

Rajya Sabha

**List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS**

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Tuesday, July 20, 2021/ Ashadha 29, 1943 (Saka)

**(Ministries : Ayush; Corporate Affairs; Culture; Earth Sciences; Finance; Health and Family Welfare; New and Renewable Energy; Power; Science and Technology; Tourism)**

Total number of questions -- 15

**Income tax exemption for COVID-19 treatment**

**16 Shri Sanjay Seth:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to provide income-tax exemption to the amount received by a taxpayer for medical treatment from an employer or from any person for treatment of COVID-19 during financial year 2019-20 and subsequent years and, if so, the details thereof and the aims and objective behind the move; and
- (b) whether Government has also extended some key tax compliance deadlines due to impact of COVID-19 pandemic and, if so, the details thereof?

**Regulatory mechanism for cooperative banks**

**17 Shri Anil Desai:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of co-operative banks functioning in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the assets and liabilities of these banks;
- (c) the quantum of loans disbursed by these banks;
- (d) whether there are any Non Performing Assets (NPAs), if so, the details thereof, bank-wise; and
- (e) the type of rules and regulations from RBI in place to check any irregularity in these banks and the details thereof?

**National Policy on Healthcare Infrastructure**

**18 Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an urgent need for a national policy on healthcare infrastructure by developing capacities of primary, secondary and tertiary care, healthcare systems and institutions for detection and cure of new and emerging diseases in view of the recent outbreak of COVID-19; and
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

### Research and documentation of medicinal plants

#### 19 Shri Sujeet Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Ayush** be pleased to state:

the steps taken by Government for research and documentation of the medicinal plants which are used by various tribal groups in the country for the treatment of various diseases?

### Anjanadri in Tirumala as birth place of Lord Hanuman

#### 20 Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

Will the Minister of **Culture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has announced, with all evidence from ancient literature, inscriptions, historical and astronomical calculation, etc., about the birth place of Lord Hanuman as Anjanadri, a hillock at Japali Theertham located 5 kms North of Tirumala;

(b) whether a booklet with epigraphical, scientific and mythological evidence projecting Anjanadri, one of the seven hills at Tirumala, as the birthplace of Lord Hanuman was also released; and

(c) in view of above, the steps being taken by Government to declare, at the national level, the birth place of Lord Hanuman as Anjanadri?

### Strengthening of DISCOMs

#### 21 # Shri Mahesh Poddar:

Will the Minister of **Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a five year improvement based outcome scheme for power distribution companies has been recently approved under which DISCOMs will be funded to strengthen their system;

(b) whether any condition has also been laid down for DISCOMs under the scheme, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has reviewed the assistance and of the outcome thereof provided to States and DISCOMs under the Ujwal Discom Assurance Yojana (UDAY) scheme; and

(d) if so, the provisions of the new scheme for poorly performing States or DISCOMs under UDAY scheme?

### Guidelines issued by NABL regarding pathological laboratories

#### 22 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that paramedics are running pathological laboratories, if so, the number of such laboratories, State-wise;

(b) whether it is also a fact that according to an order by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the pathology degree holders recognised by Medical Council of India can only run a pathological laboratory, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of guidelines issued in this regard by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) which provides recognition to the medical laboratories related to testing and calibration?

### Protecting power grid from cyber attacks

#### 23 Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:

Will the Minister of **Power** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study to identify the vulnerabilities of the energy supply grid in the country to cyber attacks, if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the number and details of cyber attacks on the power grid and the cases and sources of malware found in the energy supply system during the last two years and the current year;
- (c) whether some States faced electricity blackout or massive power outage due to the said cyber attacks; and
- (d) whether Government has carried out any investigation in this regard along with the measures taken or being taken, especially in Bihar?

### Import duty on cotton

#### 24 Shri T.G. Venkatesh:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of Government is drawn to the import duty restriction imposed in the month of February this year, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken note that the 10 per cent duty levied on cotton imports are driving the garments industry into difficulties as the cost of production of garments is leading to increase in the prices of finished garments;
- (c) whether the Cotton Association of India has requested Government to scrap the 10 per cent duty levied on imports of cotton, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

### Shortage of essential medical services during second wave of COVID-19

#### 25 Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there was an acute shortage of essential medical services including availability of drugs and hospital beds in the country during the second wave of COVID-19 in April 2021;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of patients who died due to shortage of oxygen and lack of hospital facilities in the country; and
- (d) the measures taken by Government to overcome the situation?

### Beneficiaries of financial relief packages for COVID-19 in UP

#### 26 # Shri Surendra Singh Nagar:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of persons benefited in Uttar Pradesh through financial assistance and loan from the packages released till date during the COVID-19 pandemic by the Union Government, district-wise and category-wise;
- (b) whether Government had set any target to approve loans from banks to various categories including hawkers and shopkeepers under the financial relief packages for COVID-19; and
- (c) if so, the details of circulars/orders issued in this regard for Uttar Pradesh?

### Plan of action to tackle fungal infection outbreaks

27 **Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formed an integrated plan of action to tackle the fungal infection outbreaks consisting of the black, white and yellow variants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken cognisance of the shortage in the supply of Amphotericin-B injections used for the treatment of mucormycosis; and
- (d) if so, the details of the manner in which Government proposes to meet the demand and, if not, the reasons therefor?

### Rural Electrification

28 **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:**

Will the Minister of **Power** be pleased to state:

- (a) the definition of an 'electrified village';
- (b) whether Government plans to amend this definition to include the electrification of 100 per cent of the households in a village;
- (c) the data on the number of houses that do not have uninterrupted power availability or 24-hour power supply, State-wise;
- (d) the State-wise average of the number of hours of power supply received by households; and
- (e) whether the above-mentioned data meets the targets set forth by the Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY)?

### Treatment protocol to cure Black Fungus and delta variant of COVID-19

29 # **Shri Ram Nath Thakur:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prepared any treatment protocol to cure Black Fungus infections and Delta variant of the Coronavirus;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a patient of Black Fungus needs to be hospitalised for a longer period of time; and
- (c) whether Government will issue any guidelines regarding the expenses on its treatment so that even the poorest people can get the treatment?

### COVID-19 deaths during April and May, 2021

30 **Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:**

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of people who died due to COVID-19 during April and May, 2021, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government is aware that millions of people have died in rural areas with COVID-19 like symptoms without testing and treatment during April and May, 2021;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise particularly Uttar Pradesh, district-wise;
- (d) whether Government would conduct any survey by an independent agency to ascertain the number of rural deaths without testing and treatment during April and May, 2021; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

New Delhi  
The 13th July, 2021  
22 Asadha 1943 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,  
Secretary-General.

**INDEX**  
**(Ministry-Wise)**

Ayush	: 19
Corporate Affairs	: --
Culture	: 20
Earth Sciences	: --
Finance	: 16, 17, 24, 26
Health and Family Welfare	: 18, 22, 25, 27, 29, 30
New and Renewable Energy	: --
Power	: 21, 23, 28
Science and Technology	: --
Tourism	: --