

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, June 21, 2019/Jyaishtha 31, 1941 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 133

Non-receiving of payment under PM-Kisan Yojana

1. SHRI DEREK O'BREIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers who have received the first installment under PM-Kisan Yojana, State-wise;

(b) whether Government is aware that 1.5 lakh farmers in Uttar Pradesh have not received payment of the first installment;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the manner in which Government plans to rectify this?

Average income of farmers

†2. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any data on a farmer's average monthly/yearly income is available at National or State level in the country;

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

(c) the method adopted for calculating farmers' average income and how a farmers' is defined?

Timely payment of MSP to farmers

3. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers are still not able to repay their loans due to not receiving the MSP on time;

(b) if so, the details of disbursement of MSP to farmers in 2017-2018 and 2018-2019, crop-wise and State-wise; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the measures taken by Government to safeguard the interest of the farmers?

Delay in settlement of claims under PMFBY

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

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers' claims worth ₹ 2,829 crore remained unpaid by the insurance companies for the last two seasons since the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been implemented;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the total number and amount of claims received therein;

(c) the total amount of pending claims, company-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the reasons for such huge pendency inspite of the guidelines stipulating for settlement of claims within two months?

Budgetary allocation for agriculture

†5. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation of budget for agriculture in the last five years and the details of funds spent thereof, category-wise;

(b) whether there is a proposal under consideration for providing grants and insurance to farmers in future in the field of agriculture, under some special scheme, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of increase in farmers' income, if any?

Transaction under e-NAM platform

6. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of platforms/regulated markets that have been started to fetch best prices for farmers under the e-NAM scheme;

(b) the total number of farmers and sellers registered under this scheme; and

(c) the volume and worth of commodities transacted on e-NAM?

Bringing more crops under MSP

7. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to rationalize determination of MSP for various crops in order to make agriculture more remunerative;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government also proposes to bring more crops under the ambit of MSP;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Increasing crop yield of farmers

†8. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering to increase the crop yield of farmers;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this direction so far; and

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Construction of international level plant hubs at Nashik and Delhi

†9. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a provision for building of plant hubs of international level in Delhi and Nashik under National Horticulture Mission;

(b) if so, the construction work that has been completed so far in both the States under the said provision;

(c) if not, the reasons for not commencing the construction work so far; and

(d) the year by which the construction of plant hubs would be completed?

Organic farming in the country

†10. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers engaged in organic farming;

(b) the details of increase in organic food market during last two years in the country;

(c) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is still need to cultivate organic crops in the country and if so, the steps taken to promote organic farming in the country;

(d) whether Government has separately allocated funds for promoting organic farming in the country; and

(e) if so, the details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred for the above purpose during above-mentioned period?

Insurance claims under PMFBY

11. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana that (PMFBY) was launched in 2016 to provide insurance and premium subsidy to the farmers for their produce and in case of crop failure;

(b) if so, the details of the number of farmers covered and the details of amount of insurance claimed under the scheme in the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the details of the insurance companies registered under the PMFBY and the claims paid by each of them, company-wise and year-wise since 2016?

Floriculture in the country

12. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of floriculture in the country along with its share in the world floriculture trade and exports;

(b) whether lack of water for irrigation has adversely affected production of flowers in various States, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any relief/financial assistance is provided by Government in this regard; and

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

Modernization of technology to double the income of farmers

†13. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously contemplating modernisation of technology to double the income of farmers;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this direction; and

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

Arable land in the country

†14. SHRI P.L. PUNIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total agricultural land, in hectares, available in the country for net sowing, State-wise;

(b) the total arable land used for agriculture in last five years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the details of total non-arable land, in hectares, in the country, and

(d) the details of measures being taken by Government to increase the area of arable land?

Cases filed by PepsiCo against farmers

15. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the corporate companies like PepsiCo are filing cases against farmers in the country, including Gujarat, for cultivating certain variety of crops;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Central Government on this issue;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government is not trying to safeguard the interest of farmers on such issues and this is the reason behind the act of such MNCs; and

(d) the manner in which Government will safeguard the interest of farmers, if there is any violation of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001?

Ban on crop residue burning

16. SHRI SANJAY SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Green Tribunal has banned crop residue burning in the States of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab in 2015;

(b) whether it is also a fact that despite the ban, the crop residue burning is spreading severely in other States every year;

(c) if so, the steps Government would undertake to avoid the hazardous residue burning by the farmers; and

(d) the amount of penalty imposed by various State Governments on farmers for burning crop residue, since the year 2015, year-wise?

Conversion of agricultural zones into industrial zones

17. SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to announce Special Agricultural Zones throughout the country to protect the agricultural zones from being converted into unchecked urban/industrial zones;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by Government to protect the agricultural zones from being converted into urban/ industrial zones?

