RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Wednesday, July 19, 2017/Ashadha 28, 1939 (Saka)

(Ministries : Commerce and Industry; Culture; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Home Affairs; Labour and Employment; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Petroleum and Natural Gas; Steel; Tourism; Tribal Affairs)

Total number of questions — 15

Cow vigilantism

- †*31. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that many innocent people were either severely beaten up or lynched in the name of cow vigilantism during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor, the details of the organisations that executed such incidents; and
- (c) if not, the details of such incidents that were executed in the name of cow vigilantism during the last three years?

Honorarium for artists in different fields

- *32. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) how many persons are getting honorarium for their work in different fields, the details thereof, State-wise;

- (b) how many applications are pending with Government, the details thereof, Statewise; and
- (c) whether there is any hurdle in regular payment of honorarium, if so, the details thereof?

Contribution to Employees' Provident Fund

- *33. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has proposed to reduce employees' as well as employers' contribution to Employees' Provident Fund from 12 per cent to 10 per cent;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the objective behind the move;
- (c) whether the representatives of employees unions, employers unions and the State Governments strongly opposed the proposal;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the Union Government's response to the opposition to the proposal; and
- (f) the other steps taken by Government to bring EPFO contributions at par with other savings instruments like the National Pension Scheme?

Status of ethanol production capacity and blending in petrol

- †*34. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the existing status of capacity and potential of ethanol production in the country and its quantum of blending in petrol in percentage thereof and its maximum quantity which could be added to petrol; and
- (b) the details of effective steps to increase the percentage of ethanol in petrol in global context?

Promotion of Indian literature in foreign countries

- *35. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRA-BUDDHE: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the allocation and utilization of funds for promotion of Indian literature in foreign countries during the last three years, country-wise; and
- (b) the steps taken for promotion through translation of Indian literature in foreign languages including the allocation and utilization of funds for the same during the last three years, country-wise/foreign language-wise?

Savings under PAHAL Scheme

- *36. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the total amount of savings under the PAHAL Scheme in the last two years;
- (b) the method of calculation of savings that has been used by Government; and
- (c) how much of the savings can be attributed to the change in global prices of LPG and how much is due to the plugging of leakages, the details thereof?

Jain temple in Telangana lying in shambles

- *37. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware that the old Jain temple built with bricks in terracotta style at Alvanpalli in Jadcherla town of Telangana lies in shambles and is likely to collapse anytime;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for not making any effort for restoration and maintenance of this rare structure; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government for conservation and rehabilitation of this oldest Jain temple?

FIR against IPS Officer of Jharkhand

- *38. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that very recently an FIR has been directed to be lodged against a senior IPS officer in the rank of ADGP from Jharkhand cadre of IPS;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, what is the current status of action in this regard;
- (c) what further action is being contemplated by the Ministry in this regard;
- (d) if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

Closure of regional/field offices of Rubber Board

- *39. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) how many regional/field offices have been closed down by Rubber Board during the last three years;
- (b) the State-wise and year-wise details of such offices that were closed down:
- (c) whether the Rubber Board is planning to close down any of its regional/field offices functioning in Kerala; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Condition of ancient monuments and buildings in Odisha

- *40. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the condition of the ancient monumental buildings in the holy city of Puri are getting from bad to worse:
- (b) whether the ASI has conducted any survey with regard to the condition of such buildings, if so, what was the recommendation of the ASI; and
- (c) how does the Ministry propose to carry out renovation of such ancient monuments and ensure proper preservation of the heritage sites particularly in the holy city of Puri and in the State of Odisha?

Legal rights and conditions for monitoring and interception operations

- *41. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRA-SEKHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware that Internet is becoming the fastest growing source of terrorist propaganda and recruitment and as such there is an increasing need for intelligence and national security agencies to have legal powers and technology tools for monitoring and interception of such communications: and
- (b) what legal rights and threshold conditions are being prescribed before agencies can conduct monitoring and interception operations given that there is a simultaneous need to ensure that such powers and tools are not misused against citizens?

Serious safety loopholes in PMUY

- *42. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana which envisages providing LPG connections to families below the poverty line, has run into trouble as distributors have pointed out serious safety loopholes in the scheme and have threatened a long drawn protest;
- (b) whether the protest has been triggered by a recent incident where an entire Ujjwala beneficiary family perished after an LPG leakage and the distributor has been booked under the Indian Penal Code: and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor, for not taking any action on the communication received from the federation of distributors?

Rural tourism projects in the country

- *43. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of rural tourism projects being implemented in the country along with the status of such projects, State/UTwise;
- (b) whether any new project has been sanctioned in the current year and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra;
- (c) whether any hurdle/obstacle is being faced in the execution of such projects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the measures being taken by Government in this regard?

Development of beach destinations in the country

*44. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

New Delhi; *The* 13th July, 2017 *Ashadha* 22, 1939 (Saka)

- (a) whether it is a fact that India has a huge potential for developing beach destinations;
- (b) if so, what is being done in this regard;
- (c) how much investment would be required for the same; and
- (d) how does Government propose to mobilize resources for the purpose?

Development of river tourism

- †*45. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any scheme has been formulated by Government for development of river tourism; and
- (b) the schemes formulated for developing tourist spots on river banks in the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal, State-wise?

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF, Secretary-General.

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