

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Tuesday, February 9, 2021/ 20 Magha, 1942 (Saka)

**(Ministries : Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy;
Corporate Affairs; Culture; Earth Sciences; Finance; Health and Family Welfare; New
and Renewable Energy; Power; Science and Technology; Tourism)**

Total number of questions -- 15

COVID-19 impact on travel industry

76 Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the travel industry is likely to take years to get back to pre-pandemic business level;
- (b) whether there is a need for greater collaboration between the industry and Government to bring the travel industry back on track;
- (c) whether Government propose to consider subsidising consumer holidays on the lines as seen in other countries like Thailand, Japan and Italy, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government thereon and present status thereof?

Rooftop solar power systems in Jharkhand

77 # Shri Deepak Prakash:

Will the Minister of **New and Renewable Energy** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any scheme and earmarked funds for the State of Jharkhand to promote the installation of rooftop solar power systems; and
- (b) whether the energy produced by them has been used only for domestic needs in rural and urban areas of Jharkhand and, if so, the details thereof?

Malfunctioning of GST and other tax filing websites

78 Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and other tax filing related websites have crashed multiple times during last one year;
- (b) if so, the details of instances of non-functioning of these websites reported in the last one year;
- (c) the details of steps undertaken to improve the functioning of tax filing websites in the last one year; and
- (d) the number of officials who have been punished for such non-functioning of the websites in the last one year?

Trading in cryptocurrency

79 # **Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a ban was imposed on Bitcoin trading in 2018 which was later on lifted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court;
- (b) whether other cryptocurrencies are still under ban;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that despite the ban, illegal trading of cryptocurrency is still being done on a large scale; and
- (d) if so, by when Government proposes to issue strict guidelines in this regard keeping in view the risk involved therein?

National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) projects in Andhra Pradesh

80 **Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

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

- (a) the number of infrastructure projects in Andhra Pradesh which have been included in the National Infrastructure Pipeline;
- (b) the estimated capital expenditure in the above infrastructure projects and the details thereof, sector-wise, sub-sector-wise and year-wise for the period FY 2020 to FY 2025; and
- (c) the likely investment of public (Central Government and State Governments) and private sectors in those projects?

Chinese companies in the country

81 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

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

- (a) the number of Chinese companies registered in the country;
- (b) whether there are many Indian companies having share of Chinese companies; and
- (c) if so, the action taken to make Indian companies avoid having share of Chinese companies?

Nationalisation of health services during COVID-19 pandemic

82 **Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to nationalise health services during this pandemic/COVID times; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

Performance of Indian Rupee in 2020

83 **Shri Narain Dass Gupta:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Rupee has emerged as the worst performing Asian Currency in 2020;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures Government has undertaken to rectify the situation?

NPAs in metals, mining and engineering sectors

84 Shri Bhaskar Rao Nekkanti:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the RBI Financial Stability Report points out that the problem areas in terms of non-performing assets (NPAs) still remain in the metals, mining and engineering sectors where the ratios are above 25 per cent while construction, gems and jewellery and the auto sectors follow next with ratios of 21.8 per cent, 21.5 per cent and 18.4 per cent, respectively;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps in this regard to address NPAs in the aforementioned sectors; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

Poor disposal of bio-medical waste by hospitals

85 Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that Government as well as private hospitals are very poor in handling bio-medical waste and they generally end up with mixing the bio-medical waste with municipal waste which poses a serious threat to human beings;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has issued any guideline in this regard so that the bio-medical waste is disposed off properly; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

Promotion of Siddha medicines for COVID-19

86 Shri P. Wilson:

Will the Minister of **Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has proposed to promote the Siddha medicines to prevent the COVID-19 across the country including Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether Government has allocated / sanctioned the funds under AYUSH for research studies to aid/facilitate preventive medicine against COVID-19 in Tamil Nadu; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

Safeguarding of public deposits in co-operative banks

87 Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:

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

- (a) the plan to safeguard the public deposit in the co-operative banks in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) if not, whether a sub-committee or expert committee is proposed to be set up to study and analyse how to safeguard the public money?

Second phase of COVID-19 vaccination drive

88 Shri Kapil Sibal:

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the expected timeline of starting second phase of the COVID-19 vaccination drive;
- (b) the eligible beneficiaries of the second phase of the vaccination drive;

- (c) whether the vaccination will be free of charge or chargeable to the beneficiaries;
- (d) if so, how much will they be charged; and
- (e) whether the poor will be charged for their vaccinations, if so, the details thereof?

Clinical trials of AYUSH based medicines for COVID-19

89 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa:

Will the Minister of **Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any measures to prevent AYUSH related products being advertised as prophylactic medicines for COVID-19;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any research on the effectiveness of such prophylactic health measures recommended for COVID-19;
- (c) the number of AYUSH related prophylactic medicines that are under clinical trials for treating COVID-19, as registered by the Clinical Trials Registry-India (CTRI); and
- (d) the number of AYUSH related prophylactic medicines that have been approved for use for COVID-19 upon the completion of clinical trials?

Assistance to MSME and non-MSME

90 Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar:

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

- (a) what is the total of the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) scheme for MSMEs; and
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to ensure assistance to non-MSME companies also hit by the shock of COVID-19?

New Delhi
The 3rd February, 2021
 14 Magha, 1942 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
 Secretary-General.

INDEX
(Ministry-Wise)

Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy	: 86, 89
Corporate Affairs	: 81
Culture	: --
Earth Sciences	: --
Finance	: 78, 79, 80, 83, 84, 87, 90
Health and Family Welfare	: 82, 85, 88
New and Renewable Energy	: 77
Power	: --
Science and Technology	: --
Tourism	: 76