

(Wednesday, July 18, 2018/Ashadha 27, 1940 (Saka))

Questions For Oral Answer

18th July, 2018

[EXTERNAL AFFAIRS - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - EARTH SCIENCES - ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE - Prime Minister - SPACE - ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - RAILWAYS - EXTERNAL AFFAIRS - MINORITY AFFAIRS - LAW & JUSTICE - DEFENCE - SPACE - ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE - COMMUNICATIONS and RAILWAYS].

Total No. of Questions - 20

Monsoon Prediction

***1 Sh. Ashok Shankarrao Chavan (Nanded):**

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

(a) whether the India Meteorological Department(IMD) has predicted normal monsoon during the current season and if so, the details thereof, region-wise;

(b) whether the Government is aware that several foreign agencies including the Japanese Meteorological Department have predicted below normal monsoon during the current season;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto, agency-wise;

(d) whether average error in IMD's monsoon forecasts has come down during each of the last three years and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to update the IMD system as well as to avoid inaccurate predictions by IMD?

Nuclear Power Plants

***2 Sh. Rahul Ramesh Shewale (Mumbai South-central):**

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

(a) the number of nuclear power plants proposed to be set up in the country during the next twenty years, State-wise;

(b) the total estimated cost of each project along with the production capacity of these plants, Statewise;

(c) the details of measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for the installation and commissioning/ operationalisation of these projects;

(d) whether the Government is considering to increase the capacity of the existing nuclear power plants in the country; and

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

Revenue Earnings by India Post

***3 Sh. Srinivas Kesineni (Vijayawada):**

Will the **COMMUNICATIONS** be pleased to state that (a) whether the India Meteorological Department(IMD) has predicted normal monsoon during the current season and if so, the details thereof, region-wise; (b) whether the Government is aware that several foreign agencies including the Japanese Meteorological Department have predicted below normal monsoon during the current season; (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto, agency-wise; (d) whether average error in IMD's monsoon forecasts has come down during each of the last three years and if so, the details thereof; and (e) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to update the IMD system as well as to avoid inaccurate predictions by IMD?

Thunderstorm Studies

***4 Sh. Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia (Guna):**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that thunderstorms are a regular feature during the pre-monsoon season in India but thunderstorm studies in the country are very rare and the people working on thunderstorms are very few and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether in the wake of deadly thunderstorms that struck frequently in the north-west and eastern parts of the country, the Government has decided to set up an expert group on thunderstorms;

(c) if so, the details and the modalities to be examined by the expert group and the timeline set for the same;

(d) whether the Government has also plans to engage scholars from Universities and outside experts by funding thunderstorm prediction research and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote thunderstorm studies in India, improve IMD thunderstorm predictions and upgrade IMD to provide timely information in the affected areas?

Interconnection Usage Charge

***5 Sh. M.Udhayakumar (Dindigul):**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that thunderstorms are a regular feature during the pre-monsoon season in India but thunderstorm studies in the country are very rare and the people working on thunderstorms are very few and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether in the wake of deadly thunderstorms that struck frequently in the north-west and eastern parts of the country, the Government has decided to set up an expert group on thunderstorms;

(c) if so, the details and the modalities to be examined by the expert group and the timeline set for the same;

(d) whether the Government has also plans to engage scholars from Universities and outside experts by funding thunderstorm prediction research and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote thunderstorm studies in India, improve IMD thunderstorm predictions and upgrade IMD to provide timely information in the affected areas?

Rail Eco-tourism

***6 Sh. Arvind Ganpat Sawant (Mumbai South):**

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

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine has alleged that kickbacks have been given to Indian defence officials in purchase of spares for military transport aircraft An-32;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the name of the company through which purchase was made along with its share holders and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether any defence personnel, their relatives or friends are associated with the said company; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Scholarship for Education

***7 Sh. Ravindra Kumar Pandey (Giridih):**

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

(a) the number of girls benefited by the Government's scholarship for education in the country during the last three years and the current year, State and UT-wise;

(b) the total expenditure incurred by the Government on the scholarship for education programme for minorities in the country; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide adequate education to the girls of the minority communities in the country?

Mobile Services in Naxal Affected States

***8 Sh. Naranbhai Bhikhabhai Kachhadiya (Amreli):**

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

(a) the efforts made by the Government in providing mobile telephone services in naxal affected States during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to provide mobile services at 4072 tower locations identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs;

(c) if so, the details of the progress made in this regard, State-wise; and

(d) the funds sanctioned and utilised under this scheme so far, State-wise?

