

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, July 26, 2019/Shravana 4, 1941 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Commerce and Industry; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Food Processing Industries; Panchayati Raj; Railways; Rural Development; Skill Development and Entrepreneurship)

Total number of questions — 15

Contributory pension scheme for farmers

*361. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to double the farmers' income by 2022;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government would be giving ₹ 3,000 each to all farm landholders under a contributory pension scheme;

(c) if so, whether Government is aware that many of the farm landholders in the country are absentee farmers, meaning that actual farmers are not entitled to this scheme; and

(d) if so, in what manner Government would ensure that the income of actual farmers and not just that of absentee landholders is increased?

Use of bio-fertilizers

†*362. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to encourage bio-fertilizers instead of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, in view of their adverse effect on human health;

(b) if so, whether Government has conducted any study on the impact of usage of bio-fertilizers on production; and

(c) whether Government would promote production/research of such bio-fertilizers so that production is not affected and it remains cost-effective at the same time?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Adverse impact of increase in rates of diesel on Railways

*363. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are the largest consumer of diesel and the sudden increase in the rates of diesel in 2018 had adversely affected its financial resources; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Benefit of MSP to majority of farmers

*364. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the MSP is not benefiting the majority of farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, the volume and percentage of farmers who have availed MSP in each foodgrains category during the last five years;

(d) whether any specific steps are being taken to provide the benefit of MSP to majority of farmers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

FPIs in Telangana

*365. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) in Telangana;

(b) the steps being taken to fund such units; and

(c) the new proposals that have been received from the Government of Telangana and the action taken thereon?

Installation and expansion of bullet train network

*366. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure for installation and functioning of bullet trains; and

(b) by when Government proposes to expand bullet train network all over the country?

Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture

*367. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is endowed with vast resources in terms of ponds and tanks, rivers and canals, reservoirs, lakes and other water bodies, having immense scope for development of fisheries to strengthen the food security, generate employment opportunities and earn foreign exchange with the ultimate objective of improving the socio-economic status of fishermen and other people engaged in the sector;

(b) whether Government has identified fisheries as a key sector for growth and encouraged fishermen to adopt new techniques to increase fishery output; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

Railway projects in Andhra Pradesh

*368. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the railway projects under implementation in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the status of those projects with estimated cost, expenditure incurred and the likely date of completion of the projects?

Facilities to farmers of border areas

*369. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any additional facilities are being provided to farmers of the border areas touching Pakistan who lost their crops in the firing from across the border; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Merger of Ministries

*370. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to merge the Ministries of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj for better synergy in implementing the schemes for the welfare of rural households; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

MSP for paddy

*371. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

has hiked the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for paddy by less than 4 per cent to ₹ 1,815 per quintal for the 2019-20 season;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other agricultural produces for which MSP has been hiked by Government recently?

Less working days for labourers under MGNREGA

†*372. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that instead of getting 100 working days under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), the labourers get less working days;

(b) the details of the work given to labourers during the last three years under MGNREGA, State-wise; and

(c) whether the income of unorganised workers is decreasing and they are becoming economically weaker due to this situation?

Availability of native seeds

*373. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a dearth of availability of native seeds and the farmers have to depend on seed company's hybrid varieties, which require heavy usage of fertilizers;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to promote availability and usage of native seeds and for establishing community seed banks for the purpose; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

**Shortage of funds in
MGNREGA**

*374. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:
Will the Minister of RURAL
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MGNREGA
has provided jobs to twelve crore workers;

(b) whether MGNREGA has been
suffering from a shortage of funds for the
last seven years; and

(c) if so, the details of the funds
allocated and utilised in the last five years?

**Revenue earned by Railways from
platform tickets, shops and
advertisements on
platforms**

†*375. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will
the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to
state:

(a) the revenue earned by Government
from the sale of platform tickets;

(b) the amount earned by Government
from the shops and advertisements on the
platforms; and

(c) the year when the rates of the rent
for shops and advertisements on platforms
were fixed and whether these rates are under
revision?

NEW DELHI;
The 20th July, 2019
Ashadha 29, 1941 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	: 361, 364, 369, 370, 371, 373,
Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	: 367,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	: 362,
Commerce and Industry	: —
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	: —
Food Processing Industries	: 365,
Panchayati Raj	: —
Railways	: 363, 366, 368, 375,
Rural Development	: 372, 374.
Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	: —