RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Friday, July 21, 2017/Ashadha 30, 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

Performance of agricultural schemes

- *61. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether despite various ongoing schemes for promotion of agriculture in the country, more than 50 per cent farmers are living below the poverty line;
- (b) if so, whether Government has made any study to assess the performance of each of these schemes during the last three years:
- (c) if so, the outcome of such study;
- (d) whether Government proposes to reform such schemes, if so, the details thereof?

Appointment of women judicial officers

- *62. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether it is a fact that Government

has promised to increase reservation for women in the judiciary; and

(b) if so, how far has this promise been accomplished and how many women judicial officers have been appointed in the last three years ending 31st May, 2017 along with the list thereof?

Approval for the project to increase the speed of trains

- *63. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether NITI Aayog has given its approval for ₹18,000 crore project to increase the speed of trains, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the project will cover Delhi-Mumbai and Delhi-Howrah rail corridors, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to make the trains run at an increased speed of 160 kilometres per hour, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which these high speed trains will start functioning?

Lack of internet connectivity vis-a-vis digital literacy

- *64. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that according to a joint study done by Assocham and Deloitte, nearly a billion Indians do not have internet connections;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government has started emphasizing on digital economy after it embarked on a demonetisation drive on 8th November, 2016: and
- (c) the efforts being made by Government to spread digital literacy among the people at large?

Cases of fraud in digital payments

- †*65. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of cases of fraud in digital payments have increased, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the steps taken by Government in respect of digital security; and
- (c) the suggestions made by Chandra Babu Naidu Committee on digital security?

Installation of video cameras in train engines

- *66. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to install video cameras with face recognition software linked to an alarm system in train engines;

- (b) whether it is also a fact that this system will alert the control centre in case drivers fall asleep; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that besides Loco Cab Video and Voice Recording System (LCVR), Diesel Locomotive Works has also developed a system to monitor locomotives across the country, if so, the details thereof?

Cold storage and infrastructure facilities

- *67. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether post-harvest management, preservation, transportation and value addition are not adequate in farm sector, resulting in huge wastage at each stage of supply chain due to lack of cold storage and infrastructure facilities;
- (b) whether surplus production of perishable items like potato, tomato, onions, etc., get wasted, resulting in huge losses to farmers:
- (c) if so, the measures proposed by Government to minimize harvest and postharvest losses to farmers; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal to develop low-cost storage and preservation facility to increase shelf-life of perishable items so as to benefit small farmers?

Potential job losses in IT services business

- *68. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether it is a fact that there are

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

concerns over potential job losses in the IT services business;

- (b) whether it is also a fact that though the pace of growth in IT services business has come down, the employment opportunities have not been affected; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that hiring is still a reality and it is only the nature of business that is changing, if so, the details thereof?

Gauge conversion projects in Tamil

- *69. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of gauge conversion projects being implemented in Tamil Nadu at present; and
- (b) the details of those projects such as the year of commissioning, the amount spent on the project so far and the expected year of completion?

Train from Vasco-Da-Gama to Patna

- *70. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any train running between Vasco-Da-Gama and Patna:
- (b) the time taken by the train to complete the journey;
- (c) whether the train is having any pantry car; and
- (d) if not, whether Railways propose to provide a pantry car in view of the long distance the train has to commute?

Agitations by farmers

- *71. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the reasons for sudden agitations of farmers in Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, etc.;
- (b) the genuine problems of agriculturists in different States; and
- (c) in what manner Central and State Governments are going to solve the problems?

Textile and garment exports

*72. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether Government has any data regarding increase in exports of textiles and garments in the last three years, if so, the details thereof?

Releasing of rice and wheat to Uttar Pradesh

- †*73. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) the quantity of rice and wheat released to Uttar Pradesh under BPL, APL and AAY through the Public Distribution System (PDS) during the last three years;
- (b) the details of wheat and rice released under general and *ad hoc* scheme; and
- (c) whether Government is aware of the fact that *ad hoc* portion from Central

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Government to Uttar Pradesh has not been distributed since July, 2016, if so, the reasons therefor?

Increasing the number of 3rd AC coaches in trains

- *74. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have taken a decision to increase the number of 3rd AC coaches in the trains; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Abolition of posts in Railways

- †*75. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways propose to abolish a large number of posts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, Zone-wise and post-wise and the reasons for such a decision along with its impact on efficiency of Railways; and
- (c) the number of posts lying vacant in Railways at present and the details of steps taken to fill up them?

New Delhi; *The* 15th July, 2017 *Ashadha* 24, 1939 (Saka) SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF, Secretary-General.

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