

(LOK SABHA)

Questions For Written Answers

6th February, 2019

[ATOMIC ENERGY - COAL - COMMUNICATIONS - DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION - EARTH SCIENCES - ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - EXTERNAL AFFAIRS - LAW & JUSTICE - MINORITY AFFAIRS - PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS - RAILWAYS - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - SPACE - STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION - PLANNING and Prime Minister]

Total No. of Questions - 40

Pay Level in DANICS

461 Sh. Faizal P.P. Mohammed (Lakshadweep):

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether providing Group 'A' status and pay in level 10 to Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Island Civil Service (DANICS) disturbs vertical relativity in the system; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not disturbing the so called vertical relativity as already Goa, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh are Group 'A' services which are feeder cadre for IAS (AGMUT) like DANICS?

Indian Fishermen in Pakistani Jails

462 Sh. Devusinh Jesingbhai Chauhan (kheda):

Will the **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether Pakistan Marine Security Agency (PMSA) very often apprehends the Indian fishermen and their boats and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether a large number of fishermen are lodged in Pakistani jails even after completing 22 months of their jail term and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to get all the fishermen and their boats released by Pakistani authorities?

Intrusion at Border

463 Sh. T.G. Venkatesh Babu (chennai North):

Will the **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government is aware of the recent and increasing incidents of Chinese and Pakistani troops crossing over to the Indian side of the Line of Actual Control/Line of Control;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such incidents reported during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has taken up the matter with the Chinese and Pakistani authorities to reduce tension along the border and to prevent the recurrence of such incidents; and (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Reforms in CBI

464 Sh. Ranjanben Dhananjay Bhatt (Vadodara):

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government is seriously contemplating extensive reforms in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI);

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Postal Ballots for NRI

465 Sh. Rajan Baburao Vichare (Thane):

Will the **LAW & JUSTICE** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government intends to bring a legislation to allow NRIs to vote through postal or e-ballots, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has set any time frame for this; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to bring a legislation to this effect?

Earth Science Plans/Projects

466 Smt. Kamla Devi Patle (Janjgir-champa):

Will the **EARTH SCIENCES** be pleased to state that:-

(a) the details of earth science plans/projects implemented/under implementation by the Government during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under the said schemes during the said period, State-wise;

(c) the progress made under these plans/projects during the said period;

(d) whether the Government is satisfied with the progress made thereon; and

(e) if not, the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Joint Military Exercise with China

467 Sh. Jayant Sinha (Hazaribagh):

Will the **DEFENCE** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government has conducted a joint military exercise with China recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this is first of its kind after the Doklam issue and if so, the details thereof; (

d) whether this exercise was focussed on any threats and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the exercise seeks to improve the relations between the two countries and if so, the details thereof?

Online Child Sexual Abuse

468 Sh. Elumalai V. (Arani):

Will the **ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether it is true that the Cellular Operators Association of India has approached the Government flagging operational issues in implementing a directive that mandates use of an Internet Watch Foundation list for blocking online child sexual abuse content;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also true that such sites should be barred as per the Interpol list provided by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Shortage of IFS Officers

469 Sh. Nagesh Godam(Adilabad):

Will the **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to meet the severe shortage of officers in Indian Foreign Service;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is thinking of recruiting personnel from other civil services, armed forces and specialists from private sector to fill the severe shortage of officers in Indian Foreign Service; and (

d) if so, the details thereof?

UN Visa

470 Sh. Prasun Banerjee (Howrah):

Will the **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether India will not give visa to people who hold UN visa and are stateless; (b) if so, the details thereof and when was a change made in

the policy in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons for denial of visa to exiled Bangladeshi poet Daud Haider?

Collegium System

471 Prof. Saugata Roy (Dum Dum):

Will the **LAW & JUSTICE** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether some controversy erupted over the Hon'ble Supreme Court Collegium's recommendation for appointment of Supreme Court Judges;

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) whether the Collegium is following any criteria on selection of Supreme Court Judges from sitting High Court Chief Justices/Judges of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for not considering the seniority of judges in this regard?

Welfare Scheme for Minorities

472 Sh. V. Panneer Selvam (Salem):

Will the **MINORITY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) the details of new welfare schemes being implemented for the welfare of minorities in the country at present along with the names of schemes initiated exclusively in the last four years;

(b) the funds allocated, released and utilised under the various schemes in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and schemes-wise;

(c) the target set and achieved under the said schemes during the said period, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(d) whether the funds allocated under these schemes have not been fully utilised by the State Governments during the abovesaid period;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise and schemewise;

(f) whether there are some slippages in achieving the targets and percolating the benefits down to the beneficiaries; and

(g) if so, the details thereof along with the manner in which the Government is planning to plug these loopholes for effective implementation of these schemes?

Decline in Military Expenditure

473 Sh. S.P. Muddahanumegowda (Tumkur):

Will the **DEFENCE** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the military expenditure as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has reduced over a period of time, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor

(b) whether it is a fact that India is not spending in sufficient proportion on operations and maintenance of military equipment and development of defence infrastructure; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor along with the details of the funds allocated for modernisation and procurement/ manufacturing of equipments during the last three years and the current year so far?

