

# LOK SABHA

## List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS Friday, August 13, 2021/Sravana 22, 1943 (Saka)

(Ministries of Ayush; Earth Sciences; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Health and Family Welfare; Information and Broadcasting; Science and Technology; Textiles; Women and Child Development)

(आयुष; पृथ्वी विज्ञान; पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन; स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण; सूचना और प्रसारण; विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी; वस्त्र; महिला और बाल विकास मंत्रालय )

### Total Number of Questions — 20

#### Degradation in Seawater Quality

\*361. SHRIMATI SAJDA AHMED:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES

पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री

be pleased to states:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the seawater quality has degraded further in the Indian coastal region and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government has launched marine litter policy to check and manage plastic waste flowing into ocean/sea;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up a low thermal desalination plant in the coastal region of the Bay of Bengal?

#### Orphaned Children

\*362. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

महिला और बाल विकास मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of children have been orphaned due to loss of single or both parents during the second wave of COVID virus;

(b) if so, whether the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) asked all the States and UTs to submit data in this regard;

(c) whether Hon'ble Supreme Court and various High Courts have asked Union and State Governments to take special care of these children for their livelihood, education, etc.; and

(d) if so, the steps taken so far by NCPCR in coordination with Union and State Governments to save these children from trafficking and illegal adoption?

#### Diseases caused by Arsenic Pollution

†\*363. SHRI SADASHIV KISAN LOKHANDE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the diseases caused due to arsenic pollution are rapidly rising in the country particularly in backward and rural areas in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to take any concrete steps with the assistance of foreign health officials to check such diseases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of assistance provided by the Government to the States in this regard during each of the last three years?

#### Indian Institute of Handloom Technology

\*364. SHRI B.B.PATIL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES

वस्त्र मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal from the State Government of Telangana is pending with the Government for setting up an Indian Institute of Handloom Technology (IIHT) in the State;

(b) if so, the details and the current status thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Government is likely to sanction the same?

#### Modernisation of Anganwadi Centres

†\*365. SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA:  
SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

महिला और बाल विकास मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has completed the modernization programme of all Anganwadi Centres

across the country for the empowerment of women and children in rural areas and to increase their participation in community development and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the modernized Anganwadi Centres follow the Integrated Child Development Services programme to combat nutritional deficiency and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government is partnering with the private sector to successfully modernize Anganwadi Centres across the country and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Delta Plus Variant**

\*366. SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:  
SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that cases of the Delta Plus variant have been detected in India and if so, the details including the number thereof, so far;

(b) whether India has begun setting up a sentinel surveillance system specifically for SARS-CoV-2 variants;

(c) if so, the number of hospitals and labs in each State sending samples for whole genome sequencing on a regular basis;

(d) whether the Government has taken note that the viral genomes sequenced were inadequate in the run up to the second wave and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to scale up genome sequencing; and

(e) whether the Government has carried out examination on the intensity of the virus based on genome sequencing and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Protection of Wildlife Species**

\*367. SHRI A. RAJA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the measures taken by the Government for the conservation and protection of wildlife in the country;

(b) whether certain species of birds and animals have become endangered in the country during the last five years due to lack of conservation and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the protection of endangered and exotic species of flora and fauna under various projects and schemes; and

(d) the details of the other measures taken by Government to stop illegal poaching and hunting of wildlife species in the country?

#### **Mental Health Needs of Children**

\*368. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

महिला और बाल विकास मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to conduct longitudinal development studies to implement evidence based plan of action to cater to the psycho-social needs of the vulnerable children and adolescents during pandemic and post pandemic;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the Government proposes to address the issues of uncertainty and anxiety among children/adolescents on account of confinement in homes and disruption in education, physical activities and socialization;

(d) whether children with special needs faced challenges during the pandemic and lockdown including aggravation in symptoms due to restrictions and unfriendly environment and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government proposes to address the issues of this section of the children and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Extension of Hospitals Project**

\*369. SHRI GAUTHAM SIGAMANI PON:  
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has started "Extension of Hospitals" project in several States/UTs including Tamil Nadu to bridge the gap in major health infrastructure in the country to fight against COVID-19 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of hospitals with bed capacity commissioned under the project;

(c) whether the Government proposes to implement such projects, particularly in rural areas and smaller towns and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has invited private sector companies, donor organizations and individuals to support the initiative and if so, the details thereof and the response thereto; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government to create more hospital infrastructure in areas which are under immense pressure during second wave of COVID-19?

