

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, August 11, 2017/Shravana 20, 1939 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers;  
Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution;  
Electronics and Information Technology; Food Processing  
Industries; Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs;  
Railways; Textiles)

Total number of questions — 15

#### Setting up regulator for fixing prices of agricultural tools

†\*271. CH. SUKHRAM  
SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of  
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS  
WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that industries  
engaged in agricultural sector are making  
huge profits every year while farmers are  
sinking into debt day-by-day;

(b) whether the reason behind accrual  
of huge profits to companies engaged in  
agricultural sector, such as tractor  
manufacturers, fertiliser manufacturers/  
suppliers, companies supplying  
insecticides and seeds, is the faulty policies  
of Government, which are harming the  
farmers and benefiting the industries  
engaged in agriculture; and

(c) whether Government would  
consider setting up a regulator for fixing  
prices of the said resources, so as to arrest  
the trend of earning huge profits on  
agricultural tools?

#### Poor quality of food highlighted by CAG report

†\*272. SHRI VISHAMBHAR  
PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of  
RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the points of serious deficiencies,  
highlighted by the Comptroller and Auditor  
General (CAG) in the month of July this  
year, regarding the poor quality of food  
items of Railways; and

(b) whether the Ministry proposes to  
take steps to bring radical changes in the  
railway carting in view of the report of  
CAG, if so, the details thereof?

#### Losses to poultry farmers

\*273. SHRIMATI RENUKA  
CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of  
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS  
WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that  
the poultry farmers bear huge losses every  
year due to sizzling temperature and water  
shortage in summer season across the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

country resulting in stunted growth, death of birds and reduced production of eggs and broilers;

(b) if so, the details of estimated loss incurred by the poultry farmers during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to launch a 'save poultry' campaign by educating farmers to follow certain tips to insulate birds from heat?

#### **Maintenance of register for framing of rules/regulations**

\*274. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether every Ministry/Department is required to maintain a register regarding framing of rules, regulations, etc. under an Act to be monitored by a Joint Secretary in respective Ministries on monthly basis, if so, the list of Ministries/Departments that are doing this; and

(b) the action taken by Government against those not complying with the requirement?

#### **Central and State share of funds under PMFBY**

\*275. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), the Centre and State share has been kept at 50:50, while in all other Central Sector Schemes, the existing fund share pattern is 60:40 respectively; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether the Central Government would

provide a contingent fund to the States for programme implementation under the Yojana?

#### **Dues of sugarcane growers in Uttar Pradesh**

\*276. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the outstanding dues of sugarcane growers against the sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh, as on date, together with the dues pertaining to the previous year;

(b) the number of private, co-operative and Government sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh, together with the number of mills which are in operation;

(c) the rate at which sugarcane is being procured from farmers and the facilities provided by Government to sugar mills; and

(d) whether Government has received complaints regarding non-purchasing of entire sugarcane by mill owners, if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Payment of rent to owners of private godowns**

\*277. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data about the private godowns kept on rent by the Government; and

(b) if so, the details of the rent paid to the owners during the last three years, State-wise?

**Grant-in-aid for cold storage infrastructure**

†\*278. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a grant-in-aid of 35 per cent of the total cost is provided for installation of cold storage infrastructure, including transport, plant, machinery and technical civil works in general areas, to interested farmers in the country, including Maharashtra, particularly to small and marginal farmers and farmers' self-help groups; and

(b) if so, the total number of farmers and farmers' self-help groups benefited from this scheme in Maharashtra during the last three years, the details thereof, district-wise?

**Income and expenditure of East Coast Railway**

\*279. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the East Coast Railway has been running in losses over the years, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the income and expenditure details of the East Coast Railway for the last three years, division-wise?

**Implementation of BharatNet in Gram Panchayats of Odisha**

\*280. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will expedite

the implementation of BharatNet project in all Gram Panchayats of Odisha for effective rollout of various initiatives under the Digital India programme; and

(b) whether a National Task Force will be constituted on immediate basis to ensure mobile and broadband connectivity to deficient areas in Odisha and other similarly placed States?

**Sowing of pulses**

†\*281. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the acres on which pulses were sown during the Kharif season 2017-18 is smaller compared to corresponding period 2016-17, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether one of the reasons is that the farmers are apprehensive that they would not get remunerative prices for their produce owing to the fall in prices of pulses; and

(c) the mechanism to find out the crop which has been cultivated and the quantity thereof so that the farmers could strike a balance in terms of cultivation of their crops?

**Special Railway Zone at Visakhapatnam**

\*282. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has decided to announce a Special Railway Zone at Visakhapatnam, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has once again requested the

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Central Government for establishment of Railway Zone at Visakhapatnam as promised by the Centre;

(c) the bottlenecks being faced by Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government for early establishment of the same in view of the long pendency thereof?

**Constitution of Handloom Textiles  
Export Promotion Board**

\*283. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:  
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian handloom textiles are quite popular in the international market; and

(b) whether the Ministry would consider constituting a Handloom Textiles Export Promotion Board to specifically focus on the promotion, development and export of handlooms and if so, by when?

**Poor quality of food served in trains**

\*284. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) in its recent report has observed that poor quality of food is being served in trains and railway authorities are not paying due attention to the regular complaints in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the food served is often recycled and is easily accessible to rats, insects, etc., if so, the steps taken by Government to rectify the situation?

**Introduction of degree course at IIHT,  
Bargarh**

\*285. SHRIMATI SARAJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to introduce a degree course on Handloom Technology in the Indian Institute of Handloom Technology (IIHT), Bargarh in Odisha, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and which are the IIHTs where the degree course on Handloom Technology has been introduced?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 5th August, 2017*  
*Shravana 14, 1939 (Saka)*

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,  
*Secretary-General.*

**I N D E X**  
(Ministry-wise)

|                                                       |   |                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| <b>Agriculture and Farmers Welfare</b>                | : | 271, 273, 275, 278, 281 |
| <b>Chemicals and Fertilizers</b>                      | : | —                       |
| <b>Communications</b>                                 | : | 280,                    |
| <b>Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</b> | : | 276, 277,               |
| <b>Electronics and Information Technology</b>         | : | —                       |
| <b>Food Processing Industries</b>                     | : | —                       |
| <b>Law and Justice</b>                                | : | 274,                    |
| <b>Parliamentary Affairs</b>                          | : | —                       |
| <b>Railways</b>                                       | : | 272, 279, 282, 284,     |
| <b>Textiles</b>                                       | : | 283, 285.               |