

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, July 26, 2021/ 04 Sarvana, 1943 (Saka)

(Ministries : Coal; Defence; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Information and Broadcasting; Jal Shakti; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Mines; Minority Affairs; Parliamentary Affairs; Ports, Shipping and Waterways; Road Transport and Highways; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions -- 15

Criteria to define forest and forest land under dispute

61 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) how the forest is defined/formed and whether there is any specific criteria;
- (b) the total forest area and waste land area in the country, State-wise;
- (c) the area of land under Section-4 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, State-wise;
- (d) the area of forest land under dispute and being claimed by individuals or villages; and
- (e) steps taken to resolve such disputes?

Policy for attracting international film makers

62 Shri John Brittas:

Will the Minister of ***Information and Broadcasting*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently announced that it will set up a facilitation centre for international film makers with a single window clearance system to process the applications;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether specific policies have been designed for sectors like Visual Effects (VFX) animation and other related areas to attract investments from major film markets abroad; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Threats to Lakshadweep archipelago

63 Shri Ripun Bora:

Will the Minister of ***Environment, Forest and Climate Change*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that rapid erosion, turbulent seas and rising ocean temperatures brought on by climate change pose serious threats to the Lakshadweep archipelago; and
- (b) if so, action taken to address the issues?

Bio-toilet developed by DRDO

64 # **Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

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

- (a) the key features of bio-toilet developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO);
- (b) whether cow dung is being used in the bio-toilets manufactured by DRDO, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of bio-toilets constructed in the country along with the number of persons who have benefited from the same so far, State-wise?

FAME India scheme

65 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made by Government to improve the infrastructure required for the large scale use of electric vehicles;
- (b) the amount of budget utilised out of the ₹10,000 crore budget allocated under the Faster Adoption of Electric (and Hybrid) Vehicles (FAME India) scheme;
- (c) the progress made on the electrification of public and shared transportation under phase-II;
- (d) the challenges that have prevented the success of the scheme and the steps taken to address the same; and
- (e) the current percentage of electric to non-electric vehicles manufactured and purchased in the country over the last three years?

Implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission

66 **Shri Neeraj Shekhar:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has an outlay of ₹3.60 lakh crore under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) to provide potable water in every household in rural areas by 2024;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the details of fund allocated, released and utilised so far, State-wise;
- (d) the details of habitations affected by Arsenic, Fluoride and other heavy metals in Uttar Pradesh, district-wise; and
- (e) the details of rural habitations in Arsenic affected areas which have been provided potable water since the launch of JJM in August, 2019 till date, State-wise?

"One Nation, One Pollution Under Control" certificate

67 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to introduce "One Nation, One Pollution Under Control(PUC)" certificate to motor vehicles in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the mechanism of monitoring and issuing PUCs;
- (d) whether Government has appointed any agency to oversee the programme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Inter-linking of Cauvery and Gundar rivers

68 Shri Vaiko:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is contemplating any special scheme for inter-linking of rivers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the new schemes are different from the earlier schemes which are already being implemented;
- (c) whether any proposal has been received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu for inter-linking of Cauvery with Gundar and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the rivers which are likely to be inter-linked under the scheme in Southern part of India, like Godavari-Krishna-Cauvery and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

Implementation of canal project in eastern Rajasthan

69 # Shri Ramkumar Verma:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Central Water Commission has sent proposals regarding funding through external assistance to Government in December, 2017, for the purpose of providing drinking water and irrigation in thirteen districts of Rajasthan under Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government proposes to implement the said project, at the earliest, with the aim of providing water to the districts in Rajasthan facing drinking water crisis, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Separate lanes for trucks/heavy vehicles on NHs

70 Dr. Anil Agrawal:

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to fix separate lanes for the trucks/buses/heavy vehicles on the National Highways (NHs) in the country to avoid accidents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether truck drivers do not give side to the other vehicles to pass thereby causing great difficulties to other drivers; and
- (d) whether there is any check by the authorities to follow the rules to drive in a particular lane?

Slump in coal demand during COVID-19 pandemic

71 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:

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

- (a) whether decrease in coal demand was experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic period in the country;
- (b) if so, the quantum of fall in demand during the period and whether similar slump had been experienced in other countries also;
- (c) whether the demand has gone up to the level of the pre-COVID-19 period; and
- (d) whether there is any further plan by Coal India Limited to increase the production of coal and, if so, the details thereof?

Setting-up of paper mills and establishment of "straw-board" in UP

72 # **Shri Brijlal:**

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Siddharth Nagar, Balrampur, Maharajgunj, Bahraich, Shravasti, Lakhimpur Kheri and Pilibhit districts of lowland regions of Uttar Pradesh are main paddy producing areas, where stubble is available in abundance, that poses problem for environment and around 30/40 years back big bunches of stubble and Kaans-moonj grass made by machines were sent to Titagarh paper mill from Sohratgarh of Siddharth Nagar;
- (b) whether any plan is being formulated to establish paper mills in the said areas and to form "straw-board", so as to increase income of farmers and to solve problem of stubble; and
- (c) if so, details thereof?

New norms for effluent discharge by STPs

73 **Dr. Santanu Sen:**

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Green Tribunal (NGT) had found faults with the Ministry's 2017 Notification by which new norms for effluent discharge in waterbodies by Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) were laid down;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to tackle this problem;
- (c) the details of damage that has already been done to the waterbodies;
- (d) whether it is a fact that some of the recent amendments by the Ministry in the environmental norms have been criticised by environmentalists while some of them have been challenged in the court; and
- (e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

Safety during coal excavation

74 **Dr. Ameer Yajnik:**

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

- (a) the details of initiatives taken by Government to enhance safety during coal excavation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any scheme for workers working at very low wages and high risk in outsourcing companies affiliated to various coal sector Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs); and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Diamond mining at Buxwaha, M.P.

75 # **Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that approval has been given for diamond mining in the dense forest of Buxwaha in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, whether Government has granted environmental clearance; and
- (c) if so, whether any action plan has been formulated to maintain the ecological balance, if so, the details thereof?

New Delhi
The 19th July, 2021
28 Ashadha 1943 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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