

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Monday, March 20, 2017/Phalgun 29, 1938 (Saka)*

**(Ministries : Coal; Drinking Water and Sanitation; Environment, Forest and  
Climate Change; Mines; New and Renewable Energy; Panchayati Raj;  
Planning; Power; Road Transport and Highways; Rural  
Development; Shipping; Water Resources, River  
Development and Ganga Rejuvenation)**

**Total number of questions — 15**

#### **Offsetting environmental losses due to illegal mining**

†\*181. SHRIMATI CHHAYA  
VERMA: Will the Minister of  
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND  
CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken in the direction  
of environmental stability in the States to  
offset the losses caused to environment  
due to illegal mining in different areas of  
the country;

(b) whether, in view of the illegal mining  
in districts adjoining Bundelkhand in Uttar  
Pradesh, the Ministry would take any  
concrete steps so that illegal mining in this  
area could be stopped to prevent damage  
to environment; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Use of traditional biomass for cooking**

\*182. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will  
the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE  
ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large population of the  
country still uses traditional biomass for  
cooking;

(b) if so, the number of households  
still dependent on biomass for cooking,  
State-wise;

(c) whether the use of biomass for  
cooking is a cause of indoor air pollution;

(d) if so, the details of deaths caused  
due to indoor air pollution since January,  
2012, year-wise and State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to  
reduce the dependence of households on  
biomass and the progress made, so far?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Upliftment of dalits and adivasis**

\*183. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a clear cut programme for upliftment of dalits and adivasis;

(b) if so, why sub-plans for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) have been terminated;

(c) whether all social indicators of SCs and STs are compatible with those of the society at large; and

(d) if not, in which areas, does Government intend to improve them?

**Committee for identification of marginalised poor**

†\*184. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to constitute a Committee for the identification of marginalised poor;

(b) if so, whether Government is going to annul the previous norms for determination of poverty line;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the names of the areas from which Government is going to appoint experts as the Members of the Committee; and

(d) by when the report is expected to be presented by the Committee?

**Eco-friendly approach for fulfilment of the Paris Climate Change Agreement**

\*185. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in furtherance to India's commitment to the Paris Climate Change Agreement, Government is planning to propose legislations or regulations for each household to adopt a more eco-friendly approach;

(b) some of the challenges that are being faced by the country in the process of reducing carbon footprint;

(c) when would the domestic law incorporating the Agreement, be enforced; and

(d) some of the environmental regulations that industries are likely to expect due to ratification of the Agreement?

**Funds released for PMKSY in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**

\*186. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana during 2015-16, 2016-17 and proposed to be released during 2017-18 under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), State-wise;

(b) the details of additional acres of land which came under irrigation in each of the above years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) out of the above, how much land came under drip and sprinkler irrigation in

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

each of the above years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(d) what was the impact of drought on PMKSY during the above period and what measures have been taken by the Ministry to help farmers in both States?

**Financial assistance to Rajasthan under CADWM**

\*187. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any request from the Rajasthan Government to release requisite funds under Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) programme amounting to ₹ 276.49 crore as Central assistance;

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Yamuna Water Taxi Project**

\*188. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is launching a Yamuna Water Taxi Project;

(b) whether Government has taken into consideration the question of ecological balance in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

**Introduction of environment tax on "polluter pays" principle**

\*189. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in the wake of the recent pollution and smog related instances, Government plans to bring about a nationwide Environment Tax Law or Eco Tax based on the "polluter pays" principle as being implemented in many Asian and European nations, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether such attempts have been made in the past and if so, the details thereof?

**Impact of UDAY Scheme**

\*190. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether impact of Ujwal Discom Assurance Yojana (UDAY) launched in the year 2015 with a view to bring back good health in State-owned Discoms has started giving a wrong impact on Discoms and is being turned as another window to pile up fresh debts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has made any review of implementation of UDAY, if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to implement the scheme in letter and spirit and direct Discoms not to use it as another window to pile up debts?

**Employment provided under MGNREGA**

†\*191. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural households who have got 100 days of employment under

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) on an average during the financial years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons who have been provided employment under MGNREGA in drought, hailstorm, etc. affected areas and for how many days on an average during the above period along with the details of affected areas; and

(c) whether Government has received complaints regarding non-availability of work under MGNREGA and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Jobs in rural areas**

\*192. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of new jobs created in rural areas during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the total number of non-farming jobs created in rural areas of the country during the above period, State-wise; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to create jobs in rural India?

#### **Management of e-waste**

\*193. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has evolved any structured policy for the management of e-waste and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether, regardless of a well laid down e-Waste Management Policy, there are any rules and regulations of protocols and guidelines in this regard in place and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Clearance of forest land under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980**

\*194. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of forest land cleared between 2014-15 and 2015-16 under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980;

(b) the details of compensatory afforestation measures undertaken;

(c) in what manner these measures would address the loss of biodiversity in forest lands prior to their destruction; and

(d) the details of all the measures taken by Government to avert the biodiversity crisis?

#### **Institution for study and research of forests in Jharkhand**

†\*195. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lives of a large portion of population in Jharkhand are forest dependent and the forest cover in the State is 29.45 per cent and it is targeted to increase to 33 per cent; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government proposes management of forest resources in the State to establish a special institution for the study and reseach of forests and therefor? and if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 14th March, 2017*  
*Phalguna 23, 1938 (Saka)*

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,  
*Secretary-General.*

## **I N D E X**

(Ministry-wise)

<b>Coal</b>	: —
<b>Drinking Water and Sanitation</b>	: —
<b>Environment, Forest and Climate Change</b>	: 181, 185, 189, 193, 194, 195,
<b>Mines</b>	: —
<b>New and Renewable Energy</b>	: 182,
<b>Panchayati Raj</b>	: —
<b>Planning</b>	: 183, 184,
<b>Power</b>	: 190,
<b>Road Transport and Highways</b>	: —
<b>Rural Development</b>	: 191, 192,
<b>Shipping</b>	: 188,
<b>Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation</b>	: 186, 187.