Insurance cover for betel cultivation

18. SHRI G. C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that almost 10 million people in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Karnataka depend on betel cultivation;

(b) if so, whether the betel growing farmers are not getting benefit of the crop insurance scheme as the cultivation of betel has not been accorded the status of agriculture;

(c) if so, whether Government is planning to accord the status of agriculture to betel cultivation, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other welfare measures taken by Government for the communities depending on betel cultivation in the country?

Agricultural production in the country

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

(a) the total foodgrain production in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) the steps taken to enhance agricultural production;

(c) whether allocations for irrigation and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana have been reduced this year as compared to last year; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Mechanization of agricultural production and new farming techniques

20. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated by Government for boosting mechanization of agricultural production processes, State-wise;

(b) the details of the initiatives taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the manner in which Government imparts knowledge to farmers regarding usage of new farming techniques?

Production of foodgrains

21. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of foodgrains has declined during the last three years and the current year in the country, including Tripura;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and crop-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase the production of foodgrains in the country?

Seed testing laboratories in the country

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

(a) the details of seed testing laboratories in the country, State-wise and district-wise;

(b) the performance of seed testing laboratories, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is planning to set up 7,000 more seed testing laboratories in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) to what extent seed testing laboratories help in enhancing crop yield?

Implementation of PM-Kisan Yojana

23. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of expansion of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) Yojana and in what manner farmers are likely to be benefited under the scheme;

(b) whether landholdings would be the basis of the Yojana, if so, the criteria of deciding the landholdings of the farmers;

(c) whether any NGO has been entrusted to do the job or Government has taken initiative in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the cost of the burden of the scheme annually on the Government and the details thereof?

Scheme for upliftment of farmers

†24. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering to formulate a special scheme for upliftment of farmers;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this regard so far; and

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

Inclusion of landless farmers under PM-Kisan Yojana

†25. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land that must be owned by farmers to get benefit under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) Yojana and the details of the number of such farmers, out of total farmers, State-wise; and

(b) whether it is a fact there is no provision for landless farmers in this scheme, if so, whether Government intends to include landless farmers under the PM-Kisan Yojana, if so, the number of farmers who would be benefited from this and if not, the reasons therefor?

Action plan for doubling the income of farmers

†26. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government's policy, programmes and their implementation for the farmers welfare along with Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi; and

(b) the details of measures taken for doubling the income of farmers till date and the details of action plan formulated in this regard till the year 2022?

Technology for crop damage assessment

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a pilot study

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

is being conducted in Andhra Pradesh to test modern technology for crop damage assessment;

(b) if so, the details of pilot study and results that the Ministry has found to assess crop damage; and

(c) the manner in which the above pilot study would help farmers and also in better assessment under PMFBY?

Non-receipt of benefit under PM-Kisan Yojana

28. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several farmers have not received the benefit of cash transfer under PM-Kisan Yojana in certain States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of beneficiaries identified and the number of farmers benefited under the Yojana, State-wise and amount disbursed thereof; and

(c) whether the scheme is being extended to include all the farmers, if so, the number of additional farmers being benefited due to Government's recent decision?

Increase in drought hit areas in the country

29. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:
SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether number of drought hit area are increasing, if so, data since 2014, State-wise, year-wise;

(b) whether Government has allocated budget for existing and proposed pressurised and non-pressurised irrigation systems like canals, reservoirs, drip etc., if so, details thereof, State-wise, year-wise, since 2014 and if not, reasons therefor;

(c) whether Ministry is promoting drip irrigation instead of large irrigation projects, if so, how, if not, reasons therefor; and

(d) whether timely relief has been provided to farmers in drought hit areas, if so, compensation requested by States and relief provided by Centre since 2014, State-wise, year-wise?

MSP for all crops

30. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the crops for which MSP is currently announced, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has still not extended MSP to all crops, if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether Government is proposing to extend MSP to all the crops in all States, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government is aware that even for crops for which MSP has been announced, it does not reach the farmers and they are compelled to sell their crops at lower prices; and

(e) if so, the manner in which Government proposes to address this problem?

Suicide by farmers

31. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS
BAIDYA:
DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers who committed suicide during the last three years, along with reasons therefor, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has enhanced compensation to families of farmers who committed suicide;

(c) whether Government has taken any preventive measures to stop suicide by the farmers in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Insurance cover for risk-prone crops

32. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any qualitative and quantitative assessment of the nature of risks involved for the major crops as a result of climate/weather change and localised calamities;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with major crops classified as risk-prone crops, region-wise;

(c) whether the existing scheme and other schemes announced recently for the welfare of the farmers are adequate to cover all the risks involved in the agriculture sector and provide security to farmers, including small and marginal farmers, in terms of insurance cover to their crops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of schemes for farmers

33. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering various schemes for the welfare of the farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that several suggestions have been submitted by farmers' community/associations requesting Government to focus more on the economic well being of the farmers, if so, the details thereof?

