

Rajya Sabha

**List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS**

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, August 6, 2021/ 15 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

**Special Trains**

196 # **Shri Neeraj Dangi:**

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

- (a) the number of trains currently operational which are being run as special trains in the country due to COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) whether the public is getting the benefit of ordinary railway service or is paying extra due to the operation of special trains, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when Government will discontinue the additional charge and mandatory reservation in special trains and provide general railway service to the public, the details thereof?

**Proposal for a separate annual Budget for agriculture**

197 **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to introduce a separate annual budget for agriculture with the objective of increasing agricultural productivity, protecting farmers' welfare and working out legislation(s) to regulate ground water use to protect the interests of both farmers and common people dependent on ground water as there are some water deficient States in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and steps being taken therefor, State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Restarting railway line in Jodhpur**

198 # **Shri Rajendra Gehlot:**

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

- (a) the details of the railway line constructed for the transportation of stones from mines owned by the princely State in Jodhpur metropolitan area and whether Government proposes to restart the said railway line;
- (b) the total length of the said railway line and the area of land utilized for this along with Khasara-wise details of ownership and area of that land; and

(c) whether Government proposes to use the above land for any other purpose in future, if so, the details thereof?

### **Railway projects in Andhra Pradesh**

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

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

- (a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has expressed its inability to share the cost for construction of the new line between Nadikudi and Sri Kalahasti;
- (b) if so, the likely future of the project after State Government's refusal;
- (c) whether State Government has also expressed unwillingness to share cost of other railway infrastructure projects, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Ministry considers alternate investment proposals to ensure completion of such ongoing projects;
- (e) the status of the project involving doubling of railways line between Guntur and Guntakal; and
- (f) the nature of development planned for Narasaraopet and Vinukonda railway stations?

### **Wastage of foodgrains**

200 **Dr. C.M. Ramesh:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that every year large quantity of foodgrains that is stored in godowns gets wasted;
- (b) if so, whether Government would consider distributing some portion of foodgrains that is stored in godowns for years together to the marginalised sections of the society thereby making space in godowns for storing fresh foodgrains, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of percentage of foodgrains lost every year because of poor maintenance; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to modernize the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI), the details thereof?

### **Shortage of fertilisers in Jharkhand**

201 # **Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the farmers are facing a lot of problems due to shortage of fertilisers in Jharkhand, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the quantum of Urea, DAP and NPK in metric tonnes, approved by the Central Government against the demand of the Government of Jharkhand to ensure supply of fertilisers to the State; and
- (c) the quantum of fertilisers, in metric tonnes, allocated by the Central Government to various companies during April to July 2021?

### **Doubling Thanjavur-Villupuram section in Southern Railway**

202 **Shri M. Shanmugam:**

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

- (a) whether preliminary survey for doubling Thanjavur-Villupuram section in Southern Railway has been completed;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether representations have been received for doubling of this section; and
- (d) if so, by when the work for doubling of this section will start, the details thereof?

### **Production of organic fertilisers**

**203 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated any action plan during the last three years to increase the production of organic fertilisers and to encourage the farmers to use them; and
- (b) if so, the framework of this action plan and the amount of financial expenditure sanctioned by Government in this regard?

### **Funds spent on Agriculture Infrastructure Fund**

**204 # Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

- (a) the quantum of funds spent so far from the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund of ₹1 lakh crore for farm gate based infrastructure for farmers, announced on 15th May, 2020;
- (b) the number of farmers, agricultural cooperative societies, entrepreneurs, start-ups and farmer producer organisations that have benefitted from the said scheme so far, State-wise; and
- (c) the achievements made from the said funds so far in terms of marketing infrastructure, logistic infrastructure, modern packaging, cold storage system and PPP projects, etc., the details thereof, State-wise?

### **Schemes for welfare of tea garden labourers**

**205 Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:**

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

- (a) the details of schemes implemented by the Ministry for the welfare of tea garden labourers in Assam;
- (b) the amount of funds allocated for the above mentioned schemes for the current year;
- (c) whether any new or special schemes have been introduced/implemented or proposed to be implemented for tea garden labourers by the Ministry in the current year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Safeguard measures for peasants/agricultural labourers**

**206 Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya:**

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

- (a) the measures taken by Government to safeguard the agricultural labourers and peasant workers who lost their livelihood during COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (b) whether any schemes are implemented to protect the employment and livelihood of these peasant workers?

### **Farming of horticulture crops**

**207 Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that massive over production of grains like wheat and rice creates very low value in comparison to high-value horticulture, vegetables crops, fisheries, poultry and dairy;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken to encourage farmers to grow horticulture and vegetable crops also which give more value addition to the farmers; and
- (c) the steps being taken to tap the huge potential available in different parts of the country in horticulture and vegetable crops?

#### **Tapping export potential of agricultural and industrial products**

208 **Shri Sanjay Raut:**

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

- (a) whether Government is considering any plan to tap export potential of certain agricultural and industrial products with the help of various State Governments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has received any study/survey report from any Government agencies that has examined the export potential of selected agricultural and industrial products by suggesting appropriate measures; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

#### **Distribution of ration to migrant labourers during lockdown**

209 **Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there was large scale migration of labourers from their place of work to their native place during the lockdown enforced by various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government took any steps to provide adequate ration to these migrant workers during the lockdown period in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Bhanupali-Beri railway line**

210 # **Ms. Indu Bala Goswami:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to declare Bhanupali-Bilaspur-Beri (Himachal Pradesh) railway project as project of national importance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the length of railway track in kilometers to be laid in Bilaspur district in the first phase of this project and the details regarding its cost; and
- (d) the time limit to complete the first phase?

New Delhi  
The 30th July, 2021  
08 Sarvana, 1943 (Saka)

Desh Deepak Verma,  
Secretary-General.

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