

LOK SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

Wednesday, February 9, 2022/Magha 20, 1943 (Saka)

(Prime Minister; Ministries of Atomic Energy; Coal; Commerce and Industry; Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Earth Sciences; Electronics and Information Technology; Mines; Parliamentary Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Railways; Science and Technology; Space; Steel; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Textiles)

(प्रधान मंत्री; परमाणु ऊर्जा; कोयला; वाणिज्य और उद्योग; संचार; उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण; पृथ्वी विज्ञान; इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी; खान; संसदीय कार्य; कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन; योजना; रेल; विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी; अंतरिक्ष; इस्पात; सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन; वस्त्र मंत्रालय)

Total Number of Questions — 20

Revival of BSNL and MTNL

†*101. KUNWAR DANISH ALI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are incurring losses since 2009-10 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the cumulative losses incurred by both the PSUs separately as on date; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for revival of BSNL and MTNL?

Kotipalli-Narsapur Railway Line

*102. SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the current estimated cost for the completion of the Kotipalli-Narsapur railway line project;

(b) the date when the project was started and the expected date of completion;

(c) the total amount of funds released by the Union Government and the Government of Andhra Pradesh, separately, for the construction of the Kotipalli-Narsapur railway line till date;

(d) whether the State Government has released its complete share of funds required for the completion of the project; and

(e) if so, the reasons for the delay in the completion of the said project and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

FDI Inflow

*103. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of investment inflows into India through Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) during the last five years till date;

(b) the details of various sectors mainly benefited from FDI including infrastructure sectors, in terms of investment amount and employment generated; and

(c) the details and the share of FDI in the GDP of the country during the last five years?

Construction of Warehouses

†*104. SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number and capacity of warehouses constructed in the country, State-wise including Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) the basis on which decision is taken to construct warehouses in any State;

(c) whether there is any plan to construct new warehouses in Rajasthan in the near future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

IT Rules, 2021

*105. MS. DIYA KUMARI:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the aims and objectives of the new Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021;

(b) whether the identification of first originator impacts freedom of speech and if so, the details of the safeguards employed to counter the same; and

(c) whether the Information Technology Rules, 2021 has increased accountability of digital media platforms and if so, the details thereof?

Funds for Developmental Works

†*106. SHRI ARUN SAO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds allocated to South East Central Railway for various developmental works during the last three years;

(b) the current status of the construction of Bilaspur-Raigarh fourth line;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed; and

(d) the number of Under Bridges/Over Bridges constructed, approved, completed and yet to be completed under the South East Central Railway (SECR) during the above period?

Open Network for Digital Commerce

*107. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is mulling to roll out an Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), an open-source e-commerce platform that all online retailers can use;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which the said platform is likely to be launched;

(c) the increase in number of recognized startups in the country during the last three years along with the manner in which the said ONDC would empower and nurture the new startups and also the brick-and-mortar stores in the country;

(d) whether the Government has invited suggestions from stakeholders in the ecosystem and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the said suggestions have been taken into consideration before rolling out the ONDC platform and if so, the details thereof?

Apparel and Garment Exports

*108. SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:
SHRI C.N. ANNADURAI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES

वस्त्र मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up apparel and garment making centres in various parts of the

country and if so, the details thereof along with the aims and objectives for setting up of such centres;

(b) the details of such centres set up and functioning in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether the Indian apparel markets are facing stiff competition from many Asian countries;

(d) if so, whether India is apparently lagging behind from its competitors and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Indian apparel/garment exports has been much lower as compared to its competitors; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to strengthen its position and get higher shares of the export in the markets of America and European countries?

BSNL and MTNL Losses

*109. SHRI MANISH TEWARI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL & MTNL have been incurring regular losses and BSNL's losses during the last three financial years have been Rs.14904, 15500 and 7441 crores respectively;

(b) whether the Government has invited bids to sell off assets of BSNL and MTNL and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether majority of the telecom subscriber base is controlled by three companies and the third-largest namely Vodafone-Idea has huge debts of around Rs. 1.95 lakh crores;

(d) whether the Government has agreed to convert Rs.16000 crores of interest liability to equity in a company with debt of Rs. 1.95 lakh crores and the stock of which is trading at sub-par in the bourses;

(e) the rationale behind selling assets of Public Sector Telco's while simultaneously bailing-out loss making Private Sector companies; and

(f) the details of subscriber-base of top five telecom companies both as number of subscribers and as percentage of total users in the country?

Accurate Weather Forecast

†*110. SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:
SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES

पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether considering the rapid change in weather and natural calamities during the last many years, new techniques are being used by the Government for accurate weather forecasting; and

(b) if so, the type of techniques for weather forecasting for which the country is dependent on foreign entities along with the details thereof?