Paying of insurance claims to farmers

†34. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds provided to the farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana against their claims on the damages caused to crops from 2016 till date, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the amount of claims made by farmers and the insurance amount paid against their claims;

(c) the rate at which insurance companies evaluate the crops grown per acre on agricultural land; and

(d) the acre-wise increase made towards compensation to farmers for crops being

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

grown on agricultural land, under the scheme, crop-wise, till date?

Doubling farmers' income

35. 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 examining ways to double the farmers' income by 2022 and has set up a panel to evolve the ways and strategy for the purpose;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the panel has submitted its report to Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the recommendation made by the panel in this regard?

Implementation of PMFBY in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

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

(a) the targeted gross crop area set to be achieved under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana by May, 2019;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has not been able to achieve the target;

(c) if so, the administrative glitches and other hurdles that are not inspiring confidence among farmers; and

(d) how the Ministry is helping the State Governments to bring the targeted gross crop area in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana under the Yojana?

Establishment of 'Gokul Grams' under Rashtriya Gokul Mission

37. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRA-BUDDHE: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of integrated cattle development centres 'Gokul Grams' that have been established under Rashtriya Gokul Mission;

(b) the number of breeders and farmers that have been connected through e-Pashu Haat and e-market portal of the Ministry; and

(c) the number of Pashu Health Cards with UID Identification that have been given under the Pashu Sanjivni Scheme?

Development of artificial fish habitats

38. SHRI G. C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that fish habitats and coral reefs in coastal regions are depleting, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is willing to introduce programme for development of artificial fish habitats, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has included "Mariculture" under Blue Revolution Scheme, if so, the amount allocated during the year 2018-19;

(d) the measures taken to adopt reforms towards responsible and sustainable fisheries to optimally utilize fishery resources in the country; and

(e) the estimated fish production in the country during the year 2019?

Assistance to fishermen

39. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes provided by Government for poor fishermen who do not have their own fishing boats;

(b) the other schemes of Government to provide sustainable livelihood to poor fishermen; and

(c) the financial help provided by Government to such fishermen?

Decline in indigenous cattle and buffaloes

40. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the population of indigenous cattle and buffaloes has declined while cross-bred cattle population has increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any initiative with special focus on 'ONGOLE' and 'PUNGANUR' cattle breeds which are native to Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Foot and mouth diseases in livestock

41. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is bringing any new scheme for immunisation of livestock

to eliminate foot and mouth disease and Brucellosis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the prevalence of the disease in various States and livestock affected by the disease;

(d) whether any funds are earmarked for the scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Unspent money allocated for Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fishing

†42. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money allocated for Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries in the last five years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the details of the amount spent against amount allocated/released and whether any study has been conducted for ascertaining the reasons behind the money remaining unspent?

Protection to indigenous livestock

†43. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the number of indigenous cows, buffaloes, oxen and horses is declining day by day in the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government has prepared any plan to protect the indigenous livestock *i.e.* cows, buffaloes, oxen, horses etc. of this country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Assistance to farmers for dairy development programme

44. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched any programme for dairy development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any financial assistance is provided to State Governments for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details of financial assistance provided to Rajasthan Government during the last three years?

Reopening and remodernising of closed fertilizer PSUs

45 SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to reopen and or remodernise closed fertilizer PSUs in the Eastern and North-Eastern States of the country;

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

(c) the action taken by Government with regard to the assets and machinery and the utilisation of townships, hospitals therein;

(d) whether Government has handed over all the assets of closed PSUs to local State Governments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when Government will hand over the assets to State Governments for utilisation for production and or other development projects?

Opening of Jan Aushadhi Kendras

46. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRA-BUDDHE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) how many applicants belonging to SC/ST communities have availed special benefits provided to them for opening of Jan Aushadhi Kendra; and

(b) how many applicants from North-East and from Naxal-affected areas have availed special benefits for opening of Jan Aushadhi Kendras in the past one year?

NBS Scheme for Urea

47. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is fixing a Nutrient-Based Subsidy rate (NBS) for Urea, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is trying to decontrol the prices of urea in the market and if so, how would it manage the rising prices of Urea; and

(c) in what manner Government plans to regulate the import of cheaper urea as a result of the rising prices of Urea?

Manufacture and import of drug for Haemophilia

48. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies

manufacturing the drug for Haemophilia in the country along with details thereof;

(b) whether the drug RF8 is imported and if so, the value of import for the past three years;

(c) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has fixed the sale price for the imported medicine for Haemophilia; and

(d) whether Government is aware of the MNCs violating the price control order, if so, steps taken against such companies?