Operationalisation of GSLV

474 Smt. Pratyusha Rajeshwari Singh (Kandhamal):

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to expedite operationalising of the Geostationary Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) by rectifying the snags noticed in earlier launches;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any plans to utilise the GSLV for commercial space launches; and

Digital India

475 Smt. Anju Bala(Misrikh):

Will the **ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government is implementing Digital India Programme to digitize various sectors;

(b) if so, the current status of Digital India Programme, the target fixed/achieved under the same so far;

(c) whether the Government has identified new sectors for which urgent digital initiative is required and whether the Digital India Programme has been introduced by the Government at the district level;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the new initiatives undertaken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to bridge digital divide in the country?

Increase in Speed of Trains

476 Sh. Alok Sanjar (Bhopal):

Will the **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government has increased the speed of some trains during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the railway tracks are capable enough to manage the increased speed of trains and if so, the details thereof; and (

d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the railway tracks keeping in view the increased speed of trains?

Notary Public Licences

477 Sh. Arjunlal Meena (Udaipur):

Will the **LAW & JUSTICE** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government have granted Notary Public Licences in the States;

(b) if so, the State/UT-wise details thereof; and

(c) the details of total number of Notary Public Licences granted in Rajasthan including Udaipur district?

Wing for Children Found at Stations

478 Smt. Raksha Nikhil Khadse (Raver):

Will the **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the recent study by the All India Working Group suggests to set up separate wing to deal with children found as the Railway Police or Railway Protection Force cannot effectively discharge the duty of child care and protection;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government proposes in this regard?

Prediction of Thunderstorms/Lightning

479 Sh. Vijayakumar S.R.(Chennai Central) :

Will the **EARTH SCIENCES** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) is set to launch an end-to-end prediction system for predicting thunderstorms/lightning;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the system is likely to be functional;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the IMD to strengthen its observational network to reduce the human losses during the thunderstorms in the country;
- (d) whether IMD and Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune are developing a new website for IMD along with the mobile Apps for farmers and city forecasts; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be launched?

Stoppage at Alappuzha Railway Station

480 Sh. K. C. Venugopal (Alappuzha):

Will the **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state that:-

- (a) whether the Railways has taken any decision regarding the extension of stoppage at Alappuzha Railway Station for Train number 16355/ Kochuveli-Mangalore Antyodaya Express, which was granted on an experimental basis for six months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the number of average passengers availing the benefits of this experimental stoppage at Alappuzha Railway Station; and
- (e) whether the Railways has analysed the profit/loss due to this stoppage and if so, the details thereof?

Launch of DD Science and India Science Channels

481 Sh. Joice George (Adv.) (idukki):

Will the **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** be pleased to state that:-

- (a) whether the Government has recently launched the initiatives DD Science and India Science channels to popularise science in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the initiatives aim to develop the scientific temper in Indian society; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Chandrayaan-II

482 Sh. Elumalai V.(Arani) :

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state that:-

- (a) the current status of the Chandrayaan-II programme;
- (b) the reasons for missing stipulated deadline of January 2019 for the launch of

Chandrayaan-II and by when it is expected to be launched now;

(c) whether the delay in the Chandrayaan-II programme resulted in any escalation in the budget of Rs. 800 crore which was announced earlier for the programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether ISRO has planned 32 missions this year and if so, the details thereof?

Package for Bundelkhand

483 Sh. Bhairon Prasad Mishra (banda):

Will the **PLANNING** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government has decided to give any special package to the backward areas like Bundelkhand in the forthcoming plan/action plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Evaluation of Laboratories

**484 Dr. Jayakumar Jayavardhan(Chennai South) :
Sh. Rajeev Shankarrao Satav(Hingoli) :**

Will the **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government has set any standards to evaluate the working of the laboratories that test vaccines in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these laboratories are able to meet the international standards;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana

485 Sh. Anto Antony (Pathanamthitta):

Will the **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government is implementing any scheme called Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY);

(b) if so, the details thereof including its objectives and salient features;

(c) whether the Government has any record regarding the claims settled under PBBY during the last five years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State, year and amount-wise?

Internet Shutdown

486 Smt. Kirron Anupam Kher (Chandigarh):

Will the **COMMUNICATIONS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Ministry maintains records of details pertaining to the suspension of internet services in the country during law and order situations, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry has taken any necessary steps to ensure that people have access to emergency communication services during internet shutdowns; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Development of Science and Technology

487 Sh. Sharad Tripathi (Firozabad):

Will the **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** be pleased to state that:-

(a) the schemes/projects for development of Science and Technology (S&T) undertaken in various States of the country including Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and the current year, Statewise;

(b) the State-wise details of funds allocated and released for these schemes/ projects;

(c) whether Non-Governmental Organisations/Voluntary Organisations are also engaged in the implementation of these schemes; and

(d) if so, the details of such organisations and the details of funds granted to them during the last three years and the current year, State-wise including in Uttar Pradesh?

