

# Lok Sabha

(Wednesday, July 17, 2019/Ashadha 26, 1941 (Saka))

17 JULY, 2019

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[Prime Minister - ATOMIC ENERGY - COAL - COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY - COMMUNICATIONS - DEFENCE - DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION - ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - EXTERNAL AFFAIRS - LAW & JUSTICE - MINES - PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS - PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS - RAILWAYS - SPACE - STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION and PLANNING ].

Total No. of Questions - 20

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## Gauge Conversion Project

\*341 Sh. P. Raveendranath Kumar ( theni):

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

(a) whether the Government has implemented gauge conversion project in the State of Tamil Nadu, particularly Madurai to Bodinayakkanur line;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the said project;

(c) whether the Government is concerned that due to delay in the implementation of gauge conversion project, there has been or could be a cost escalation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

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## Doubling/Electrification of Railway Lines

\*342 Sh. Mohammad Sadique (Faridkot ):

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

(a) whether the Government has any scheme/proposal for doubling and electrification of the 87 km long railway line between Bhatinda and Ferozepur Cantonment in Punjab.

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which the said work is likely to be started and completed.

(c) the total amount likely to be spent on the scheme; and (d) whether any provision has been made in the budget for the year 2018-19 in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

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### **Railway Zones**

**\*343 Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe(Shirur ) :**

**RAILWAYS :-**

(a) the details of the Railway Zones functioning in the country and the reasons for creating these zones.

(b) whether every new Railway Zone created has fulfilled the factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic pattern, operational and administrative requirements and if so, the details thereof, zone-wise.

(c) the details of gross income of each Division since its creation, division and zone-wise.

(d) whether the Government proposes to sanction more railway zones considering the demands of various States and if so, the details thereof.

(e) whether the Railway Board has conducted rating of its zones, if so, the details and the outcome thereof and the steps taken by the Government to improve the overall performance of all the railway zones so as to improve the profitability of railways?

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### **Coal Supplies to Power Plants**

**\*344 Shri. Umesh G. Jadhav(Gulbarga) :**

**COAL :-**

(a) whether the Government has taken up serious measures to improve coal

supplies to power plants after hike in electricity prices at energy exchanges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has decided to use dedicated rail transportation for coal movements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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### **Construction of New Lines and ROBs**

**\*345 Shri. S. Muniswamy (Kolar):**

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

(a) whether the Government has identified the places to construct new Railway Lines and Rail Over Bridges (ROBs) in the country.

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UTwise including Karnataka.

(c) the details of funds allocated and utilized for the purpose so far, State/UTwise?

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### **Mining Surveillance System**

**\*346 Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi ( new Delhi):**

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

(a) whether the Mining Surveillance System (MSS) has been successful in curbing illegal mining in the country.

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of the cases in which MSS was used to indict people involved in illegal mining?

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### **National Retail Policy**

**\*347 Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde(Kalyan) :**

**COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY :-**

(a) whether there is a need to streamline the retail trade and provide/ ensure the ease of doing business in the country in order to benefit both the traders and the economy.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto.

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate National Retail Policy in this regard and if so, the details thereof.

(d) whether the Government has recently convened a meeting with various stakeholders including trade associations, concerned Ministries and State Government representatives for discussion on the proposed policy and if so, the details and the outcome thereof.

(e) the time by which the National Retail Policy is likely to come into existence?

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### **BSNL Mobile Towers**

**\*348 Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma(Rohtak) :**

#### **COMMUNICATIONS :-**

(a) the number of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) mobile towers installed across the country along with the details of the services/facilities these are equipped with, State-wise including Haryana and the district-wise details of Gujarat State.

(b) whether most of the BSNL mobile towers in Gujarat and Haryana are equipped to provide 2G services whereas mobile towers of other private telecom companies are providing 4G services and if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether the Government proposes to upgrade the BSNL mobile towers installed across the country including Gujarat, particularly in Bhavnagar and Botad districts.

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard along with the time by which the said upgradation is likely to be done and if not, the reasons therefor.

(e) the number of mobile towers upgraded in Gujarat during each of the last three years and the current year?

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### **Dispute Resolution**

**\*349 Sh. M. K. Raghavan (Kozhikode):**

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the Economic Survey of the Ministry of Finance which has pointed out that the slow resolution of economic and commercial cases was one of the biggest stumbling blocks in reviving the investment cycle in the country and if so, the details thereof.

(b) whether it is also a fact that these are hampering dispute resolution and contract enforcement, discouraging investment, stalling projects, hampering tax collections, stressing taxpayers and escalating legal costs and if so, the details thereof.

(c) the details of the coordinated action taken between the Government and the judiciary including a kind of horizontal Cooperative Separation of Powers to complement vertical Cooperative Federalism between the Central and State Governments to address the Law's delay and boost economic activity?

