

Rajya Sabha

**List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS**

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, March 12, 2021/ 21 Phalguna, 1942 (Saka)

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

Total number of questions -- 15

**Manufacturing of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs)**

181 **Dr. Vikas Mahatme:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) that is produced domestically;
- (b) the efforts made by Government to promote API manufacturing plants in India; and
- (c) whether Government has set any particular target for the coming years in this regard?

**Privatisation of train routes**

182 **Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have privatised many train routes, including selling of tickets and whether the reason for privatisation of such routes was loss making;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some of the routes that were privatised, were in profit;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) in what manner the above mentioned privatisation has affected the employees working in those routes; and
- (f) the terms and conditions regarding usage of public property, viz., coaches, tracks, stations, workshops for maintenance, signalling systems etc. with the private companies?

**Installation of CCTV cameras in trains**

183 **Shri Syed Zafar Islam:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken steps to install CCTV cameras in all the train coaches including EMUs, especially in short distance trains and passenger trains in order to enhance safety and security of the passengers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, train-wise and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has identified the areas and the routes from which constant complaints are received, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Procurement of paddy during 2020-21**

**184 Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether paddy procurement by Government during 2020-21 has increased by about 25 per cent with the purchase of over 506.33 LMT till December 2020 as against 405.10 LMT in 2019-20;
- (b) if so, the details of paddy procurement data for 2019-20 and 2020-21 (till December 2020), State-wise;
- (c) what additional arrangement has been made for storage of greater quantity of paddy procured this year; and
- (d) the quantity of paddy procured during 2019-20 that is still stored in warehouses of FCI, CWC and with various State Governments and the mechanism to replace them with freshly procured paddy?

### **Revival of closed sugar mills in Bihar**

**185 # Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of sugar mills that existed in Bihar earlier and the number of sugar mills that are functioning smoothly at present;
- (b) whether it is a fact that most of the sugar mills in Bihar have been closed now or are on the verge of closure; and
- (c) if so, whether Government is planning to start any scheme for their revival and by when?

### **Sale price of wheat and rice**

**186 # Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:**

Will the Minister of ***Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that under the National Food Security Act, 2013, the rate of wheat and rice were fixed at ₹2 and ₹3 respectively for three years;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the cost price of rice and wheat is ₹42.94 and ₹29.94 respectively;
- (c) whether Government proposes to increase the sale price of wheat and rice in Public Distribution System (PDS) keeping in view the rising cost price; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor and the details of the cost and purchase prices of wheat and rice?

### **Direct procurement of farmers' produces**

**187 Smt. Jharna Das Baidya:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any concrete measure is being initiated for direct procurement of farmers' produces;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **New railway line from Bhagwanpur to Karpurigram**

188 # **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

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

- (a) whether the work for the new railway line from Bhagwanpur to Karpurigram via Mahua, as proposed by Government, has been completed;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the survey report for this new railway line project has been submitted to the Railway Board by the survey team;
- (c) if so, the total amount of funds expected to be spent on this project and the timeline fixed for its completion; and
- (d) whether this new railway line project has been included in the General Budget for the current year by Government?

### **Cold storage and warehouse infrastructure in Karnataka**

189 **Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to strengthen cold storage and warehouse infrastructure facilities in the country including Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of present capacity of cold storage and warehousing in the country;
- (d) whether Government has received any representations from various quarters for financial assistance to construct cold storage and warehouses in the State of Karnataka; and
- (e) if so, the details for the last three years along with the number of cold storages and warehouse infrastructure created in the State during the said period?

### **Credit and subsidy for landless tenant farmers**

190 **Shri Vaiko:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to streamline credit and subsidy for landless tenant farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether institutional agriculture credit at subsidized rate is being extended to such farmers and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether such farmers are eligible to get pension after attaining 60 years of age under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana; and
- (e) if so, the number of such farmers who were given pension in the last two years, year-wise and State-wise?

### **Detailed Project Report (DPR) for South Coast Railway (SCoR) Zone**

191 **Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

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

- (a) when DPR for SCoR Zone was submitted to Ministry and since when it is under consideration;
- (b) the details of money allotted for SCoR;
- (c) whether there is no time-frame for establishment of SCoR, if so, the reasons therefor;

- (d) whether in the absence of separate Zone, only 80 kms of track doubling work is completed in Andhra Pradesh (AP) out of 214 kms started;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to complete 214 kms of track doubling in time bound manner; and
- (f) details of track doubling work announced for AP in 2021-22 Budget?

#### **Financial benefits to farmers from seed market**

**192 Dr. Banda Prakash:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers in the country are unable to get financial benefits from the Indian seed market despite its emergence as the fifth largest seed market in the world;
- (b) if so, the efforts being made by Government in this regard;
- (c) the manner in which Government would reduce the increase in cost incurred on procurement of seeds for every crop cycle;
- (d) whether shortage of authentic and quality seeds is also a problem; and
- (e) whether Government proposes to take any steps in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Making pension schemes more inclusive**

**193 # Smt. Kanta Kardam:**

Will the Minister of ***Rural Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of beneficiaries including the people from Scheduled Caste category under the various pension schemes being run by Government in Uttar Pradesh during the last five years;
- (b) whether Government proposes to bring some more changes in these pension schemes, if so, the details thereof along with the steps being taken in this regard; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to make these pension schemes more inclusive?

#### **Providing legal force to MSP**

**194 Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government would legislate to provide legal force to Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various crops as per C2 formula recommended by Swaminathan Commission which includes comprehensive cost plus 50 per cent and to provide for penal action under criminal law to those private entities/companies which buy/procure foodgrains below the MSP;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Sivok-Rangpo railway line project**

**195 Smt. Shanta Chhetri:**

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

- (a) the status of Sivok-Rangpo railway line project;
- (b) the total funds allotted for the project; and
- (c) the expected date of completion and the details of the reasons for the delay?

New Delhi  
The 5th March, 2021  
14 Phalgun, 1942 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,  
Secretary-General.

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