### Severe Acute Malnutrition

\*370. SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE:  
SHRI GIRISH BHALCHANDRA BAPAT:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

महिला और बाल विकास मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) are nine times more likely to die in case of diseases due to their weakened immune system, if so, the details thereof and response of the Government thereon;

(b) whether the Government had requested all the States and Union Territories last year to identify SAM children for their early referral to hospitals;

(c) if so, the details thereof and response of the State Governments and UT Administrations thereon along with the number of such children identified so far, State/UT-wise;

(d) whether a possible third COVID wave could impact SAM children more adversely than others;

(e) if so, whether there is a need to make Anganwadis more active to reach out to these children as the children reaching Anganwadis may become hard because of lockdowns; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

### Environmental Clearance for Developmental Projects

†\*371. SHRIMATI REKHA VERMA:  
SHRI VINAYAK RAUT:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the developmental projects of the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra awaiting environmental clearance;

(b) the average time taken in granting clearance for developmental activities like roads and bridges;

(c) the number and other details of the National Highway projects stuck at present due to non-clearance from the Ministry; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to fast track decision on such clearance requests for developmental projects?

### Schemes Under Nirbhaya Fund

\*372. SHRI RAVINDRA KUSHWAHA:  
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

महिला और बाल विकास मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry is the nodal Ministry to appraise, review and monitor the progress of schemes sanctioned under Nirbhaya Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the mechanism evolved by the Ministry for execution of such responsibilities;

(c) whether a huge amount of Nirbhaya Fund remains unutilised and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the implementation/execution of these schemes has suffered due to COVID-19 pandemic in the country; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard and the corrective steps taken by the Government thereon?

### Rise in Pollution Level in Cities

†\*373. SHRI MALOOK NAGAR:  
SHRI P.C. MOHAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the increasing pollution level in various metropolitan cities across the country;

(b) the schemes being implemented by the Government to control the causes of rising pollution in Delhi and other metropolitan cities;

(c) whether the Government has identified the most polluted cities/towns in the country and if so, the present level of pollution in such cities indicating their rank among the most polluted cities in the world, State/UT-wise;

(d) whether the Government has conducted or proposes to conduct any study/survey regarding the increasing pollution levels in such cities and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the rising pollution in various cities during the last three years and till now?

### Problems Faced by Expatriate Indians

\*374. ADV. A.M. ARIFF:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the problems faced by expatriate Indians who had been administered the first dose of vaccines of companies like Pfizer and Moderna during their stay in their country of employment and are finding it difficult to get the second dose of the same vaccine after coming to India due to unavailability of these vaccines;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to make available the second dose of the above said vaccines for the above category of expatriates and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has instituted any study on vaccinating the individuals with two different vaccines in first and second doses; and

(e) if so, the status thereof?

### **Nutritional Needs of Children**

\*375. SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

महिला और बाल विकास मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that simple interventions like Vitamin A, deworming and multiple micronutrient supplementation can improve nutritional outcomes in children; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government keeping in view the fact that children are repeatedly exposed to challenging environments affecting their nutrition and health at a critical growing age and parents lack awareness about nutritional needs, causing an increased risk of severe malnutrition amongst their children?

### **Government Medical Colleges**

\*376. MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:  
SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the district of Alipurduar, Balurghat and Paschim Burdwan district in West Bengal do not have Government Medical College;

(b) whether the Government has received any proposals from the State Government regarding the construction of Medical Colleges in these districts/cities;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Ministry proposes to establish a medical college in each district of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

### **Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986**

†\*377. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

महिला और बाल विकास मंत्री

be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken or proposes to take any steps to amend the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Setting up of AIIMS in Odisha**

\*378. SHRI SURESH PUJARI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the rapid spread of cancer in Bargarh district of Odisha and if so, the necessary steps taken in this regard;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up AIIMS or an extension of Bhubaneswar AIIMS in the western part of Odisha, preferably in Bargarh-Jharsuguda agriculture and industrial corridor; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Warnings of COVID-19 Variants**

379. SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:  
DR. AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received warnings about new variants of COVID-19 from April, 2020 till date; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the source and date of such warnings and actions taken thereon?

**KIRAN Scheme**

380. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing (KIRAN)

scheme being implemented to impart training to women to encourage them in the field of science;

(b) the amount spent under the scheme, year-wise since its inception; and

(c) the number of women who have been benefited so far in the country, State/UT-wise, particularly in Bihar?

NEW DELHI;

August 7, 2021

Shravana 16, 1943 (Saka)

UTPAL KUMAR SINGH

*Secretary General*

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