

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, February 2, 2018/Magha 13, 1939 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 15

Improvement in distribution of ration

*1. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to bring in improvements in distribution of ration to the ration card holders;

(b) whether there is any proposal to introduce the biometric system in the distribution of ration through the fair price shops; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government has examined the problems likely to occur to genuine beneficiaries, especially those living in remote areas?

Production of honey

*2. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total production

of honey in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of the import and export of honey and honey related products during the aforesaid period;

(c) the details of the loans and assistance provided by the Government to the farmers of Himachal Pradesh for encouraging honey production farming during the aforesaid period;

(d) whether Government has introduced any scheme or policy for promotion and development of beekeeping/honey production farming in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Railways' plan to overcome loss accrual

*3. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for losses to Railways at present in spite of rise in fares of passenger/goods;

(b) whether Government is contemplating any plan to overcome the losses;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has planned to change the previous structure of income sources to patch up the losses; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Welfare measures for farmers and farm labourers

*4. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated any action to put in place welfare measures for farmers, small and marginal farmers and farm labourers, above 60 years of age;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Unrestricted availability of Aadhaar details on social media App

*5. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that more than one billion unrestricted Aadhaar details were available on WhatsApp for just ₹ five hundred, as per a recent report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether UIDAI has filed FIR against the whistle blowers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Mandatory linking of Aadhaar with ration cards

†*6. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that linking of Aadhaar with ration cards has been made compulsory or partially compulsory, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that persistent complaints are being received about ration being not given due to non-linking of Aadhaar, if so, the details thereof?

Filling up of vacancies in subordinate judiciary

*7. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of posts in subordinate judiciary have been lying vacant in a number of States/Union Territories with the result that more than 22 lakh cases are pending for over 10 years now;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government has issued any instruction to the State Governments to fill up those vacancies and if so, the reaction of State Governments in this regard?

Setting up of new Courts

*8. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is committed to double the number of judicial courts in the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the number of new Courts established in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) by when Government is going to appoint new Judicial Officers/Judges to fill in vacant posts in the new Courts; and

(d) the number of such Courts proposed to be established in the State of Odisha?

Use of websites and mobile apps for making fake Aadhaar cards

*9. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to check the use of websites and mobile apps to make fake Aadhaar cards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of cases of fake Aadhaar cards being generated and used, detected since 2014, year-wise?

Revenue generation in Railways

*10. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are planning to earn revenue from non-fare sources in order not to burden the passengers by raising the passenger fares;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways are planning to earn revenue of about ₹ 2000 crore by way of offering branding packages of full trains; and

(c) whether only the products of the advertiser would be sold in the whole train or platforms, leaving no other choice to the public/passengers visiting the platform or travelling by those trains?

Subsidy for procuring foodgrains

*11. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has decided not to purchase foodgrains from farmers at MSP;

(b) whether Government is aware of inability of many States for procurement for want of necessary infrastructure;

(c) how the Ministry arrived at giving 30 per cent subsidy to States for procuring foodgrains;

(d) whether it is also a fact that States are demanding for 50 per cent subsidy;

(e) if so, Government's response thereto; and

(f) the result of the meeting held in January, 2018 with States on this issue?

Policy to monitor dangerous content in online games

*12. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has framed any policy regarding monitoring of dangerous content in online games;

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

(c) the number of cases which have come to notice wherein online gaming has driven people to commit suicide or similar dangerous acts;

(d) whether Government has taken any action to block such online games; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

Uniform Civil Code

*13. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law Commission is considering to hold discussions with religious scholars, political groups and others to gauge whether the time is right for the Uniform Civil Code;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Law Commission has forwarded a questionnaire on Uniform Civil Code to elicit opinion on various issues to religious scholars, political groups and others; and

(c) if so, whether the Law Commission has received their inputs in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

Difficulties faced by senior citizens in Aadhaar validation

*14. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the difficulties in Aadhaar validation by using fingerprints for senior citizens and other sections of population due to worn out fingerprints and hardening of hand fingers due to hard occupation in which some people are engaged;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to bring in any change in Aadhaar validation, particularly for senior citizens and some sections of population, who are facing difficulties in Aadhaar validation by using finger prints;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Direct procurement of agricultural produce of farmers

*15. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether buying farm produces directly from farmers by Government helps farmers a lot and thereby avoid middlemen;

(b) whether it is also a fact that NITI Aayog recently recommended that Government should buy farm produce directly from farmers;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendation and whether any legislation to this effect is going to be introduced in Parliament;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any consultations have been held with States in this regard, if so, the outcome of the same?

NEW DELHI;
The 27th January, 2018
Magha 7, 1939 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	:	2,4, 15,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	:	—
Coal	:	—
Communications	:	—
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	:	1,6, 11,
Electronics and Information Technology	:	5, 9, 12, 14,
Food Processing Industries	:	—
Law and Justice	:	7, 8, 13,
Parliamentary Affairs	:	—
Railways	:	3, 10.