

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, July 20, 2017/Ashadha 29, 1939 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Development of North Eastern Region; External Affairs; Housing and Urban Affairs; Human Resource Development; Information and Broadcasting; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Social Justice and Empowerment; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Women and Child Development)

Total number of questions — 15

MoUs signed during the recent visits of the Prime Minister

*46. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with United States of America (USA), Germany and Israel for various deals and technological support from the respective countries during the recent visits of the Prime Minister during the last and the current month; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for development in the fields of medicine, science and technology, education, IT, Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) and defence?

Suggestions to reduce burden of school bags, etc.

*47. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has been asked to prepare a report on the suggestions to reduce the burden of school bags, providing tablets in schools, flexible time table etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a proposal to divide books into two volumes so that the students could bring thinner books in school bags;

(d) whether RO water facility would also be suggested so that carrying water bag could be avoided; and

(e) by when the suggestions would be put into operation and at what class level, the details in this regard?

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas for BPL families

*48. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to open Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas only for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

China's presence around India's maritime boundaries

†*49. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China is consistently neglecting the interests of India and a siege is being laid around India's maritime boundaries;

(b) whether through a tie-up between China and Pakistan in the name of 'One Belt One Road', an agreement has been made to let the road pass through that part of Jammu and Kashmir which comes under Pak Occupied Kashmir; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by India in view of the intentions of China?

Proposals for Old Age Homes and De-Addiction schemes in Madhya Pradesh

†*50. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received from Madhya Pradesh under the Old Age Homes and De-Addiction schemes during 2016-17;

(b) the number of proposals approved together with the number of those pending approval; and

(c) the number of proposals and the time by which they would be approved?

Cradles for unwanted babies

*51. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has ordered all hospitals and orphanages to set up cradles in front of their buildings so that parents can give up their unwanted babies safely; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

Vacancies in School of Open Learning, Delhi University

†*52. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of non-teaching posts sanctioned in School of Open Learning (SOL), Delhi University and the number of posts sanctioned for Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes out of those, post-wise;

(b) whether a number of posts are lying vacant inspite of availability of eligible candidates in the open market including the university and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the University Grants Commission thereto;

(c) the reasons for posts reserved for SCs/STs lying vacant; and

(d) the action taken/being taken by Government for filling up of these vacancies in a timebound manner?

NEET centres in Andhra Pradesh

*53. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) has been conducted only at two centres viz. Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether these two centres are sufficient for conducting the test;

(c) whether students from Rayalaseema have to travel a lot to appear in the examination since the closest NEET centre for them is Vijayawada which is more than 500 kms from Anantapur;

(d) if so, whether the Ministry would consider to designate one more NEET centre in Kadapa district of the State; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Foreign visits of Prime Minister

*54. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the countries visited by the Prime Minister during the last two months; and

(b) the details of Memorandums of Understanding, bilateral agreements pertaining to socio-economic, diplomatic relations, etc. entered into with each country?

Trilateral agreement for transport and transit corridor

*55. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India, Iran and Afghanistan have signed a trilateral agreement in 2016 for establishing a transport and transit corridor for the strategically located Chabahar Port in Iran;

(b) whether Japan has also shown its interest with India for development of the Port and has committed an investment to

help improve Afghanistan's access to the Port;

(c) whether Japan's interest in the Port is seen as a counterbalance to China's Gwadar Port, barely 75 kms away in Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Unutilized funds in North Eastern States

*56. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that significant part of funds allocated to North-Eastern States remains unspent after every financial year;

(b) if so, the details of such unspent funds during the last three years, State-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective measures being taken in this regard?

Construction of Dhola Sadiya bridge on Brahmaputra

*57. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any communication from any of our neighbouring countries on construction of Dhola Sadiya bridge on the river Brahmaputra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of India thereto?

Vacancies in Kendriya and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas

†*58. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether, as per Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan's annual Report 2015-16, 200 posts of Principals, 113 posts of Vice-Principals, 10,039 posts of TGTs, PGTs and PRTs and 14,144 posts of non-teaching staff are lying vacant in Kendriya Vidyalayas across the country;

(b) whether 125 posts of Principals, 53 posts of Vice-Principals and 2023 posts of teachers are also lying vacant in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government for filling up of these vacancies for uninterrupted education of students?

CBI investigating bullion importers

*59. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is investigating cases of irregularities or misconduct of entrepreneurs who have business of importing bullion under the Gold Import Policy for implementation of which Handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation of India (HHEC) is a nodal agency under the Ministry of Textiles;

(b) if so, the details thereof and names of entrepreneurs involved therein;

(c) whether CBI has ever given any direction to HHEC to block margin money

of genuine and clean cases of small entrepreneurs on the pretext of some other identical cases involved in irregularities; and

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

Import of sophisticated timekeepers for satellites

*60. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) had imported twenty seven sophisticated timekeepers for the nine satellites of the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether three atomic clocks of one of the seven satellites of the country's newly operational navigation satellite system also called desi GPS have stopped working;

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

(e) whether this has affected the overall performance of our navigation system; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by Government to overcome this problem?

NEW DELHI;
The 14th July, 2017
Ashadha 23, 1939 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Prime Minister	:	—
Atomic Energy	:	—
Development of North Eastern Region	:	56,
External Affairs	:	46, 49, 54, 55, 57,
Housing and Urban Affairs	:	—
Human Resource Development	:	47, 48, 52, 53, 58,
Information and Broadcasting	:	—
Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	:	59,
Planning	:	—
Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	:	—
Social Justice and Empowerment	:	50,
Space	:	60,
Statistics and Programme Implementation	:	—
Women and Child Development	:	51.