Bihar;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that FCI would set up joint silos with a total capacity of 50,000 tonne each at these places; and
- (d) if so, the total expenditure to be incurred and the progress made till date?

Use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in farming

266 Dr. C.M. Ramesh:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to constitute an effective monitoring mechanism to check usage of chemical fertilizers and pesticides by farmers which is hazardous to human lives by conducting surprise checks at the agriculture sites, if so, the details thereof and if

not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the various steps taken by Government to educate the farming community to discourage the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides and opt for organic farming which would fetch better price in the market, the details thereof?

Manpower strength of RPF and GRP in Odisha

267 **Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the strength and infrastructure of Railway Protection Force (RPF) has been increased/strengthened during the last several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any plan to enhance the manpower strength of Government Railway Police (GRP), Odisha vis-a-vis R.P.F. in Odisha, for a better and qualitative service;

(d) whether Government is aware of the allotment of unsuitable and dilapidated residential quarters to the GRP staff; and

(e) if so, whether there is any proposal for allotment of suitable accommodation to GRP staff like RPF staff by the Railway authorities?

Design contest for developing railway stations

268 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are considering to conduct a design contest for developing three railway stations across the country;

(b) whether Railways have invited global proposals to develop these stations according to international standards;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited has been mandated with developing new railway stations and redeveloping existing ones; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Deoghar Plastic Park

269 # **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

(a) the latest status of plastic park being constructed at Deoghar in Jharkhand, quantum of funds allocated and released by Government for this so far and facilities being provided to entrepreneurs who are investing there, details thereof;

(b) the number of proposals received from investors for investment in Deoghar Plastic Park so far and value of investments thereof;

(c) the likely schedule for full commissioning of Deoghar Plastic Park and number of employment likely to be created directly and indirectly from the investment; and

(d) the incentives being provided by State Governments to the industries to be set up in this Park?

Manufacturing of ethanol and bio-fuel from foodgrains

270 **Shri Anand Sharma:**

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is permitting the use of foodgrains for manufacture of ethanol and bio-fuel;
- (b) whether any incentives have been provided in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has conducted a detailed assessment of the impact of such utilisation on Public Distribution System (PDS) and food security of the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

New Delhi
The 12th March, 2021
21 Phalgun, 1942 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

INDEX
(Ministry-Wise)

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	: 259, 262, 266
Chemicals and Fertilizers	: 269
Commerce and Industry	: --
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	: 265, 270
Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying	: 256
Food Processing Industries	: 264
Panchayati Raj	: --
Railways	: 257, 258, 260, 267, 268
Rural Development	: 261
Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	: 263