

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, March 15, 2018/Phalgun 24, 1939 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Development of North Eastern Region; External Affairs; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Housing and Urban Affairs; Human Resource Development; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Social Justice and Empowerment; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Tribal Affairs; Women and Child Development)

Total number of questions — 15

Serving eggs in Anganwadis

*211. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Anganwadis in many States were not providing eggs, etc. to the children due to high cost of these products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had issued any directives to States to ensure that the Anganwadis serve the said food items as was served in the past; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Urban transport under financial stress

*212. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether urban transport is under financial stress and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government plans to work with State Governments to come out with a rational pricing policy for metros and buses to recover losses in urban transport and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to improve public transport infrastructure during the last three years?

Guidelines for disposal of waste under SBM

*213. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) any guidelines have been prepared for disposal of waste by hospitals, hotels, railway stations or other public

utilities and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of waste collected per day from hospitals, hotels, railway stations and other public utilities under SBM State/UT-wise and how it has been disposed; and

(c) whether any organisation has been penalized for not following the guidelines of SBM and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

Corruption Perception Index 2017

*214. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as per the Corruption Perception Index 2017, based on perceived level of corruption in public sector by Transparency International, India has been placed at 81st position among 180 countries with a score of 40;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for failure to curb corruption in public sector in the country?

Making textbooks thinner and school bags lighter

*215. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Curriculum Committee of the NCERT has decided to make textbooks thinner and school bags lighter, in order to reduce the workload on students;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to devise a mechanism to standardise the quality of textbooks in the country during the last one year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what measures have been taken to evaluate the quality of textbooks of private publishers in the country?

Law against human trafficking

*216. SHRI N. GOKULA-KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is set to introduce a law to guard against human trafficking, proposing 10 year punishment for those engaged in aggravated forms of trafficking while seeking life imprisonment for repeat offenders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government, through the said Bill proposes measures for relief and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking and seeks formation of a committee; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Budget allocation for survey on substance abuse

*217. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the budget allocated for National Survey on Extent and Pattern of Substance Abuse and the modifications made subsequently to it together with the reasons therefor during the last three years;

(b) whether senior officials of the Ministry have visited any Ministry funded Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCA)s drug de-addiction centres and if so, the dates of visits along with the names of centres visited and the number of visits to each such centre during the above period; and

(c) the Budget Estimate, Revised Estimate and Actual Expenditure incurred on prevention of drug abuse during the last three years?

Construction of nuclear power projects

*218. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of indigenous nuclear power projects under construction and the number of those being built with foreign collaboration;

(b) the capacity, present status and expected date of commissioning of each project; and

(c) whether the 500 MW prototype fast breeder reactor at Kalpakkam reached its criticality and if so, by when it would be operational?

Permanent presence of Chinese troops in Doklam area

*219. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 1,600-1,800 Chinese troops have now virtually established a permanent presence in the Doklam area;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that China has its eye on Doklam as it would add strategic depth to its narrow Chumbi Valley, which juts like a dagger between Sikkim and Bhutan; and

(d) whether Chinese patrols earlier used to come briefly to Doklam and return but troops have stayed there in what is considered Bhutanese territory for the first time in this winter?

Passports to Tamils from Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Singapore

*220. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any measures to provide Indian Passport to a large number of Tamils from Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore, settled and living in India for a very long period;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has provided adequate support to the State Governments for providing basic facilities to Tamil population from Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore and Burma; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the funds provided for their welfare during the last three years, year-wise?

Launching of second AstroSat-2

*221. SHRIR. VAITHILINGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Space Research Organisation is planning to launch the second AstroSat-2 or space observatory;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the advantage of having such a space observatory in outer space is that it helps in observing distant planets, galaxies and other astronomical objects more clearly than from the earth;

(c) whether the first satellite launched in 2015 has helped in studying celestial bodies better; and

(d) whether the space telescopes avoid problems of ground based observatories, such as light pollution and distortion of electromagnetic radiation?

Weavers in tribal areas

*222. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data about weavers in the tribal areas involved in the traditional occupations and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(b) the details of schemes being implemented/proposed to be implemented by Government to promote such traditional occupations in the country; and

(c) the details of funds allocated/released to Himachal Pradesh in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year?

Collaboration with Japan for regional connectivity

*223. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the connectivity and infrastructure development is an important part of India's collaboration with Japan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that India and Japan have agreed to work together to enhance regional connectivity in the wider indo-pacific region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Allocation for Atal Innovation Mission etc. in Rajasthan

*224. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of Atal Innovation Mission and Self Employment and Talent Utilisation Scheme;

(b) the amount allocated for the above schemes in the current budget; and

(c) the achievements of these schemes so far, especially in Rajasthan?

National Scholarship Scheme by NHFDC

*225. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National Scholarship Scheme being implemented by the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) for students with disabilities;

(b) the details of funds disbursed under the scheme during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the said scheme is available for students studying in various unaided higher educational institutions in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

NEW DELHI;
The 9th March, 2018
Phalgun 18, 1939 (*Saka*)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

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| Prime Minister | : — |
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| Development of North Eastern Region | : — |
| External Affairs | : 219, 220, 223, |
| Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises | : — |
| Housing and Urban Affairs | : 212, 213, |
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