

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, February 8, 2019/Magha 19, 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

Installation of solar power projects on unused railway land

*61. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to utilise its unused land pool for installation of solar power projects;

(b) if so, the detailed list of nodal agencies and officers appointed for the purpose;

(c) the details about any proposal from any MNC in this regard and the progress made so far; and

(d) the details about the time-frame for the completion of the project?

Allocation of Microwave Access spectrum

*62. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether serious irregularities in

allocation of Microwave Access spectrum in 2015 have been reported by CAG recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has initiated inquiry into the alleged irregularities to fix responsibility;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Non-disbursement of MSP to farmers

*63. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers in the country are still unable to repay loans due to non-receiving of MSP in the country;

(b) if so, the details of Central support of MSP to farmers for the period 2016-17, 2017-18 and April to December, 2018, crop-wise;

(c) the disbursement of MSPs to farmers during the said periods; and

(d) the action taken by Government to safeguard the interests of the farmers?

Construction of railway line from Sakri to Nirmali and from Jhanjharpur to Laukaha

†*64. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the railway line from Sakri to Jhanjharpur, Nirmali and Saraigarh, from Jhanjharpur to Laukaha Bazar is being converted into broad gauge;

(b) whether Railways have failed to follow the set time-frame;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the people of North Bihar are the most affected ones; and

(d) the details of the measures taken to start the above railway line by Government in 2019?

Assistance to distressed coconut growers of Kerala

*65. SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps initiated by Government to assist the coconut growers in distress in Kerala due to sudden fall in procurement price of coconut in recent months, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to support and encourage coconut growers in the country along with the details of the amount allocated during the last five years for the coconut growers, State-wise?

Cancellation of priority ration cards

*66. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the priority ration cards of families were cancelled for not linking it to Aadhaar;

(b) the number of such cases and deaths caused due to the cancellation of priority ration cards in the past three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the details and nature of compensation provided by Government to the family of the bereaved?

Requirement of quality seeds

*67. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether demand of quality seeds has been increasing over the last three years, if so, the details of demand for quality seeds in the country for current year and last three years;

(b) in what manner the requirement of seeds during natural calamities like flood, drought, etc., would be met and details of seeds reserved in the National Seed Reserve;

(c) whether Government provides financial assistance to States and seed-producing agencies for production and distribution of seeds, if so, details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the crop development programmes/ schemes meant for production and distribution of seeds, details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Implementation of MSP as per
Swaminathan Committee
recommendation**

*68. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to set Minimum Support Price (MSP) at 1.5 times of the comprehensive cost, as per recommendation of Swaminathan Committee, if so, the details thereof and by when the Committee's recommendation would be implemented and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government has received any proposal for implementation of the above recommendation of the Swaminathan Committee, if so, the details thereof and the response thereto; and

(c) whether market price for 10 out of 14 Kharif crops was lower than MSP announced by Government, if so, the details thereof?

**Armed robbery in Jammu-Delhi
Duronto Express**

*69. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a group of armed robbers have robbed passengers of their belongings in two bogies of Jammu-Delhi Duronto Express recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that there was no Railway Protection Force personnel on the train at the time of the robbery, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to fix responsibility and compensate the robbed passengers?

**Broadband connectivity through
USOF**

†*70. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing Wi-Fi hotspot-based broadband connectivity work through Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the detail of the progress made so far in this regard, State-wise; and

(d) the amount spent on the said works during the last three years, State-wise?

**Financial assistance to Andhra
Pradesh for drought relief**

*71. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of healthy rains this year, nearly 300 mandals in six districts, including Nellore, in Andhra Pradesh, suffered drought-like conditions;

(b) if so, the details of mandals declared as drought-affected in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise and informed to the Ministry;

(c) whether the State Government has submitted any proposal for financial assistance under National Disaster Relief Fund; and

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in sending Central Team and by when Ministry would provide financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh?

New trains from Amaravati

*72. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

operate new trains from the new capital city of State of Andhra Pradesh, *i.e.*, Amaravati to major cities/towns in the State of Andhra Pradesh and other parts of the country;

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

Contempt cases against Government

*73. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is constant increase in filing of contempt cases against the Government in various High Courts and the Supreme Court, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of contempt cases filed in the Supreme Court and various High Courts against the Government during the last four years; and

(c) whether Government has analysed the reasons and whether there are any specific instructions on implementation of court orders within the prescribed time limits?

Increase in rail passengers and expansion of railway infrastructure

†*74. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the expected increase in the number of rail passengers by the year 2020 in comparison to the existing number;

(b) whether Government has made any action plan for expansion of railway infrastructure in view of this increase; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

National Animal Disease Reporting System (NADRS)

†*75. SHRI SAMIR ORAON: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the main objective for starting the National Animal Disease Reporting System (NADRS) by Government;

(b) the amount sanctioned/approved and released for expenditure for the Social System in last three financial years; and

(c) the extent to which animal diseases have been brought under control after the implementation of the NADRS, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 2nd February, 2019
Magha 13, 1940 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

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|---|---------------------------|
| Agriculture and Farmers Welfare | : 63, 65, 67, 68, 71, 75, |
| Chemicals and Fertilizers | : — |
| Coal | : — |
| Communications | : 62, 70, |
| Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution | : 66, |
| Electronics and Information Technology | : — |
| Food Processing Industries | : — |
| Law and Justice | : 73, |
| Railways | : 61, 64, 69, 72, 74. |
| Statistics and Programme Implementation | : — |