

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, March 18, 2021/ 27 Phalguna, 1942 (Saka)

(Ministries : Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Communications; Development of North Eastern Region; Education; Electronics and Information Technology; External Affairs; 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

Regulation of online content

241 Shri G.C. Chandrashekhara:

Will the Minister of **Electronics and Information Technology** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to regulate social media platforms for curbing fake news and misinformation; and
- (b) the measures taken by Government to put restriction on the use of social media platforms in election campaigns and to remove unlawful content?

Programmes launched by ICCR in foreign countries

242 Shri Rakesh Sinha:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the annual budget of Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) and the amount out of it allotted to its branches/activities in foreign countries;
- (b) the countries in which ICCR has branches or active presence in one form or other;
- (c) the programmes ICCR has launched in the last three years in the countries where it has branches or presence and how many were perpetuation of old one and how many were new;
- (d) steps taken by the ICCR to promote cultural ties with foreign countries; and
- (e) the amount of its budget which is spent on its administration, travels and tours?

Data Governance Quality Index

243 Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:

Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether NITI Aayog has undertaken Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI) of various Ministries of Government, if so, the objectives, parameters used, methodology followed for the preparation of index;
- (b) the rating of different Ministries on data governance quality;
- (c) the reasons why index was based on self assessment and not on independent

assessment;

- (d) the data quality initiatives of different Ministries that are worthy of emulation;
- (e) the best practices in data governance quality according to NITI Aayog; and
- (f) whether NITI Aayog propose to prepare a similar index for State Governments, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Crime against children and women

244 Shri P. Wilson:

Will the Minister of ***Women and Child Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey on increase in atrocities on children and women across the country, especially in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the National Commission for Women dealt with the same; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken by Government to improve the safety of children and women across the country, especially in Tamil Nadu?

Special projects for electronics and information technology sectors in Maharashtra

245 Dr. Fauzia Khan:

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any special projects, schemes for the development of the electronics and information technology sectors in Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the total amount allocated and disbursed during the last three years in this regard;
- (c) whether Government has taken any effective steps to support and develop a large number of small and medium sized IT companies in Maharashtra; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Digital application store of AatmaNirbhar Bharat App

246 Shri K.C. Ramamurthy:

Will the Minister of ***Electronics and Information Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the absence of country's own digital application store, total dependence on Google and Apple for digital services is creating problems in digital services;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there is a digital app store for Government-centric apps;
- (c) whether the Ministry would consider having either a single or separate digital application store for Government and private apps to achieve the objective of PM's AatmaNirbhar Bharat App ecosystem; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Development of Raghurajpur Crafts Village

247 Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

Will the Minister of ***Textiles*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a grant of ₹10 crore was approved for the development of Raghurajpur Crafts Village, Puri district, Odisha in 2015 and out of which ₹3 crore was released during 2015 and another ₹3 crore released during 2016;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the balance amount of ₹4 crore as per the already approved project cost is still to be released by the Ministry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken for granting administrative approval of additional works along with the release of funds?

Integrated education in the country

248 Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the programmes, schemes and projects being run to provide integrated education across the country and particularly in rural areas of the country;
- (b) the details of total budgetary allocation for the expansion of basic infrastructure of education in rural areas in 2020-2021 through Smart Board, Online Education App and improvement in quality of teachers in rural schools; and
- (c) whether any guidelines have been issued by Government to the State Governments in this regard?

Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on poor children

249 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to mitigate the impact of challenges thrown by the COVID-19 pandemic on out of school children;
- (b) the guidelines issued to States and UTs to devise a proper strategy for preventing increase in dropouts, lower enrolments, loss of learning and deterioration in the gains made in providing universal access, quality and equity in the recent years; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Ministry for identification, admission and continued education of migrant children?

Funds allocated under ISDSI

250 # Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

Will the Minister of **Textiles** be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds sought under the detailed action plan proposals sent by the States to Central Government for the implementation of Integrated Scheme for Development of Silk Industry (ISDSI), State-wise details thereof including Chhattisgarh for the last three years; and
- (b) the amount sanctioned by Government with reference to the said proposals and the amount yet to be given to the States, the details thereof?

Development plan for North Eastern Region

251 # Shri Ram Shakal:

Will the Minister of **Development of North Eastern Region** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any plan for the development of the North Eastern Region; and
- (b) if so, the details of the development work carried out under the said plan, State-wise?

Prevalence of malnutrition

252 Dr. Narendra Jadhav:

Will the Minister of **Women and Child Development** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the latest round of National Family Health Survey (NFHS), released in December 2020, reported a very high prevalence of malnutrition among children

under five;

(b) whether Government is aware that the NFHS-5 presented a reversal in gains that were achieved in some nutrition outcomes between the period 2005-06 to 2015-16, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any efforts are being made to improve the situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Mobile connectivity in hilly areas

253 # **Shri Anil Baluni:**

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts being made by Government to improve mobile connectivity in International Border areas in the State of Uttarakhand, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that private operators as well as BSNL have been adopting a negligent approach towards installation of towers in hilly areas due to which the people are not getting good telecom connectivity; and

(c) whether any initiatives are being taken by Government in this regard, and if so, the details thereof?

Indians in space arena

254 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to send humans in space;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will bring back the Indian experts/specialists of this field from various countries/organisations including NASA; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Wind mill project by China in Katchatheevu, Palk Strait

255 **Shri Vaiko:**

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has registered any protest against wind mill projects being given to Chinese company by Sri Lanka on the strategic Katchatheevu, Palk Strait; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any concern has been expressed over China's continued economic and political influence in Colombo and on the Indian Ocean region; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the issue would be taken up with friendly countries to resolve it; and if so, the details thereof?

New Delhi
The 11th March, 2021
 20 Phalgun, 1942 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
 Secretary-General.

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