Repair of ROBS

488 Sh. Gopal Chinayya Shetty (Mumbai-north):

Will the **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) the number of railway bridges which are in dilapidated condition and need major repair, strengthening or reconstruction as on date and the details thereof;

(b) whether any detailed scheme has been formulated to repair, strengthen and reconstruct dilapidated bridges which pose danger for the operation of trains; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Partial Shutdown of Internet

489 Sh. A.P. Jithender Reddy (Mahabubnagar):

Will the **COMMUNICATIONS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) the number of partial shutdowns in the country in the past five years, where the speed of connectivity was reduced;

- (b) the details of the economic losses incurred due to such partial shutdowns; and
- (c) the number of website blockings in the past five years and the reasons therefor?

New Mobile Towers in Naxal Areas

490 Sh. Vijay Kumar Hansdak(Rajmahal) :

Will the **COMMUNICATIONS** be pleased to state that:-

- (a) whether targets have been fixed by the Government to install new mobile towers in the Naxal affected areas;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) the number of mobile towers made operational so far along with the locationwise details thereof;
- (d) the reasons for not commissioning the leftover mobile towers; and
- (e) the response of the Government thereto?

Military Expenditure as Percentage of GDP

491 Sh. B.V. Naik (raichur):

Will the **DEFENCE** be pleased to state that:-

- (a) whether the military expenditure as percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has reduced over a period of time and if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor
- ; (b) whether India is not spending proportionately on operations and maintenance of military equipment and development of defence infrastructure; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor along with the details of the funds allocated for Defence modernisation and equipments during the last three years?

Facilities at Model Stations

492 Sh. Sukender Reddy Gutha (Nalgonda):

Will the **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state that:-

- (a) whether the Railways is embarking on a programme of improving facilities at the selected railway stations in the country with a view to make them Model Stations and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the railway stations identified for this purpose in the State of Telangana; and
- (c) the details of the facilities being provided under the Model Stations programme?

Medical Colleges

493 Sh. Jagdambika Pal (domariyaganj):

Will the **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government is proposing to establish medical colleges in the Railway hospitals and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the courses that will be offered in these medical colleges and the details of the admission process; and

(c) the tentative date by which such proposals will be brought into effect?

ROB at Hazaribagh

494 Dr. Ravindra Kumar Ray (Kodarma):

Will the **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether railway over bridge at Hazaribagh Road Station under Dhanbad division of East Central Railway was approved years ago and if so, the date of approval of the said over bridge;

(b) whether the share of the State and Union Government has been determined for this project and if so, the reasons for not starting the work so far;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take action against the negligent officers, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has proposed to construct an underpass as well as overbridge, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the work of said bridge is likely to be initiated?

Kayakalp Council

495 Sh. Bhagwant Mann (Sangrur):

Will the **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government has set up “Kayakalp”, an innovation council to seek suggestions to improve the Railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has framed the terms of reference of the “Kayakalp”;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the salient features of the “Kayakalp” council?

Evaluation of PM 15-Point Programme

496 Dr. Heena Vijaykumar Gavit (nandurbar):

Will the **MINORITY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state that:-

- (a) whether the Government had appointed organisations/institutions to evaluate some of the programmes under Prime Minister's New 15-point programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of organisations/institutions appointed for the purpose;
- (c) whether the Government has received the evaluation report from these organisations and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether these organisations have pin-pointed some of the programmes lagging behind its target; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken by the Government to rectify the lacunae which have been found in implementation of the programmes?

Survey of Railway Projects in Karnataka

497 Sh. Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu (Srikakulam):

Will the **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state that:-

- (a) whether the Railways have carried out any survey in Karnataka, including Bidar-Nanded, for laying of new railway lines, gauge conversion of old lines and electrification;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the Government's plan for the current year for laying of new lines, gauge conversion and electrification in Karnataka?

Broad Gauge Link between Chhapra and Muzaffarpur

498 Sh. Rajiv Pratap Rudy (saran):

Will the **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state that:-

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken construction of a broad gauge link between Chhapra and Muzaffarpur;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has set a time frame to build the said broad gauge link; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the total finances allocated to the project?

Services and Spectrum by BSNL

499 Sh. Krupal Balaji Tumane (Ramtek):

Will the **COMMUNICATIONS** be pleased to state that:-

- (a) whether BSNL, which is 100 per cent owned by the Government is providing its services to remote and rural areas and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether 4G spectrum has been allocated to this company so far;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether due to non-allocation of 4G spectrum, BSNL is unable to compete with the private operators resulting in gradual loss of revenue;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the annual losses suffered by the company along with the steps taken by the Government to tide over the losses?

Cancellation/Delay of Trains

500 Smt. Anju Bala(Misrikh) :

Will the **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government is aware that most of the time trains are delayed/ cancelled due to fog and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Railways has installed fog safety devices to solve these problems and if so, the number of trains in which fog safety devices have been installed so far, zone-wise;

(c) the extent to which this device helps to run the train in dense fog along with the number of trains proposed to be equipped with such device in near future, zone-wise; and

(d) the other measures being taken by the Government for safety of passengers and trains?

NEW DELHI;110001.

Dated: January 31, 2019 (Magha 11, 1940 (Saka)).

SNEHLATA SHRIVASTAVA,

Secretary General.