

Rajya Sabha

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, July 30, 2021/ 08 Sravana, 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

Sabari Rail project in Kerala

121 **Shri John Brittas:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL) has submitted a project for construction of Sabari railway line connecting Angamaly with Erumeli in the State of Kerala; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Production of oilseeds and edible oil in the country

122 **Dr. Banda Prakash:**

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

- (a) whether any concrete steps are being taken by Government for increasing the production of oilseeds and edible oil to avoid the need for import of edible oil;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government for promoting farming/ cultivation of oilseeds among farmers so that there is no need of importing edible oil;
- (c) whether Government has held National Seeds Conferences during the last three years to help the farmers during their sowing season in view of the changing circumstances in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

Construction of cold storages

123 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

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

- (a) the details of number of cold storages which have come up in the country during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government proposes to construct more such cold storages in the country; and
- (c) whether districts in different States of the country have been identified and fund allocated for the said purpose, the details thereof?

Unified Farmer Service Interface and AgriStack

124 Shri Md. Nadimul Haque:

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

- (a) the extent to which farmers are likely to benefit by Unified Farmer Service Interface and AgriStack;
- (b) whether Government has thoroughly analyzed the problems related to information asymmetry, data privacy and consent, profiling of farmers, mismanaged land records and corporatization of agriculture;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken to protect and safeguard farmers from private entities?

Coverage under AAY

125 Smt. Vandana Chavan:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people were left out of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY);
- (b) the details of landless agricultural labourers, marginal farmers, rural artisans, urban slum dwellers, informal sector workers and households headed by elderly, disabled or widows and particularly vulnerable tribal groups that are covered under AAY, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether sex workers, disabled, homeless and transgender people are provided ration cards without documentary proof; and
- (d) if so, the details of procedure for automatic inclusion, State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

Assistance to Moradabad in promotion of exports

126 Shri Syed Zafar Islam:

Will the Minister of ***Commerce and Industry*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any scheme for assistance to Moradabad in promotion of exports and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether during pandemic, Government has made provisions for tax rebate for promotion of exports and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the value of rebate provided during the last three years along with the role of the said rebate in increasing the exports and the monitoring system in place to ensure proper utilization of the said rebate?

Railway facilities to Kapilavastu

127 # Shri Brijlal:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Kapilavastu (district Siddharthnagar, Uttar Pradesh) is the birthplace of Lord Buddha where followers of Buddha from all over the world pay obeisance;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that there are no means of transport there, due to which the place has not been developed into a "Buddha Circuit";
- (c) whether Kapilavastu-Basti railway line project (via Bansi), Pink Book Item No.6 is

already approved; and

(d) by when the construction of the said railway line project would begin, the details thereof?

Loan facilities to farmers

128 Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Will the Minister of ***Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*** be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2756 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th March, 2021 and to state:

- (a) whether under Section 9 of the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020, credit instruments/loan facility would be available to farmers and sponsors without collateral security under any scheme of the Central Government or the State Governments or any financial service provider;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and basis therefor;
- (c) if not, the details of collateral security in case of credit instrument/loan to farmers; and
- (d) the details of collateral security in case of credit instrument/loan to sponsors?

Loans to Self Help Groups

129 Shri Vivek K. Tankha:

Will the Minister of ***Rural Development*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the extent of loans extended to Self Help Groups (SHGs) that are outstanding;
- (b) the extent of repayment of loans extended to SHGs;
- (c) the loans given to SHGs that are outstanding, the details thereof, State-wise and activity-wise; and
- (d) whether there are any studies to assess the impact of funding to SHGs, if so, the key findings thereof?

Streamlining of cold chain facilities at district level

130 # Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:

Will the Minister of ***Food Processing Industries*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to streamline cold chain facilities at the district level in the near future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of the impact of the same on food processing industry?

Cultivation with the use of organic manure

131 Shri M. Shanmugam:

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

- (a) the percentage of cultivation being done by using organic manure in the country in the last three years, as compared to chemical fertilizers;
- (b) the type of incentives being provided to farmers under various schemes for encouraging organic cultivation; and
- (c) the efforts made to increase acreage cover for cultivation by organic manure and bio-fertilizers, the details thereof?

Illegal religious structures on Railway platforms/ yards

132 **Shri Anil Desai:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are a number of illegal temples/masjids and dargah, etc. on railway platform and yards;
- (b) if so, the details of such structures; and
- (c) the action taken against such encroachments by Railway Protection Force (RPF) and railway authorities, station-wise?

Availability and utilization of funds for the development of Panchayats

133 **Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya:**

Will the Minister of **Panchayati Raj** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of availability and utilization of funds for the development of model villages at the level of Zilla Parishad, Panchayat Samiti and Gram Panchayat; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government to handle COVID-19 pandemic third wave at Panchayat level?

Land under organic farming in the country

134 **Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:**

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

- (a) India's rank in terms of agricultural land under organic farming, number of organic farmers and important organic products produced, State-wise;
- (b) in view of Sikkim achieving the distinction of bringing its entire cultivable land under organic certification, the efforts being made by the Ministry to push this template in other States; and
- (c) the status of India's organic exports during the last three years and the current year, year-wise, product-wise and State-wise, along with the name of countries to which India is exporting its products and countries that are competitors to India in organic exports?

Rise in prices of essential commodities

135 **Shri K.C. Venugopal:**

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

- (a) whether it is fact that there is a sharp increase in the prices of edible oil and pulses over the last one year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the economy is witnessing a sharp slowdown and houses are combating reduced salaries, joblessness and uncertainty against the backdrop of second wave of COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (d) if so, the steps Government is taking to control the prices of essential items?

New Delhi
The 23rd July, 2021
01 Sarvana, 1943 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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