

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, January 5, 2018/Pausa 15, 1939 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 15

Promoting gherkins for export

*196. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE
AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased
to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken
to promote the growth and supply of
gherkins after incessant rains and decline
in exports, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken to ensure strict
compliance of certification requirements in
case of gherkins meant for export, along
with the details thereof?

Dealing with cyber crimes

*197. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be
pleased to state:

(a) whether there are growing incidents
of cyber crimes, including financial frauds,
using bank cards and e-wallets;

(b) if so, the response of Government
thereto;

(c) the measures taken to strengthen
surveillance and legal framework to deal
with cyber crimes; and

(d) whether police force has been
adequately trained to deal with cyber
crimes, if so, the details thereof?

Self-reliance in godown capacity

*198. SHRIMATI SASIKALA
PUSHPA: Will the Minister of
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to
state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government
is paying lakhs of rupees as rent to private
godown owners across the country,
including in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has
formulated, any comprehensive policy for
attaining self-reliance in godown capacity;
and;

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

**Redevelopment of railway stations
under PPP mode**

*199. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes redevelopment of railway stations across the country in a phased manner under the PPP mode;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the names of railway stations identified for redevelopment;

(c) the response received from private players in this regard, so far; and

(d) the timeline finalized for the purpose?

Schemes to help farmers

*200. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the demands of the farmers for enhanced Minimum Support Price (MSP) and loan waiver throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether Government has introduced any schemes that would help farmers in the long-term?

**Loss to Government in purchasing
foodgrains**

*201. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the present actual purchase cost of foodgrains;

(b) the present selling price of foodgrains; and

(c) the amount of total annual loss to Government in this regard?

**Diversification of CIL into Coal to
Chemical business**

*202. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Limited (CIL) will diversify into 'Coal to Chemical business';

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Coal India Limited is planning to set up a coal-based methanol plant; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Early resolution of inter-Departmental
cases**

*203. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of pending cases in various courts of the country;

(b) whether Government is the largest litigant in the country and about half of the pending cases in courts are related to inter-Departmental litigation, one department suing another;

(c) if so, the factual details in this regard;

(d) whether Government has prepared any strategy for disposal of pending cases in various courts, particularly the inter-Departmental cases; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for not paying special attention to such cases for their early resolution?

Increase in cases of crime in long distance trains

*204. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is increase in the number of cases of burglary, looting and other crimes against passengers in various long distance trains;

(b) if so, the number of such instances reported during the last one year, Zone-wise; and

(c) the efforts made by Railways to check such incidents and ensure passengers' fear-free journey in trains?

Allegations regarding tampering of EVMs

*205. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the allegations about the possibility of tampering of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs);

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government has received such complaints about the possibility of tampering of EVMs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government to address such complaints?

Actuarial premium rates under PMFBY

*206. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the actuarial premium rates charged

by the insurance companies under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), State-wise; and

(b) whether actuarial premium rates, higher than the all-India rate, are being charged by insurance companies in some States, if so, the reasons therefor?

MSP for paddy

*207. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note that paddy growers in Odisha are in great distress due to low support price and huge difference between MSP and the cost of inputs;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken into consideration the demands of Government of Odisha to raise the MSP for paddy to ₹ 2930 per quintal to ensure adequate and fair returns to farmers;

(c) if so, the extent by which MSP for paddy is likely to be increased; and

(d) whether Government has worked out any plan to increase assistance to farmers hit by drought, if so, the details thereof?

Bengaluru Suburban Rail System

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

(a) whether Government has taken any steps/measures to sort out the issues which are keeping the Suburban Rail System for the Bengaluru city pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when the Suburban Rail System for

Bengaluru would be finalised for the benefit of the people of the city?

Debt of mobile companies

*209. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any communication from the State Bank of India about the unusual unsustainable levels of debt of mobile companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the mobile industry has sought deferred payment for the purchase of spectrum with a moratorium of five years instead of current payback plan of ten years after a two year moratorium; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

NEW DELHI;
The 30th December, 2017
Pausha 9, 1939 (Saka)

Interest rate on agricultural activities

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

(a) the provisions made and programmes formulated to enhance the income of farmers and making it double within a specified time period; and

(b) the details of the policy, scheme and implementation thereof with regard to interest on agricultural loan and bringing the interest rate to the level of 'zero' per cent on the occupations allied to agriculture like dairy, medicinal plant products, preservation of agricultural products and cold storage, etc.?

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	:	196, 200, 206, 207, 210,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	:	—
Coal	:	202,
Communications	:	209,
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	:	198, 201,
Electronics and Information Technology	:	197,
Food Processing Industries	:	—
Law and Justice	:	203, 205,
Parliamentary Affairs	:	—
Railways	:	199, 204, 208.