Participation of pharmaceutical companies in PMBJP

49. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) has entered into contract with 146 pharmaceutical manufacturing companies for procuring quality generic medicines, to be sold under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

Restructuring Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited

50. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to stop the operations of Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited (HOCL) due to loss;

(b) in what manner Government is planning to restructure HOCL;

(c) whether any proposal from Government of Kerala to take over HOCL, Kochi plant is pending before Government;

(d) whether Government is considering to retain HOCL, Kochi as a stand-alone unit in acceptance of the proposal of Government of Kerala; and

(e) in what manner Government is planning to save PSUs like HOCL?

Revival of fertilizer factories

51. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is working on a proposal to revive some sick or closed public sector fertilizer factories in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and estimated time-frame along with the cost of the revival plan;

(c) whether the revival of these factories will be sufficient to meet the growing demand for fertilizers in the country; and

(d) if not, in what way Government proposes to meet the excess demand?

Demand and supply of fertilizers

52. SHRI G. C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand and supply of fertilizers in the country, State/UT-wise during last three years;

(b) whether there is any shortage of fertilizers in some parts of the country recently;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the corrective measures taken/being taken by Government in this regard, State/UT-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by Government to ensure timely supply of adequate quantity and quality fertilizers to the farming community at reasonable prices?

Subsidies on fertilizers

53. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to decrease the amount of subsidies on fertilizers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the amount of fertilizer subsidy paid during the last two years?

Growth rate of exports

54. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the growth rate of exports has been very low during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the growth rate of exports since 2014-15; and
- (c) the corrective measures being taken for the promotion of exports by the new Government at the centre?

Ease of doing business

†55. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government

is seriously considering on enhancing ease of doing business;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any action in this regard; and

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

Issues concerning e-Commerce industry

56. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has fixed any date to put in place a holistic mechanism to find solution to cross-cutting issues facing the e-Commerce industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Development of Industrial Corridors in Andhra Pradesh

57. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is taking steps to speed up the establishment of Industrial Corridors in the State of Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the quantum of funds allocated in the current budget and the funds being released in the present financial year, along with the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any time-frame has been fixed for completion of these projects to avoid any further delay, if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Termination of eligibility for a duty free imports scheme

58. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the implications of the decision of USA to formally terminate India's eligibility for a duty free imports scheme for developing countries, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the reported decision of USA, as above, has bearing upon reported denial by India on US demand for greater market access to its dairy products and medical devices product sector, the details thereof?

Retaliatory tariff

59. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that retaliatory tariff on 29 US products, which was supposed to come into effect from 4th August, 2018, has not come into effect;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether US has withdrawn the imposition of penal tariff of 25 per cent on steel and 10 per cent on aluminium from the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Impact of termination of preferential trade by USA

60. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed

the impact of termination of preferential trade treatment of India by the US;

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

(c) whether Government has taken/contemplated any steps to insulate Indian industry from the negative impact of above move of the US Government; and

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

Promotion of export of agricultural and processed food products

61. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme for promotion of export of agricultural and processed food products;

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

(c) whether the small and marginal farmers have benefited from such export promotion initiatives of Government, if so, the details thereof of the last three years;

(d) whether any steps have been taken/contemplated to promote export of agricultural and processed food products from Rajasthan and whether the farmers of Rajasthan benefited from such steps; and

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

US-India trade issues

62. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that USA is forming policies recently for trade with India which are affecting the interests of India adversely;

(b) the impact on our exports as a result of the US' decision to increase the duties on steel and aluminium imports from India; and

(c) the manner in which India would overcome these policies of US which are against our trade interests?

Withdrawal of concessions under GSP by USA

63. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which the Ministry is planning to address the trade concerns expressed by the US in view of its notice to withdraw concessions under Generalized System of Preferences (GSP); and

(b) the impact of US trade sanctions on Indian goods in the coming days in view of India being the largest beneficiary of US GSP programme?

Denial of financial assistance to startups

†64. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of startups under the 'Startup India' scheme have been denied financial assistance on one pretext or the other;

(b) if so, the details of year-wise number of startup proposals received and the number of entrepreneurs given financial assistance since 2015;

(c) whether it is a fact that authority responsible for scrutinising these proposals is a big hindrance in the success of the said scheme; and

(d) whether Government would review

the procedure to help the startups grow in the country?

Preferential trade with other countries

†65. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the countries in whose preferential trade list India figures, the details thereof;

(b) the country-wise details of the benefits being accrued to the Indian traders following its inclusion in their preferential trade list, the details thereof for last five years; and

(c) whether it is a fact that some countries have delisted India from their preferential trade list, if so, the name of those countries and the details of the impact it would have on Indian economy?