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### **Production of Coal**

**\*350 Shri. Balubhau (Alias Suresh Narayan) Dhannorkar (Chandrapur):**

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

(a) the total production, demand and supply of coal by the Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries in the country during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise.

(b) the plans chalked out to increase the production of coal to meet the domestic demand.

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to bridge the demand-supply gap of coal in the country?

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### **Supply of Coal**

**\*351 Sh. G.Selvam ( kancheepuram):**

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

(a) whether the Union Government has received any request from the State Government of Tamil Nadu to enhance coal supply for its thermal power stations

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon.

(c) whether the Government has decided or proposes to supply more rakes to TANGEDCO to build up sufficient coal stock.

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and (e) the details of coal blocks allocated to Tamil Nadu during the last year?

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### **MPLAD Funds**

**\*352 Sh. N.K. Premachandran(Kollam) :**

#### **STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION :-**

(a) whether the Government plans to consider the increase of areas and sectors where MPLAD funds can be spent by an individual MP.

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether the Government evaluates the implementation of MP's funds.

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

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### **Economic Security for Shopkeepers/ Retail Traders**

**\*353 Sh. Ganesh Singh (Satna):**

Will the **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state that:-

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the economic security of small shopkeepers.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard.

(c) whether about three crore small traders/shopkeepers in the country are likely to be benefited from the Pension Scheme for shopkeepers/retail traders and self employed persons and if so, the details thereof.

(d) the details of small shopkeepers and retail traders covered under the said Pension Scheme in Satna district of Madhya Pradesh?

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### **Passenger Amenities at Railway Stations**

**\*354 Sh. Bhagirath Chaudhary (Ajmer):**

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

(a) the total amount of funds allocated for passenger amenities at Kishangarh, Nasirabad, Vijaynagar and Beawar railway stations along with the railway stations of district headquarters, Ajmer in Ajmer Parliamentary Constituency during the last five years, year and station-wise.

(b) whether display screens have been installed at the platforms of all the said railway stations for the convenience of passengers and if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether the provision of installing two new escalators and lifts at the new railway station premises of Kishangarh (Ajmer) has been made in the last Budget and if so, the details thereof.

(d) whether the work of installation of the said escalators and lifts has not been started so far due to alleged careless and negligent attitude of senior officials of the Railway Department.

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for delay in the said work?

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### **Mining Activities**

**\*355 Sh. Rodmal Nagar( Rajgarh) :**

**MINES :-**

(a) whether any effective scheme has been prepared by the Government to check mining near continuously depleting rivers and other water bodies.

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to save/ safeguard such water bodies from illegal mining activities?

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### **Kanjangad-Panathur-Kaniyur Hill Rail Line**

**\*356 Shri. Rajmohan Unnithan (Kasaragod):**

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

(a) the present status of the 'Kanjangad-Panathur-Kaniyur Hill Railway Line (North Kerala) along with its estimated cost and actual completion target;

(b) whether the said railway line was approved in the Budget in the year 2007 and the survey thereof completed in 2015; (c) if so, the details thereof.

(d) the steps taken/being taken to complete the said railwayline as per the target set in this regard?

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### **Child Protection Centres at Stations**

**\*357 Sh. E. T. Mohammed Basheer (Ponnani):**

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to start child protection centres at railway stations due to the increasing rate of missing children;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

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### **Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme**

**\*358 Dr. Dr. Manoj Rajoria (Karauli-dholpur ):**

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

(a) the time since when the Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) has been operative;

(b) the number of Ex-servicemen who have availed the facility of the scheme;

(c) the response and the feedback of the operation of the scheme from Ex-servicemen;

(d) whether any grievances have come to the notice of the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken in this regard?

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### **Decline in H-1B Visa**

**\*359 Dr. S.T.Hasan(Moradabad) :**

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS :-**

(a) whether approval of H-1B visas by USA declined sharply in 2018 as compared to the previous year and if so, the details thereof;



- (b) whether H-1B visa is popular among highly skilled Indian IT professionals;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the number of such visas issued to Indians by USA during 2017 and 2018 separately;
- (d) the extent to which Indian IT professionals have been affected in getting jobs in USA under this visa; and
- (e) whether the Government has taken up the matter with USA in this regard and if so, the details thereof and the response of the US Government thereto?

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### **Torture of Indian Workers**

**\*360 Shri. Dean Kuriakose ( idukki):**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any data on the Indian workers in Gulf countries who are victims of torture by their sponsors and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Embassies/ Consulates have adequate staff to support these distressed workers and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of distressed Indian workers registered for repatriation in the Embassies/Consulates in Gulf countries;
- (d) whether the Government has received any complaints against the Indian embassy staff from these affected workers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

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**NEW DELHI;.**  
**Dated: July 11, 2019.**

**SNEHLATA SHRIVASTAVA,**  
**Secretary General.**