

Rajya Sabha

**List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS**

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Monday, August 9, 2021/ 18 Sravana, 1943 (Saka)

**(Ministries : Coal; Defence; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Information and Broadcasting; Jal Shakti; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Mines; Minority Affairs; Parliamentary Affairs; Ports, Shipping and Waterways; Road Transport and Highways; Youth Affairs and Sports)**

Total number of questions -- 15

**Status of project connecting Chhattisgarh with Jharkhand**

211 # **Shri Ram Vichar Netam:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the pending project regarding connecting Chhattisgarh to Jharkhand;
- (b) by when the said project is likely to be completed;
- (c) the details of the funds allocated for the said project during the last three years and the current year and whether that amount has been spent; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that the said project is lagging behind its stipulated time limit and if so, steps being taken by Government to complete it at the earliest?

**Jawaibandh Conservation Reserve**

212 # **Shri Om Prakash Mathur:**

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to improve the management of Jawaibandh Conservation Reserve; and
- (b) if so, by when this work will be completed?

**Action plan for increased groundwater levels**

213 # **Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any action plan to conserve water and increase the level of groundwater in the country during the last three years; and
- (b) if so, the details of the scheme and the amount of financial expenditure incurred by Government on this scheme, till date?

### Utilization of water logged in coal mines

214 # **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

- (a) details of initiative taken by Government for utilization of water logged in coal mines of country till date;
- (b) whether the Ministry has entered into contract with State Government of Jharkhand for recycling and using water logged in coal mines of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) located in Jharkhand for water supply;
- (c) if so, status of implementation thereof; and
- (d) whether Government will take initiative regarding use of water logged in mines of various subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited located in Jharkhand for drinking water, irrigation, fisheries, etc and, if so, by when and, if not, reasons therefor?

### Reservation for poor minority students

215 **Shri Syed Zafar Islam:**

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any provision for reservation for the poor students of minority communities in the minority educational institutes in States, including Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the percentage thereof and the manner in which it is being implemented in Uttar Pradesh; and
- (c) if not, whether Government would take initiative for facilitating poor minorities?

### Status of Purvanchal Express-way

216 # **Shri Rewati Raman Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of Purvanchal Express-way which will be passing through Lucknow, Barabanki, Amethi, Sultanpur, Ayodhya, Ambedkar Nagar, Azamgarh, Mau and Ghazipur;
- (b) whether it is a fact that this project was scheduled to be completed in 36 months, if so, whether this Express-way will be completed within its stipulated time limit;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that its cost has gone up excessively at present; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### Elimination of plastic bags

217 **Dr. Banda Prakash:**

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken strict measures to eliminate use of plastic bags/wrappers/bottles and other non-essential packaging, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to do away with single-use plastics in order to address pollution caused by plastics;
- (c) whether Government has been running any public awareness campaign to check the use of single-use plastics;
- (d) if so, the details of institutions and administrative departments engaged in such campaign;
- (e) whether Government proposes to impose heavy penalties on offenders; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

### Wildlife protection and conservation

218 **Shri Vaiko:**

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of efforts made by Government to protect and conserve wildlife in the country;
- (b) whether certain species of birds and animals have become endangered in the country in the last three years due to lack of conservation and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by Government for the protection of endangered and exotic species of flora and fauna under various projects and schemes; and
- (d) the details of any other measures taken by Government to stop illegal poaching and hunting of wildlife?

### Conservation of lakes

219 **Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar:**

Will the Minister of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of lakes have declined substantially across the country during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has launched any schemes to conserve and revive such lakes across the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has received any proposals from various State Governments to protect natural lakes located in their respective States; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated by Government on these requests, State-wise including Kerala?

### Implementation of Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019

220 # **Smt. Chhaya Verma:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of State which have implemented the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019;
- (b) the increase in amount of fine in the new Act, 2019, percentage-wise and fines under which this increase has been made;
- (c) whether the drivers are being provided with quality roads and orderly traffic arrangements;
- (d) the improvement in compliance with the rules after the introduction of the new hefty fines, percentage-wise; and
- (e) whether Government will consider refunding the increased fine, if there has been no improvement, in view of the economic crisis due to the pandemic?

### Compliance of provisions for teaching in minority schools

221 **Shri Rakesh Sinha:**

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) total number of minority schools in the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that for teaching in school, B.Ed is compulsory and many minority schools are not complying with this compulsory provision;
- (c) if so, the total number of such schools, State-wise; and
- (d) the action Government has taken to ensure compliance of this provision?

### NHs in Guntur and Prakasam districts in AP

222 **Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

Will the Minister of **Road Transport and Highways** be pleased to state:

- (a) the National Highways (NHs) constructed since 2014 that pass through the Guntur and Prakasam districts of Andhra Pradesh (AP);
- (b) the length of the NHs in these districts at the beginning of 2014 and at present;
- (c) the NHs constructed, widened or strengthened since 2014 that pass through the Guntur and Prakasam districts;
- (d) the highway number, route, total length, length in Guntur and Prakasam districts, cost of construction, etc. of Highways passing through above-mentioned districts; and
- (e) the list and details of these ongoing and proposed NH projects in Guntur and Prakasam districts?

### Impact of development of ports and harbours in coastal areas

223 **Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the impact of sand extraction (development of ports and harbors) on making coastal areas more vulnerable to the impact of climate change;
- (b) if so, details thereof, including studies undertaken and measures to mitigate the same, and if not, reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is undertaking any measures to address erosion of coastlines due to the development of harbours, ports and other infrastructure projects;
- (d) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government has formulated any policies for the sustainable development of ports; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

### Rejuvenation project of Mula-Mutha rivers by JICA in Pune

224 **Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the river rejuvenation project to be executed on the Mula-Mutha rivers of Pune with the help of Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA);
- (b) the reasons for the project not taking off yet;
- (c) whether an Environmental Impact Assessment has been conducted for the project;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the projected timeline and roadmap of completion of the same; and
- (f) whether stakeholder consultation for this project has been conducted and if so, the details thereof?

### Draft Indian Ports Bill, 2021

225 **Shri P. Wilson:**

Will the Minister of **Ports, Shipping and Waterways** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that many States including Tamil Nadu are opposing and seeking to withdraw the draft Indian Ports Bill, 2021;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the discussions held with the stakeholders, environmentalists, fishermen, persons likely to be affected due to establishment of ports including the coastally located State Governments where ports are located/proposed including Tamil Nadu;
- (d) whether Government has any plan to drop the draft Indian Ports Bill, 2021 because of serious environmental and fishermen's livelihood issues; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

New Delhi  
The 2nd August, 2021  
11 Sravana, 1943 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,  
Secretary-General.

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

Coal	: 214
Defence	: --
Environment, Forest and Climate Change	: 212, 217, 218, 219
Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	: --
Information and Broadcasting	: --
Jal Shakti	: 213, 224
Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	: --
Mines	: --
Minority Affairs	: 215, 221
Parliamentary Affairs	: --
Ports, Shipping and Waterways	: 223, 225
Road Transport and Highways	: 211, 216, 220, 222
Youth Affairs and Sports	: --