

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, July 18, 2019/Ashadha 27, 1941 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Communications; Development of North Eastern Region; Electronics and Information Technology; External Affairs; Human Resource Development; Law and Justice; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Textiles; Tribal Affairs; Women and Child Development)

Total number of questions — 15

High unemployment rate

*271. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that unemployment rate has touched a 45 year high as per data released by Government which shows that joblessness had indeed touched 6.1 per cent from July, 2017 to June, 2018; and

(b) if so, the details of the measures Government proposes to take to tackle this problem?

Underutilisation of Nirbhaya Fund

*272. SHRI R. K. SINHA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Nirbhaya Fund allocated to States for empowerment,

safety and security of women and the girl child has been lying underutilised;

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

(c) whether there is a shortage of special courts to try cases of rape and heinous crimes against women; and

(d) if so, whether Government is taking steps on expediting filling up the shortfall of these courts?

Connectivity issue in Niti Valley

†*273. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that eleven villages of Niti Valley located along Indo-China border are disconnected for the last two months;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

communication service in the outposts of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Army and Border Roads Organisation along with the villages is also completely disrupted and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons for not fixing the technical faults in the satellite even after two months?

Performance of BSNL

*274. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 54,000 BSNL employees are in danger of losing their jobs and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) if not, the present status of BSNL in terms of effective performance and competitiveness;

(c) whether any survey has been done/ approved by Government, to identify the overall performance of BSNL in comparison to other competing companies; and

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

Autonomy to colleges

*275. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has granted/ proposes to grant autonomy to some of the colleges in the country and if so, the number of colleges granted autonomy, so far;

(b) whether Government has consulted University Teachers' Associations and sought suggestions from the experts in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has conducted any study on the merits and demerits of granting autonomy to colleges in the

country and if so, the details and outcome thereof?

New Centre-State policy

*276. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on introducing a new policy on the Centre and State relations to increase the performance of the State Governments in cooperation with the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the changes being brought to achieve the desired results?

India-China Dialogue on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

*277. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have exchanged views on issues of mutual interest related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control; and

(b) if so, the details of agreements/ MoUs exchanged in the 6th India-China Dialogue on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation?

Demand for reduction of levies and fees

*278. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telecom industry is demanding various measures including

reduction of levies and fees, including license fee, Spectrum Usage Charge (SUC) and universal service levy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has agreed to accede to the request made by telecom industries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Inputs from Foreign Service Institute

*279. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of principal considerations of foreign policy which guides relationship with United States and China;

(b) whether the Foreign Service Institute (FSI), New Delhi, provides any inputs in forging some facets of India's foreign policy and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is a regular institutional network to tackle problems of policy planning and research in foreign affairs and if so, the details thereof?

KVs in Chhattisgarh

†*280. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Kendriya Vidyalayas in Chhattisgarh do not have their own buildings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether necessary arrangement for conducting classes for higher education are not being made due to the shortage of

buildings and place for the construction of laboratories; and

(d) if so, by when Government proposes to arrange buildings for these schools?

Universal Service Obligation Fund

†*281. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to spend ten thousand crore rupees from Universal Service Obligation Fund during the current financial year to boost basic amenities in rural areas under Digital India;

(b) if so, the details of total amount spent during the last year along with remaining amount in the said fund, State-wise;

(c) the number of total Gram Panchayats and rural post offices connected with Optical Fibre Network in the country including Maharashtra; and

(d) the reasons for delay in connecting all Gram Panchayats and rural post offices with Optical Fibre Network in the country including Maharashtra?

Incidents of failure of VVPAT units

*282. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether rising incidence of failure of Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) units have become a major area of concern for Election Commission of India (ECI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has reviewed the reasons for such rising failures in VVPATs and if so, the details of remedial action taken by Government in this regard; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government would extend all possible assistance to ECI to substantially increase its reserve of the machines?

Fake news through digital media

*283. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports of increasing events of mishappenings and deaths due to false propaganda and spreading of fake news through digital media; and

(b) the number of victims out of the above who belong to minority communities?

Mechanism to monitor the functioning of NGOs

*284. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes being implemented for the development of children in the country, particularly through Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs);

(b) the details of proposals received from and approved/pending for approval along with the funds allocated/released and utilisation reported under such schemes during each of the last three years and the current year, Scheme-wise and State/UT-wise, including Karnataka; and

(c) whether Government has put in place any mechanism to monitor the functioning of NGOs working in this field and if so, the details thereof?

Functioning of UGC

*285. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formed a committee to examine the functioning of UGC;

(b) the number of times UGC called the meetings of Vice Chancellors to understand the problems of universities during 2017-18 and 2018-19;

(c) the cases of irregularities found in recognising deemed universities during the last three years; and

(d) the number of universities that have been recognised as deemed universities in 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19, the list thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 12th July, 2019
Ashadha 21, 1941 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

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