

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, March 25, 2021/ 4 Chaitra, 1943 (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

Four year duration of graduation courses

316 # Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:

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

- (a) whether under the new National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, NEP Implementation Committee (NIC) in its 14th meeting has recommended to extend duration of various graduation programmes/courses including in University of Delhi, to four years;
- (b) if so, steps taken by Government;
- (c) whether those students who have already taken admission in three year graduation course would be excluded from the said policy; and
- (d) whether students of first semester would be compelled to take four years graduation programme?

Increase in cyber attacks on vital installations

317 Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that in last six months cyber attacks on the country's vital installations have increased;
- (b) the number of cyber attacks and list of installations that have been attacked, State-wise;
- (c) the amount of Budget that has been provided for cyber security in 2021-22; and
- (d) the other steps that Government proposes to take to counter cyber attacks, the details thereof?

Water supply for tribals

318 Shri Rajeev Satav:

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

- (a) whether Government has launched an initiative to ensure water supply for tribal people in the country, if so, the details thereof alongwith its aims and objectives;

- (b) whether Government has created awareness among the tribal people to popularize the above mentioned initiatives;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the other steps taken by Government for effective implementation; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by Government to ensure availability of drinking water to the tribals in their respective villages located in the forests itself?

Infrastructure to host 5G spectrum

319 Shri Narain Dass Gupta:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering shutting down Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL);
- (b) if not, whether the Ministry is looking to boost revenues for the above mentioned PSUs by activating 5G spectrum;
- (c) whether MTNL and BSNL have the infrastructure to host 5G spectrum; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for delay in activation thereof?

Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)

320 Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:

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

- (a) the total sanctioned strength of teachers in the country in the Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) as of date, State-wise details thereof; and
- (b) the total amounts of funds disbursed by the Central Government to States/UTs for Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) during the past three years, State-wise details thereof?

Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on cotton export to China

321 Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:

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

- (a) to what extent slowdown in China has impacted the textile sector in the country;
- (b) whether there is a drastic fall in cotton export to China from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in the last three years;
- (c) if so, the manner in which the Ministry propose to protect cotton farmers in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;
- (d) whether the Ministry has a proposal to export cotton to Indonesia, Vietnam, Bangladesh and Latin American countries in view of Chinese crisis; and
- (e) whether there is any impact on cotton export due to COVID-19 and, if so, the details thereof?

National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy

322 Dr. Narendra Jadhav:

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

- (a) whether the National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy has been implemented;
- (b) if so, the corpus of data that has been shared; and
- (c) the details of requests made for access to data covered under the policy and the manner in which decisions on the requests were made?

Revision of minimum age of marriage for girls

323 **Dr. Bhagwat Karad:**

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

- (a) whether Government propose to revise the minimum age of marriage for girls;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any study on benefits to the women on social and economic fronts by increasing age of marriage; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Plots earmarked for Postal/Telegraph Offices

324 **Shri A. Vijayakumar:**

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

- (a) the number of new initiatives/services which have been started to utilise Post Man and other postal infrastructure in the country;
- (b) whether there are vacant plots earmarked for Postal/Telegraph Offices in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) the measures taken to develop/sell such plots?

Recruitment of Gramin Dak Sevaks

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

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

- (a) the number of people recruited as Gramin Dak Sevaks during the year 2020-21 and since 2014 separately, the break-up by State/ Postal Circle-wise;
- (b) the eligibility qualifications for Gramin Dak Sevaks, and the method of selection of candidates; and
- (c) the promotional avenues available for Gramin Dak Sevaks for absorption in regular civil posts?

Projects implemented by National Cyber Security Coordination Centre

326 **Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

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

- (a) the details of projects being implemented by National Cyber Security Coordination Centre (NCCC) under various phases;
- (b) the amount earmarked and released for NCCC during the last two years;
- (c) the number of cyber crime awareness workshops organised for police officers, judicial officers and other personnel; and
- (d) how far the coordination is effective among various stakeholders in handling cyber crimes and cyber security of the country along with the details thereof?

Status of the Sandes App

327 **Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government has launched any instant messaging services for India under the Government Instant Messaging System (GIMS);
- (b) whether Government propose to monetize the Sandes App in any manner;
- (c) whether the App is proposed to be funded completely by the Ministry in case the App is

- scaled to reach crores of smartphone users in India;
 (d) whether the privacy policy and terms of use for Sandes is available publicly;
 (e) the reasons for its non-availability on Google Play Store and by when Government plans to launch the Sandes App for public at large; and
 (f) whether the Sandes App is safer than WhatsApp?

Displacement of tribals

328 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that tribal people are being displaced on a large scale as a result of various construction/development projects, if so, the details thereof including the number of tribal people displaced due to said activities;
 (b) whether Government has any data available in this regard, if so, the State-wise details thereof;
 (c) the district-wise details including the number of displaced tribal people in Rajasthan; and
 (d) the corrective measures taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

Progress made under POSHAN Abhiyan

329 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

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

- (a) the progress made under the POSHAN Abhiyan regarding nutrition levels in the country;
 (b) whether more interventions are required to meet the wasting targets for 2025 set by the World Health Assembly (WHA);
 (c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard;
 (d) whether there is a need to reduce Severely Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) levels to achieve the WHA wasting targets for 2025; and
 (e) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Improvement in the quality of education in the country

330 # Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that in comparison to SAARC countries like Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal less amount is being spent on education in India;
 (b) the percentage of GDP being spent on education in the country and the time line of enhancement along with amount of increase made therein; and
 (c) the manner in which the quality of education will be improved with the policy of realizing the concept of bringing reform in education, by spending less amount of money?

New Delhi
 The 18th March, 2021
 27 Phalgun, 1942 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
 Secretary-General.

INDEX
(Ministry-Wise)

Prime Minister	: --
Atomic Energy	: --
Communications	: 319, 324, 325
Development of North Eastern Region	: --
Education	: 316, 330
Electronics and Information Technology	: 317, 322, 326, 327
External Affairs	: --
Law and Justice	: --
Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	: --
Planning	: --
Space	: --
Statistics and Programme Implementation	: --
Textiles	: 321
Tribal Affairs	: 318, 320, 328
Women and Child Development	: 323, 329