Impact of US' decision to end preferential terms for India

66. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the United States' decision to end preferential terms for India under the Generalised System of Preferences;

(b) the manner in which this decision is going to affect India's trade and commerce with the US;

(c) whether it is a part of a series of measures on US-India trade, initiated by US administration, to coerce India into accepting favourable trade terms for the US; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to overcome the adverse effects of this decision on US-India trade?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Wastage of foodgrains due to lack of storage capacity

67. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that due to lack of adequate storage facilities, the quantity of foodgrains that are wasted during harvest and post-harvest process in the country has increased manifold;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to augment the storage capacity across the country to minimise the wastage of foodgrains; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Resolving complaints of consumers

68. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints that have been registered online on National Consumer Helpline website, National Consumer Helpline App and UMANG App;

(b) the number of complaints filed online and on the App, which have been resolved; and

(c) the average time taken to respond and resolve the complaints?

Linking of Aadhaar with ration cards

†69. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER

AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that linking of Aadhaar with ration cards has helped in cancellation of many fake ration cards issued under National Food Security Act (NFSA);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of number of ration cards, issued ration cards linked with Aadhaar and fake ration cards detected till date, State-wise?

Underpaid food subsidy bill

70. 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 Central Government has underpaid food subsidy bill by ₹ 69,394 crores in the financial year 2018-19;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this might lead Food Corporation of India (FCI) to raise funds at huge costs from external sources; and

(d) if so, the measures Central Government would undertake to avoid burdening FCI to raise funds from external sources?

Price rise of food items and vegetables

71. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the prices of food items, including vegetables, have risen abnormally and are

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

beyond the reach of lower-middle-class category;

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

(c) the action Government has taken to curb the price rise and the result thereof?

Procurement, marketing, storage, preservation and distribution of foodgrains

72. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any review of the existing system of procurement, marketing, storage, preservation and distribution of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the corrective steps taken in this regard?

Wastage of foodgrains

73. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in 2016-17 alone, more than 8600 tonnes of foodgrains were wasted;

(b) if so, the details of foodgrains wasted during 2017-18 and 2018-19;

(c) the details of measures that have been taken by Government to address the wastage of foodgrains; and

(d) if no measures have been taken then the reasons therefor?

Timely payment to sugarcane growing farmers

†74. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of outstanding amount to be paid by sugar mills to sugarcane growing farmers for current year and during last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the amount due to sugarcane growing farmers is not being paid by sugar mills year-by-year whereby the outstanding amount is increasing; and

(c) the details of steps taken by the Ministry in view of the non-payment of dues in time to the sugarcane-growing farmers by sugar mills and the result thereof?

Storage of foodgrains

75. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any monitoring of storage facilities where the grains are stored;

(b) the number of storage facilities constructed by the Ministry, State-wise; and

(c) whether there has been a lack of maintenance of the identified storage facilities, if so, the details of the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Employment opportunities in food processing sector

†76. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted on the potential of food processing industry in the country for possibilities of enhancing the income of farmers and generation of employment, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of food parks in the country, the number of food parks approved and started during last five years, State-wise; and

(c) the total number of people working in registered and unregistered food processing sectors, the number of people who will get employment from the new food parks alongwith details thereof?

Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities in Jharkhand

77. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has not approved a single project currently in Jharkhand for the Creations/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities (CEFPPC) under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of total number of approved units under PMKSY scheme for the Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities across the country;

(d) whether Government has any plan for the creation of such units in Jharkhand in near future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Requirement of cold storage units

78. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted survey or assessment on requirement of cold storage units, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether Government has undertaken any initiatives for effective cold chain solutions, if so, details thereof, State-wise and year-wise, since 2014 and if not, reasons therefor: and

(c) whether Ministry is aware of wastage of perishable food products, if so, mechanism put in place to avoid it, along with details of wastage, State-wise and year-wise, since 2014 and measures taken since then to address it and if not, reasons therefor?

Employment opportunities in Food Processing Sector

79. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been set to create employment opportunities in the food processing sector and increase its share in GDP;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to achieve the said targets; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Establishment of Mega Food Parks

80. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is proposing to establish about 122 Mega Food Parks across the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any such Food Parks are being established in the State of Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof along with the details of areas in which they are being established?

Schemes implemented under PMKSY

81. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing various schemes under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY);

(b) if so, the details thereof and response of various States to the schemes; and

(c) the number of proposals approved under these schemes and the cost of approvals, State-wise?

Status of 'Sabki Yojana Sabka Vikas' programme under GPDP

82. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is very low response to preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) under 'Sabki Yojana Sabka Vikas' programme from States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, how many States have conducted gram sabhas; and;

(c) the details of ranking given to various States under the programme?

Allocation under the schemes of Ministry

83. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of grants released under various schemes of the Ministry to States during the last four years and the current year, year-wise, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(b) whether these grants were released on time, year-wise, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(c) the details of expenditure, scheme-wise and;

(d) the details of physical targets set and achieved, State-wise and year-wise with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

Effective functioning of Panchayats

84. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched the scheme - Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has undertaken a Mission Antodaya to bring one crore households out of poverty to make 50,000 Gram Panchayats poverty free and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is an urgent need for implementation of e-governance in panchayats to make them transparent, accountable and effective institutions of self-governance and if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) the other corrective steps taken by Government for strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions during last three years?

