

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, April 6, 2018/Chaitra 16, 1940 (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

Leak of Aadhaar details on a social media app

*421. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to answers to Starred Question 5, Starred Question 155 and Unstarred Question 1690 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2 February, 2018, 9 March, 2018 and 9 March, 2018 respectively and state:

(a) the basis on which Government is claiming that reports regarding leakage of Aadhaar details of millions of people on WhatsApp for ₹ 500/- only is completely false, without any investigation so far;

(b) whether Government is aware that there is foolproof evidence of such Aadhaar details leak and it has not been investigated till date;

(c) if so, whether Government would withdraw the FIR against journalists and newspapers in view of freedom of press and claim by Government without any proof;

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

Strengthening cold chain infrastructure in Karnataka

*422. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether sufficient cold chain storages are in place to check wastage of fruits and vegetables in the country;

(b) the number of cold chain facilities in Karnataka, district-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government, in consultation with Government of Karnataka, to further strengthen cold chain management in the State along with the details thereof?

Scam in NCCT

*423. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to

Unstarred Question 40 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2 February, 2018 and state:

(a) whether any case pertains to illegal diversion of funds by a National level cooperative fertiliser unit to another company, including conflict of interest of a senior level officer, details thereof;

(b) action taken to stop conflict of interest activities in National level cooperative fertiliser units, including side-stepping of officials, pending inquiry, allegedly involved in such activities;

(c) whether Ministry proposes to issue suitable advisory in this regard, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by Ministry on advice of CVC to take action against culprits including lodging FIR in recruitment scam in National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT)?

Training for agricultural and allied activities through KVKs

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

(a) whether there is a proposal to start training for agricultural and allied activities through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs);

(b) if so, the number of such KVKs identified for this purpose in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Punjab;

(c) if so, by when it will be done and the criteria thereof;

(d) whether some extra assistance would be given to KVKs for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Issuance of Aadhaar cards in North-Eastern States

*425. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Aadhaar cards issued in North-Eastern region during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that people are not showing interest in getting Aadhaar cards;

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to cover North-Eastern States by issuing of more Aadhaar cards;

(d) whether Government would take steps to link Centrally-Sponsored Schemes with Aadhaar number; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Construction of ROBs

*426. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many ROBs on different roads are due to be constructed;

(b) if so, the numbers thereof; and

(c) the reasons for delay in starting the construction of ROB at Balichak on Debra-Sabang road under Kharagpur division of South Eastern Railway?

Price of urea

*427. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved continuation of the urea subsidy till 2020 at an estimated cost of ₹ 1,64,935 crore;

(b) whether Government has also approved implementation of Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme for disbursement of fertilizer subsidy;

(c) whether the retail price of urea has not been changed from ₹ 5360 per tonne or ₹ 268 per 50 kg bag since 2012; and

(d) whether the prices vary from State to State and on an average, farmers get urea at about ₹ 300 per bag?

Apprehensions on functioning of EVMs

†*428. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the light of apprehensions raised by some political parties about the credibility of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), doubts have been raised among the public also about the same;

(b) the steps being taken to address the apprehensions raised about EVMs for conduct of fair elections;

(c) the dates on which EVMs have been purchased, with the number thereof, in last three years, along with the validity of working period of the chips installed therein and number of chips being used even after expiry of their validity; and

(d) whether Government is considering to link the Aadhaar number with EVMs?

Revenue generation by luxury trains

*429. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many luxury trains are running below capacity and hardly have been generating the revenue to meet their own working expenses; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

Conduct of apprenticeship by Railways

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

(a) whether Railways provide apprenticeship for various trades whereby thousands of youth are being trained in various trades as far as their skill development is concerned;

(b) if so, Zone-wise details of such courses being conducted by Railways and the number of youth from various Zones who got trained during last three years;

(c) whether Railways earlier used to absorb such trained youth but such an absorption has been discontinued in present times as a result of which, majority of youth are unemployed after training; and

(d) whether Railways are reconsidering to absorb such trained youth?

Financial package to Maharashtra for damage to crops

*431. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to extend financial package to the Government of Maharashtra for widespread damages caused to standing crops due to recent unseasonal excessive rains as well as hailstorms in some parts of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details of the quantum of package and by when it would be released to the State;

(c) whether Government would consider to raise the amount of package; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

New catering policy

*432. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways launched a new catering policy during the last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways had found deficiencies in the previous catering policy; and

(d) if so, the details of those deficiencies along with the remedial measures incorporated in the new policy?

Growth of non-cash payment mode

*433. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data to substantiate that non-cash payment trend has grown in 2017-18;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the further plans Government has to promote non-cash payment mode?

Mechanized cleaning system at railway stations

*434. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced

a mechanized cleaning system for comprehensive cleaning of all platforms, circulating areas and foot over bridges in the station premises;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has ever monitored the progress of cleaning at platforms, circulating areas and foot over bridges in the station premises;

(d) if so, whether any flaws have been found so far; and

(e) if so, whether any action has been taken thereon, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies

†*435. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that conducting elections for Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies in the country, separately, create hurdles in smooth functioning of the administrative system, and the law and order related problems persist throughout the year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the elections for Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies are proposed to be conducted simultaneously; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 31st March, 2018
Chaitra 10, 1940 (Saka)

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	:	423, 424, 431,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	:	427,
Coal	:	—
Communications	:	—
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	:	—
Electronics and Information Technology	:	421, 425, 433,
Food Processing Industries	:	422,
Law and Justice	:	428, 435,
Parliamentary Affairs	:	—
Railways	:	426, 429, 430, 432, 434.