

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, January 7, 2019/Pausha 17, 1940 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Defence; Drinking Water and Sanitation; Earth Sciences;
Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Information and Broadcasting; Mines;
Panchayati Raj; Parliamentary Affairs; Road Transport and Highways;
Rural Development; Science and Technology; Shipping; Water
Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation;
Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions — 15

Soil erosion on banks of river Ganga

†*256. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE
KARIM: Will the Minister of WATER
RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT
AND GANGA REJUVENATION be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the lands and homes of
people living at Manihari, Amdabad, Barari
and Kursaila blocks of Katihar district in
Bihar have been destroyed, due to erosion
of banks by river Ganga making the lives of
people of this most backward area
miserable;

(b) whether Government has any
effective plan to stop such erosion of banks
by river Ganga in such regions; and

(c) whether Government has any plan
to provide compensation to such victims
due to erosion of banks by river Ganga?

Flyover at Golagamudi junction in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh

*257. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY
VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD
TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received
in the Ministry or National Highways
Authority of India (NHAI) for construction
of a flyover at Golagamudi junction, where
National Highways of Kolkata and Chennai
sections intersect, in Nellore district of Andhra
Pradesh on NH-16;

(b) whether the Ministry or NHAI is
aware that engineering college students,
devotees and common people face extreme
difficulties in crossing the road and many
accidents have taken place on this
dangerous intersection; and

(c) if so, steps taken by Ministry to
construct a flyover at Golagamudi junction
to avoid accidents and ensure smooth flow
of traffic?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Rules on fake news

*258. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has issued/notified any rules to combat fake news;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) reasons as to why the rules were turned down by the Prime Minister's Office; and
- (d) whether Government plans to introduce legislation/rules to combat fake news, if so, the details thereof?

Monitoring of accidents on NHs

*259. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to give directions to the toll management companies to monitor accidents on National Highways (NHs) so that the said companies could provide ambulance and first-aid services, at the earliest to the victims of accidents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of deaths that took place in road accidents during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps being taken/likely to be taken by Government to reduce road accidents?

Development of green cities

*260. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state the status of development of green cities in India?

Environmental impact of Ahmedabad-Mumbai High Speed Rail

*261. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of forest land, including mangroves, that would be lost, due to the construction of Ahmedabad-Mumbai High Speed Rail, location-wise;
- (b) details of environmental clearances given to projects by Ministry;
- (c) details of steps proposed to be taken to compensate for the environmental loss;
- (d) details of consultations with the locals, to convey the impact of project to them;
- (e) the details of concerns voiced out by the people in these consultations; and
- (f) details of steps proposed to be taken to address those concerns?

Aadhaar linking for MGNREGA

*262. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Aadhaar linking for MGNREGA enrolments has been mandated, if so, reasons therefor;
- (b) total number and percentage of workers who linked their Aadhaar numbers

to job cards and whether this has benefited the scheme and if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government is providing and promoting an Aadhaar opt-out option, if so, progress made thereof;

(d) if not, reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government has conducted or is aware of any study conducted to evaluate benefits of Aadhaar linking in timelines of payments, increasing enrolment, removing corruption and identifying fakes and duplicates and if so, details thereof?

Geotagging of rural development works

*263. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started using geotagging as an audit technique for rural development works, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the collaboration in this regard;

(c) the details of schemes where geotagging is being used;

(d) whether the local bodies have a role to play in this audit, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the benefits of geotagging as compared to other auditing techniques; and

(f) the details of the funds allocated and utilised for this purpose so far?

Exemption from road permits for electric vehicles

*264. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to exempt road permits for Electric Vehicles (EVs) and also for vehicles that run on alternative fuels, such as CNG and Ethanol;

(b) whether the domestic and international Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) are waiting for a policy roadmap with regard to electric vehicles so that they can plan investments in the electric vehicle sector; and

(c) if so, details of the policy and the time-frame for its implementation?

Amaravati-Anantapur Expressway

*265. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has embarked on execution of Amaravati-Anantapur Expressway, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the progress and present status of the project;

(c) the quantum of the funds allocated and released so far;

(d) the reasons for the delay;

(e) whether any targets have been fixed for completion of the Expressway, if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the measures being taken by Government to expedite the execution of the project, for its early completion?

**Release of MGNREGA fund to
Karnataka**

*266. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY:
Will the Minister of RURAL
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry is aware that Government of Karnataka has released ₹ 1,227 crores during 2015-16 and 2016-17 as an advance release, under MGNREGA which is over and above the State's share;

(b) whether it is a fact that ₹ 1,090 crores are yet to be released to the State by the Ministry;

(c) if so, reasons for not releasing the amount in spite of repeated requests from the State Government; and

(d) by when the Ministry would release the above amount to Karnataka?

**Death of wild animals in rail and road
accidents**

*267. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT,
FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be
pleased to state:

(a) the number of death of wild animals in road and rail accidents in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether recently some lions in Gujarat were killed by a speeding train;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any enquiry has been ordered to find out lapses on the part of forest officials or Railways for train not slowing down in the vulnerable areas;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) details of measures taken in the past and proposed to be taken to avoid death of wild animals in accidents?

**Discharge of industrial waste into the
rivers**

†*268. SHRI NARANBHAI J.
RATHWA: Will the Minister of
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND
CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether polluted and dangerous materials of several industries are being discharged into rivers;

(b) if so, the number of such industries identified during the last three years along with their names;

(c) the mechanism being adopted to stop the discharge of polluted and dangerous materials into the rivers from the said industries; and

(d) the outcome of the review of working of the said mechanism?

**Groundwater pollution in
Chhattisgarh**

†*269. SHRIMATI CHHAYA
VERMA : Will the Minister of
DRINKING WATER AND
SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a survey under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), the groundwater in majority of districts of Chhattisgarh has been found to be toxic and rural people who are forced to drink it, suffer from various types of diseases;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there are many districts where groundwater used to be fit for drinking, but has now become polluted;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons for groundwater pollution and the steps taken to prevent it?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

All weather road in Uttarakhand

*270. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all weather road has been planned in the State of Uttarakhand, if so, details thereof;

(b) details of the technology being used to make this road usable in all weather;

(c) whether it is also a fact that more than 33,000 trees will be cut to give this project a final touch and whether it was proposed that 100 lakh saplings would be planted during monsoon of 2017, if so, the details of the saplings planted, region/date-wise; and

(d) details regarding the status of this project with funds allocated and utilised till date?

NEW DELHI;
The 1st January, 2019
Pausha 11, 1940 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

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Drinking Water and Sanitation	: 269,
Earth Sciences	: —
Environment, Forest and Climate Change	: 260, 261, 267, 268,
Information and Broadcasting	: 258,
Mines	: —
Panchayati Raj	: —
Parliamentary Affairs	: —
Road Transport and Highways	: 257, 259, 264, 265, 270,
Rural Development	: 262, 263, 266,
Science and Technology	: —
Shipping	: —
Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation	: 256.
Youth Affairs and Sports	: —