Extension of route of Tejas train

85. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to extend Tejas train from Chennai to Kanyakumari;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is contemplating to reduce the running time of Tejas train for Chennai/Madurai/Chennai; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Pending railway projects

86. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway projects pending or not taken up for execution despite laying of foundation stones in the country, State-wise including Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the present status of the said projects, project-wise;

(c) by when these projects are likely to be taken up and completed; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by Railways in this regard?

Demand for modernization of rake points

87. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN. : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to non-availability of required infrastructure in the existing rake points, provision of new rake points and the two-point rakes, supply and allocation of chemicals, fertilizers and foodgrains are badly affected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken on the long-standing demand for modernization of existing rake points, notification of new rake points and provision of two-point rakes at proposed places?

Catering services in trains

88. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the numbers and trains in which catering services are being provided to passengers, zone-wise;

(b) the number of trains which have more than 1000 kilometre journey distance and are having no pantry cars;

(c) whether it is a fact that Railways are planning to conduct food audits to maintain quality of food in trains and at stations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Train services on Ranchi-Howrah route

89. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received a number of applications to increase the train frequency and services between Ranchi-Howrah;

(b) if so, the details of the steps Government is taking to increase the train services on this route;

(c) whether Railways would introduce at least one more Shatabadi Express and add AC coaches in the Intercity Express and Kriya Yoga Express; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Construction of ROB at Railway level crossings in Uttar Pradesh

90. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) on railway level crossings in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether construction of ROB have not been completed by the target date of completion;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the status of each project, separately, along with the steps being taken to complete the pending works;

(d) whether there is any proposal for constructing ROB at several points where State highways cross railway line in Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Bangalore-Chennai and Chennai-Mysore Bullet Train Corridors

91. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are working on Bangalore-Chennai and Chennai-Mysore Bullet Train Corridors;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a Cabinet note has already been moved in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the DPRs would be prepared and the plan of action to implement the above two major projects?

Compensation policy for land acquisition for Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet-Train project

92. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funding status of

Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train project including the total cost of the project and the financial assistance from the partnering country;

(b) whether Government has taken note of the many agitations taking place against the land acquisition for the project and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has noticed the allegations that Government has diluted land acquisition and compensation policy for Japan International Cooperation Agency;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government has any plans to reconsider the compensation policy and if so, the details thereof?

Palakkad railway division

93. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is planning to take out Mangalore from Palakkad division;

(b) if so, the reason for such decision;

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry to improve the revenue and facilities of Palakkad division; and

(d) the list of Railway divisions and the revenue generated by them for the last five years?

Installation of solar panels on unused Southern Railway land

94. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified unutilized railway land under Southern Railway (SR) to install solar panels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has fixed any target in terms of megawatt to generate power under this system;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Setting up new RRB in Railway Zone headquarter at Visakhapatnam

95. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to set up new Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) in the proposed new Railway Zone headquartered at Visakhapatnam;

(b) whether it is a fact that by convention Zone Headquarters are always set up in the Division and due to removing Waltair Division, all proposals from this region would have to go to Vijayawada Division, thereby creating unnecessary delay and other problems;

(c) if so, would the Ministry consider keeping Waltair Division as it is; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Extension of rail network to rural areas

96. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are parts of rural India unconnected by rail network, if so, the details thereof, state wise;

(b) the details of extension of rail network to rural areas since 2014, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) whether effective train services have started on all networks which connect the unconnected areas since 2014, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Free Wi-Fi service at Railway Stations

97. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that RailTel is turning railway stations into digital hubs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that RailTel is considering to provide free Wi-Fi at many more stations across the country including Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Modernization of railway stations

98. DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have proposed to modernize all the railway stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways propose to construct new railway station in any States of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Railways in this regard?

Upgradation of railway stations

99. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations that have been decided to be upgraded to provide facilities at par with the airports; alongwith the details thereof;

(b) whether Railways have fixed the criteria on the basis of which these railway stations would be redeveloped; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Gauge conversion projects in Andhra Pradesh

100. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken up any gauge conversion projects in the State of Andhra Pradesh in the current financial year, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the budget allocations made, project-wise, and the estimated time for completion; and

(c) the details of the progress made so far and the action plan chalked out to complete the project within the timeframe?

Decongestion of major railway stations

101. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have identified a number of railway stations in and around the railway junctions/stations of the major cities in the country to decongest such major railway stations; and

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

Establishment of Railway Zone with headquarters at Visakhapatnam

102. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Ministry pursuant to the announcement to create a separate Railway Zone headquartered at Visakhapatnam;

(b) whether it is a fact that there have been genuine demands to include Waltair Division in the proposed new Railway Zone;

(c) if so, the constraints the Ministry is facing in this regard; and

(d) by when notification would be issued for creation of new Railway Zone?

