

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, July 23, 2021/ 01 Sarvana, 1943 (Saka)

(Ministries : Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Commerce and Industry; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; Food Processing Industries; Panchayati Raj; Railways; Rural Development; Skill Development and Entrepreneurship)

Total number of questions -- 15

Implementation of One Nation One Ration Card scheme

46 Shri Rajmani Patel:

Will the Minister of **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has formulated any plan to implement "One Nation One Ration Card" scheme;
- (b) if so, the details of the action plan for implementing the "One Nation One Ration Card" scheme;
- (c) the details of the budget allocated to implement this scheme; and
- (d) the manner in which Government would help the labourers who have not yet upgraded their ration cards to the new system?

Implementation of welfare schemes for farmers

47 Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the farmers have to suffer many losses after harvesting their crops due to several reasons, if so, the welfare schemes of Government for the farmers who suffered losses due to natural calamities and other issues during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the total number of affected farmers who benefited under these welfare schemes, district-wise; and
- (c) whether Government would contemplate to benefit the affected farmers by conducting a survey in this regard?

Operation of trains by private companies

48 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering handing over the responsibility of operation of trains to private companies;

- (b) if so, whether the operation of goods trains along with passenger trains is proposed to be given to private companies; and
- (c) the type of railway works being carried out by private companies at present, the number of complaints received related to the poor quality of their works and the mechanism adopted for their disposal?

Semi High Speed Rail in Kerala

49 Shri John Brittas:

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

- (a) whether the proposal for setting up a Semi High Speed Railway in the State of Kerala is pending with the Ministry of Railways for approval;
- (b) if so, the present status of the approval process; and
- (c) whether delay in the approval process can result in cost overruns?

Efforts to end farmers' protest

50 Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to amend the agricultural laws as per farmers' demand in the near future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether some efforts have been made to end the farmers' protests?

Shortage of antiviral drugs

51 Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah:

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognisance of shortage of antiviral drugs such as Remdesivir and Tocilizumab;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the actions taken to address this shortage;
- (c) whether Government, exercising its powers under the Patents Act, intends to issue compulsory licenses to generic pharmaceutical companies for manufacturing of low-cost versions of Remdesivir and Tocilizumab;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the number of Remdesivir manufacturers in the country and their production capacity, year-wise, from 2019 till date?

Transactions under PM-KISAN Scheme

52 Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh:

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme transactions that have taken place since its launch till June, 2021, month-wise/State-wise;
- (b) the total number of PM-KISAN scheme transactions which have failed since its launch till June, 2021, month-wise;
- (c) whether Government has identified the reasons for failed transactions;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps that are being taken to ensure that beneficiaries receive their instalments in situations where transactions have failed?

Construction of ROB on Bhavnagar-Ahmedabad highway

53 # **Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:**

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

- (a) when was the land acquired for the construction of Road Over Bridge (ROB) on railway crossing near Vartej village on Bhavnagar-Ahmedabad highway; and
- (b) the reason behind non-initiation of construction work till now?

Promoting bio-organic fertilizers

54 **Shri P. Bhattacharya:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study regarding the effect of chemical and bio-fertilizers on agricultural production;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up distribution/sale centres for organic/bio-fertilizers on the lines of the sales/distribution centres set up for chemical fertilizers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has formulated any scheme to promote the use of vermicompost/decompost manure to promote bio-organic fertilizers; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Skill development training for unemployed youth in Odisha

55 **Smt. Mamata Mohanta:**

Will the Minister of **Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of unemployed youth in Odisha, specifically in Mayurbhanj, who were provided skill development training every year under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) since its inception;
- (b) the percentage of candidates across districts in Odisha, specifically in Mayurbhanj, who were offered placement after training;
- (c) the percentage of candidates offered placements who were from aspirational districts of Odisha;
- (d) the percentage of female candidates offered placements; and
- (e) whether Government has set any targets to provide employment to unemployed youth under various schemes and if so, the details thereof?

Gonda to Gorakhpur railway route

56 # **Shri Brijlal:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is an alternate railway route called Gonda-Siddharthnagar-Gorakhpur loop line between Gonda and Gorakhpur and that this line passes through border areas of the country and has strategic importance;
- (b) the details of the status of electrification work being done on this railway section; and
- (c) whether any time limit has been set for the construction of the same?

Implementation of PM-KISAN scheme in Tamil Nadu

57 **Shri P. Wilson:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of farmers who enrolled and benefitted under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) yojana in Tamil Nadu, district-wise;
- (b) the details of the funds sanctioned to farmers and number of beneficiaries under PM-KISAN in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) whether Government has proposal to increase the minimum income support to farmers due to increase in rate of agricultural materials and also due to effect of COVID-19; and
- (d) the action taken against the irregularities in distribution of funds under the scheme in Tamil Nadu and whether any complaint was registered and arrests made, if so, the details thereof?

Initiatives for mental health of farmers

58 Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the initiatives started for mental health of farmers in different States, especially in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra due to adversities of the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (b) the number of farmer suicides during this pandemic period?

Skill development training for youth in Tamil Nadu

59 Shri Vaiko:

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes being implemented by Government for skill development of the youth in States during the last three years including Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the details of funds allocated and released by Government to the States including Tamil Nadu during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and scheme-wise;
- (c) whether any proposal has been sent to the Central Government by Government of Tamil Nadu during the last three years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with action taken by Government thereon?

Skill development training for rural poor and unemployed youth

60 Shri Elamaram Kareem:

Will the Minister of ***Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the extent to which PMKVY could help the rural poor and unemployed youth in the country to attain skill training and get a job;
- (b) the mechanisms available with Government to ensure maximum number of placements and decent salaries for the candidates that got placed;
- (c) the number of PMKKs sanctioned and established in each State as on 1st July, 2021, whether any PMKKs got closed due to COVID-19 and lockdown; and
- (d) whether Government is able to ensure that all the candidates enrolling in PMKVY are completing training and getting placed and the reasons for placement percentage being very low?

New Delhi
The 16th July, 2021
25 Ashadha 1943 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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