Complimentary Travel in Luxury Trains

*111. SHRI A.K.P. CHINRAJ:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether complimentary travel in luxury trains like Palace on Wheels, Royal Rajasthan, etc. are still operational after 2017;

(b) if so, the number of passengers who travelled under complimentary travel in luxury trains, viz. Palace on Wheels, Maharaja Express and Royal Rajasthan between 2017 to 2019;

(c) the guidelines under which complimentary berths are allotted in luxury trains;

(d) whether the rationale of providing complimentary berth in luxury trains is not achieved as these luxury trains never generated any profit;

(e) whether the Standing Committee on Railways has also made recommendation in this direction; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government in this regard?

Cyber Attacks

*112. DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that India is one of the most cyber targeted countries in the world;

(b) if so, whether the Government is making efforts to address the above mentioned situation; and

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

Welfare of Tea Garden Workers

*113. SHRI RAJU BISTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the use/disbursement of the Rs. 1000 crore funds for the welfare of tea garden workers in West Bengal and Assam, allocated in the 2021-22 annual budget;

(b) whether there is any delay in disbursement of the allocated funds and if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any delay in the release of the subsidy to the tea gardens of North Bengal;

(d) if so, the details of the subsidies pending as on date;

(e) the reasons for delay in the payment and expected date of clearing of all pending subsidies; and

(f) the details of various schemes for the welfare of tea garden workers and their family members being run by the Tea Board/Ministry?

Wages of Workers in Textile Industry

*114. SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT:

DR. KRISHNA PAL SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES

वस्त्र मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programmes launched by the Government to enhance the wages of workers in the textile industry;

(b) the number of Greenfield Textile Parks under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) or through other schemes that have been completed in the country, State-wise;

(c) the details of the benefits these Greenfield Textile Parks offer to the skilled and non-skilled workers; and

(d) the steps taken to promote silk industry in Madhya Pradesh along with promotion of Chanderi saree?

Development of Handloom Cluster

*115. SHRI TALARI RANGAIAH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES

वस्त्र मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated to the development of Handloom Clusters for Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) whether the Government has any plans to improve the Handloom Clusters of Uravakonda, Yadiki, Dharmavaram and Madanapalli in the State of Andhra Pradesh and if so, the details thereof?

Vistadome Coaches

*116. SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to extend Vistadome Coaches on the Visakhapatnam - Araku route to Jeypore town of Koraput district in Odisha which is a prime tourist destination;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any additional Vistadome Coaches have been provided on any other tourist circuit route in the country, especially Odisha; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Compliance of Rules

†*117. SHRI GOPAL CHINNAYA SHETTY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received requests from public representatives to ensure compliance of rules and regulations by the Government officials/employees in the interest of the public and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether penal action is taken against those Government officials/employees who disobey and dent the image of the Government by not implementing the rules and regulations properly and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether provisions have been made in the CCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964 to debar them from pension and other facilities and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the States have also been/are proposed to be instructed to make provision in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government so far to root out the corruption?

Railway Projects in Karnataka

*118. SHRI PRAJWAL REVANNA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways proposes to undertake nine railway projects in Karnataka in association with the Department of Infrastructure of Government of Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details of projects/tracks that are likely to be undertaken and the time by which these are likely to be completed;

(c) the details of the funds sanctioned and shared between Union and State Governments and the reasons for pendency of these lines since long period of time;

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(d) whether the Union Government proposes to expedite Belur-Chikmagalur and Belur-Hassan rail lines; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Public Data Offices set up by BSNL

†*119. DR. MANOJ RAJORIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Data Offices set up by BSNL in the country so far under BharatNet Yojana to provide better internet services;

(b) the details of the services being provided by the said offices to the subscribers;

(c) the targets fixed by the Government to open new Public Data Offices in the country; and

(d) the extent to which these targets have been achieved?

Foodgrains Buffer Stock

*120. SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the quantum of foodgrains buffer stock maintained by the Food Corporation of India, year-wise between 2014 and 2021;

(b) the details of the quantum of foodgrains from the buffer stock diverted to ethanol production, year-wise between 2014 and 2021; and

(c) whether the Government is considering to use excess stock to issue emergency ration rather than towards ethanol production, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

UTPAL KUMAR SINGH
Secretary General

INDEX
(Ministry-wise)

<i>Prime Minister</i>	:	
<i>Atomic Energy</i>	:	
<i>Coal</i>	:	
<i>Commerce and Industry</i>	:	103, 107, 113
<i>Communications</i>	:	101, 109, 119
<i>Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</i>	:	104, 120
<i>Earth Sciences</i>	:	110
<i>Electronics and Information Technology</i>	:	105, 112
<i>Mines</i>	:	
<i>Parliamentary Affairs</i>	:	
<i>Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions</i>	:	117
<i>Planning</i>	:	
<i>Railways</i>	:	102, 106, 111, 116, 118
<i>Science and Technology</i>	:	
<i>Space</i>	:	
<i>Steel</i>	:	
<i>Statistics and Programme Implementation</i>	:	
<i>Textiles</i>	:	108, 114, 115.