Maintenance of Railway Tracks and Coaches

103. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of railway accidents that have taken place over the last five years due to issues of maintenance of tracks and/or coaches, State-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to regularly monitor and maintain the tracks and coaches in order to reduce the incidence of railway accidents?

Construction of ROB and RUB in Andhra Pradesh

104. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have sanctioned a Road Over Bridge (ROB) at Kondayapalem Centre (LC113) with estimated cost of ₹ 47 crore and a RUB (Road under Bridge) at electric office area (LC112) with an estimated cost of ₹ 46 crore in Nellore town of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated time within which the above projects have to be completed; and

(d) the reasons for delay in executing the projects and by when they are going to be completed?

Work on Machilipatnam-Vijayawada rail line

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

(a) whether it is a fact that doubling and electrification work of Machilipatnam-Vijayawada railway line which was included in the Budget 2011-12, has not yet been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has formulated any special scheme/contingent plan to complete the project in a time-bound manner;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Bringing Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts under new Railway Zone

106. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of issuing notification for newly created South Coast Railway Zone;

(b) the reasons behind merging Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts of Andhra Pradesh with newly created Rayagada Division;

(c) whether it is a fact that there have been demands from various sections to bring Vizianagaram and Srikakulam either under Vijayawada Division or by creating a new Waltair Division and bringing it under South Coast Railway Zone; and

(d) if so, the proposal of the Ministry in this regard?

Electrification of Railway lines

107. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken up the work of electrification of railway lines in the country at the cost of ₹ 35,000 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether, as a part of this project, Government has identified any railway lines in the State of Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the electrification of railway lines being taken up which pass through Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh particularly; and

(e) the quantum of funds estimated to be spent on this electrification of railway lines project along with the details thereof?

Trains between Indore and Ujjain

†108. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing passenger Rail services, its unreserved/reserved railway fare and the time taken by each train to reach its destination between Ujjain-Indore-Ujjain; and

(b) the steps taken to ensure availability of regular direct fast speed rail service between Indore and Ujjain and vice-versa and by when it would be available in public interest?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Stoppage of Netravati Express and Tejas Express at Kankavali Railway Station

†109. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received requests for stoppage of Netravati Express and Tejas Express at Kankavali Railway Station in Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg Konkan region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government on the above requests and the details thereof?

Safety of female passengers in trains

†110. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures being taken by Government for safety of female passengers travelling in trains;

(b) the number of trains wherein coaches have been fitted with cameras from security point of view and the number of trains left uncovered, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Railways are also installing panic button in ladies' coaches, if so, by when all the ladies coaches would have such an arrangement in place, the details thereof?

Railway Zonal offices in Jharkhand

†111. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total Railway Zonal offices located in Jharkhand;

(b) whether it is a fact that location of

various zonal offices in such a small region causes inconvenience in construction, operation, providing passenger amenities, grievance redressal etc.,

(c) if so, whether Government would consider creating a single Railway Zone for Jharkhand by merging the Railway Boards of Ranchi, Dhanbad, Adra, etc.; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Construction work on Hajipur-Mahua rail line

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a concrete step on Hajipur-Mahua Rail line in Bihar after conducting a survey of the same;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by when the construction work of Hajipur-Mahua rail line would commence; and

(d) the latest status of the same?

Status of broad gauge conversion of Ujjain-Fatehabad rail track

†113. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the details of the work done till date for converting the Ujjain-Fatehabad meter gauge to broad gauge and the details of time bound projects for such conversion and the target fixed for completion of the said work?

Summer special trains

114. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether, to ease summer rush of passengers, Railways propose to introduce summer special trains from the capital to various States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government proposes to introduce any special scheme for elderly women, apart from senior citizen scheme/facility and school children for boarding these trains, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has taken care for providing hygienic bed rolls, quality food, drinking water, cleaning of coaches in the train and whether any monitoring mechanism has been put in place to oversee these facilities?

Unutilized land of Railways

115. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land lying unutilized/vacant under Railways, zone-wise, and the manner in which Railways propose to utilize the said vacant land;

(b) the details of commercial utilization of land, including land given on lease by Railways/Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), during the last three years, year-wise and Zone-wise;

(c) the details of revenues generated from such commercial utilization/lease of railway land/real estate by Railways/RLDA during the last three years, year-wise and zone-wise; and

(d) whether Railways propose to utilize huge area of vacant land in Uttar Pradesh?

