

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, February 3, 2017/Magha 14, 1938 (Saka)*

**(Ministries: Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers;  
Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution;  
Electronics and Information Technology; Food Processing  
Industries; Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs;  
Railways; Textiles)**

**Total number of questions — 15**

#### **Online ticketing facility for railway pass holders**

\*16. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that railway pass holders do not have the facility to book tickets online through any portal;

(b) the details of money spent by Government per ticket on booking at the counter and online respectively;

(c) whether Government is planning to link Aadhaar to avail railway passes henceforth, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of all sections of Government employees eligible for railway passes along with the number thereof in each case?

#### **Sale of Government stake in BCPL and HAL**

\*17. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to sell Government's majority stake in Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (BCPL) and Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. (HAL), if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps being taken in this regard?

#### **Sale of land of ailing State-owned pharma PSUs**

\*18. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the surplus land of ailing State-owned pharmaceutical companies like the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. Rajasthan Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., and Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., has been cleared for sale to pay off their existing liabilities;

(b) whether these companies will be closed after their liabilities are settled from the sale of their surplus land;

(c) if so, how Government proposes to rehabilitate the workers of these companies; and

(d) whether Government proposes to provide VRS to the employees of these companies, if so, the details thereof?

**Shortage of skilled manpower in IT sector**

\*19. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is considerable shortage of skilled manpower in the Information Technology (IT) sector;

(b) if so, the percentage thereof and the steps taken by Government to bridge the gap;

(c) whether Government has made any assessment and planning for immediate requirement of manpower in the IT sector due to Digital India Programme and online transactions and advent of more software-related programmes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the skill development training proposed to be given to the educated youth in the country?

**Installation of escalators and lifts at railway stations**

†\*20. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the planning and action plan to install escalators and lifts for smooth access to platforms of major railway stations, including Ujjain, Ratlam, Indore, Bhopal (Main), Itarsi, Nagpur, Jaipur and Kota; and

(b) the details of measures taken towards relieving the pressure of constantly growing passenger volume at aforesaid railway stations and the details of efforts being continuously made to increase cleanliness and passenger facilities at the said stations?

**Better internet service to the household consumers**

\*21. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the BSNL/MTNL broadband internet connection, availed by household consumers, works at a very slow speed and remains erratic with the result that people have no choice but to opt for private internet connection;

(b) the major reasons for this state of affairs when the country is so capable in satellite technology; and

(c) whether Government has any concrete plan to make BSNL/MTNL internet services efficient and faster?

**Conversion of agricultural land for other purposes**

\*22. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the problems being faced due to the conversion and diversion of agricultural land towards non-agricultural uses, which has led to a shrinkage in the agricultural output;

(b) the details of agricultural land that has been converted for non-agricultural uses in the country in the last two years and the current year; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether any policy/law has been implemented by Government to contain such conversion of agricultural land, if so, the details thereof?

**Productive and non-productive cows and bullocks in the country**

\*23. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 99.19 per cent of cows and 99 per cent of bullocks in the country are productive;

(b) if so, the average value of production from them and expenditure thereon;

(c) the agency that collected this data and when was this done; and

(d) the basis of categorisation of productive and non-productive cows and bullocks?

**Supply of fertilizers to Chhattisgarh**

†\*24. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to meet the demand of fertilizers in naxal-affected areas of Chhattisgarh, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has established any competent, responsible and accountable mechanism in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

**Coach Mid-life Rehabilitation workshop at Kurnool**

\*25. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have sanctioned Coach Mid-life Rehabilitation (CMLR) workshop at Kurnool under South Central Railway (SCR) in the year 2013-14;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress of the workshop as on date;

(c) whether any funds have been allocated to this workshop since its inception, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons for inordinate delay in taking up the execution of the project?

**Rejuvenation of closed jute mills**

\*26. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jute mills closed in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the action taken by Government for rejuvenation of the closed mills?

**Second version of model APMC Act**

\*27. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to come out with second version of model Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Act, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the APMC Act is aiming to increase farmers' income by measures like taking contract farming out of the law, if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Reasons behind recent train accidents**

†\*28. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons behind continuous train accidents that occurred between Lucknow-Kanpur-New Delhi-Delhi; and

(b) whether any terrorist connection is also coming to light during investigations of the series of train accidents, the details thereof?

**Agrarian crisis in the country**

\*29. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted

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*Magha 8, 1938 (Saka)*

any study on the regions facing agrarian crisis in the country;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to encourage the use of modern agricultural techniques to sustain growth of agriculture to solve the problem of agrarian crisis in the country?

**Derecognition of political parties**

\*30. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any measures are being taken to derecognise those political parties which are inactive and are suspected to be indulging in money laundering; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,  
*Secretary-General.*

**I N D E X**  
(Ministry-wise)

<b>Agriculture and Farmers Welfare</b>	:	22, 23, 27, 29,
<b>Chemicals and Fertilizers</b>	:	17, 18, 24,
<b>Communications</b>	:	21,
<b>Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</b>	:	—
<b>Electronics and Information Technology</b>	:	19,
<b>Food Processing Industries</b>	:	—
<b>Law and Justice</b>	:	30,
<b>Parliamentary Affairs</b>	:	—
<b>Railways</b>	:	16, 20, 25, 28,
<b>Textiles</b>	:	26.