Alternative Bullet train routes

116. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:
SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has done a thorough assessment on alternative routes for the construction of Bullet train passage, if so, the details of other routes and reasons for their abandonment, if not the reasons therefor;

(b) whether budget was allocated for compensation of displaced citizens, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether alternative places have been marked for their dislocation settlement, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Ministry plans to reinstate the loss to flora and fauna, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Encroachment on Railway land

†117. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people have encroached upon more than 1,900 hectares of Railway land across the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to get appropriate information about the encroached land; and

(c) the steps taken by Railways to get their encroached land vacated till date and by when it would be achieved?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Doubling and electrification of
Madurai-Vanchi Maniyachi-
Thoothukudi route**

118. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given top priority to the speedy completion of Madurai-Vanchi Maniyachi-Thoothukudi line doubling project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is also undertaking electrification of the second line in Madurai-Vanchi Maniyachi-Thoothukudi rail project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Utilisation of funds from PMGSY to
improve road connectivity in
Chhattisgarh**

†119. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to utilize the funds from Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) to improve road connectivity in Naxal-affected and backward areas of Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the State-wise and area-wise details of the allocation and utilization of funds under PMGSY during the last three years and the current year in Chhattisgarh?

Distress migration from rural areas

120. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is 'distress migration' from rural areas across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any initiative to arrest this trend;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Development of villages under SAGY

121. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the development of villages under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) has not achieved its proposed targets and the programme has failed in implementation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, how many Village Development Plans (VDPs) were developed successfully;

(d) the total number of villages identified under SAGY, State-wise, and the number of villages which implemented VDPs successfully; and

(e) whether Government is planning to provide separate funds for the scheme?

Rural Employment Schemes

122. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of rural employment schemes presently implemented by the Central Government in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that budgetary allocations to the schemes have been cut down during the last few years, every year,

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

in comparison to initial years of launching of the schemes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Establishment of India International Skill Centres

123. SHRI G.C. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is planning to establish India International Skill Centres (IISCs) to help those looking for jobs overseas, get skills training, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Memorandum of Cooperation has been signed between India and Japan on the Technical Intern Training Programme (TITP), if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NSDC is working on a programme to send 3 lakh youth to Japan, where they would be trained and will work, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) other initiatives being taken by Government for providing employment opportunities to youth in overseas countries?

Assessment of Skill India Mission

124. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry has made any assessment of success of Skill India Mission;

(b) if so, the details of physical targets set and achieved, State-wise, during the last five years, year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has decided to revamp Skill India Mission since it has not achieved the desired results;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons that private players are not showing any interest to take part in Skill India Mission?

Creation of workforce for handling Artificial Intelligence skills

125. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any specific plan to create workforce capable of handling the emerging trends in skill sector like Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has identified this sector as having a potential for job creation?

Issuance of Skill Vouchers/Wallets to attract youth for skilling courses

126. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is thinking of issuing Skill Vouchers or Skill Wallets to attract youth to undertake skilling courses;

(b) whether it denotes that the Ministry is now moving from subsidy-based system to incentive-based system;

(c) whether the Ministry ever tried to find out the failures in subsidy-based system;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures Ministry proposed which also failed and now has proposed to adopt incentive-based system; and

(e) how the above move would help to realize the dream to make India "Skill Capital" of the world?

Programmes for skill development of socially and economically backward categories

127. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether any programmes are being organised by financial institutions for capacity development and skill development of candidates belonging to socially and economically backward categories in the country in order to increase employment opportunities among the youth of the socially backward classes in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Training of people for entrepreneurship in Tamil Nadu

128. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals to train young people for entrepreneurship, especially in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) the number of concessions extended to startup entrepreneurship in recent years, the details thereof?

Expansion of scope of PM-Kisan Yojana

†129. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any decision to expand the scope of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) Yojana;

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

(c) whether Government has estimated the financial implications of such expansion; and

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

Institution to regulate prices of agriculture and non-agriculture products

130. SHRI T.K.S. ELANGOVAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to set-up an institution to regulate the prices of agricultural and non-agricultural products in rural areas to ensure the minimum guaranteed fair price for such products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Buffer stock of onion

131. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to increase buffer stock of onion/potatoes in the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of initiatives taken to control hoarders in the country?

Piling up of foodgrains in granaries

132. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that massive stock of foodgrain is piled up in granaries in the country, if so, details thereof, State-wise; and

(b) whether Government proposes to offer foodgrains at subsidised rates to the poorer sections of the society to ease the granaries to prevent piling up of foodgrains in near future in those granaries, the details thereof?

Increase in wages under MGNREGA

133. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in wage in rupees and percentage in order of category of assigned worklist under MGNREGA, male, female-wise, State-wise, year-wise, since 2014;

(b) the reasons why there has been no wage increase in some years in some States while in other States, it has been as little as ₹ 1 or ₹ 3;

(c) the point of reference being used to measure wage increase required on an annual basis, if no scientific basis exists for increase in wages, the reasons therefor; and

(d) reasons for delay in payment of wages and measures being implemented to tackle the same, if not, reasons therefor?

NEW DELHI;
The 15th June, 2019
Jyashtha 25, 1941 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

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