Installation of Anti-Collision Device

***9 Sh. Vishnu Dayal Ram (Palamu):**

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

(a) the present status of installation of anti-collision device to check railway accidents;

(b) whether this device has been successfully checked and installed and if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the action plan formulated to improve this device to make it more effective in preventing railway accidents;

(d) whether any machine/device is also being used to identify the railway track flaws apart from taking help from the railway employees and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the arrangements made in other countries in this regard?

Military Expenses

***10 Sh. Sushil Kumar Singh (Aurangabad):**

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

(a) whether the military expenses have gone up five times in the country in the last four years due to procurement of arms and ammunition, rifles, tanks etc. from foreign countries and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total amount spent on purchase of arms/weapons/fighters/ ammunition from foreign countries during the above period;

(c) whether the details of purchase made for the Army in the last four years have been released in a recent report of the Ministry of Defence and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government maintains transparency in defence dealings and if so, the details thereof along with the most favoured country of India for purchase of arms; and

(e) the effective steps taken by the Ministry of Defence and the Government for not purchasing defence equipment from foreign countries so far?

Guidelines for Stoppage of Trains

***11 Sh. Raju alias Devappa Anna Shetti (hatkanangle):**

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

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine has alleged that kickbacks have been given to Indian defence officials in purchase of spares for military transport aircraft An-32;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the name of the company through which purchase was made along with its share holders and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether any defence personnel, their relatives or friends are associated with the said company; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Purchase of Spares

***12 Sh. Jayadev Galla (guntur):**

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

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine has alleged that kickbacks have been given to Indian defence officials in purchase of spares for military transport aircraft An-32;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the name of the company through which purchase was made along with its share holders and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether any defence personnel, their relatives or friends are associated with the said company; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Marhowra Diesel Locomotive Factory

***13 Sh. Rajiv Pratap Rudy (saran):**

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

(a) whether the Railways have taken steps to increase the capacity of trains and services on the busiest routes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has identified such busiest rail routes and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the rail route involving Madurai is also one among them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for increasing the capacity on the Madurai rail route?

Capacity of Trains

***14 Sh. R. Gopalakrishnan (madurai):**

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

(a) whether the Railways have taken steps to increase the capacity of trains and services on the busiest routes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has identified such busiest rail routes and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the rail route involving Madurai is also one among them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for increasing the capacity on the Madurai rail route?

Deficiencies in Railway Services

***15 Sh. Sriram Malyadri (bapatla):**

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

(a) whether the Government has approved the proposal for renaming and restructuring of Multisectoral Development Programme (MsDP) as Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) recently and if so, the details thereof along with the objective behind the move;

(b) whether the Government has approved its continuation during the remaining period of the 14th Finance Commission and if so, the details thereof along with the details of funds required and sanctioned for the continuation of the restructured programme;

(c) whether the criteria for identification of Minority Concentration Towns and Clusters of Villages have been rationalized and if so, the details thereof along with the name and the number of districts being covered under the renamed programme, State-wise;

(d) whether MsDP has made substantial progress in achieving its target for the identified areas and has created useful infrastructures/assets for the people in the areas with substantial minority population and if so, the details thereof along with the construction undertaken during the last four years and the total beneficiaries under PMJVK; and

(e) the steps being taken to bring transparency, ensure monitoring and publicity of information under the said programme?

Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram

***16 Sh. Vijayakumar S.R. (chennai Central):**

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

(a) whether the Government has approved the proposal for renaming and restructuring of Multisectoral Development Programme (MsDP) as Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas

Karyakram (PMJVK) recently and if so, the details thereof along with the objective behind the move;

(b) whether the Government has approved its continuation during the remaining period of the 14th Finance Commission and if so, the details thereof along with the details of funds required and sanctioned for the continuation of the restructured programme;

(c) whether the criteria for identification of Minority Concentration Towns and Clusters of Villages have been rationalized and if so, the details thereof along with the name and the number of districts being covered under the renamed programme, State-wise;

(d) whether MsDP has made substantial progress in achieving its target for the identified areas and has created useful infrastructures/assets for the people in the areas with substantial minority population and if so, the details thereof along with the construction undertaken during the last four years and the total beneficiaries under PMJVK; and

(e) the steps being taken to bring transparency, ensure monitoring and publicity of information under the said programme?

Companies Violating Employment Laws/Norms

***17 Sh. Rajesh Kumar Diwakar (Hathras):**

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

(a) the existing laws/norms/guidelines/ rules in vogue are being followed by all the companies/firms/industries including the private and foreign companies situated/ setup in India for providing employment across various fields including education/ social security/women development etc.;

(b) whether the Government is aware that recently many companies especially Andheri East, Mumbai situated companies have violated such norms by withdrawing the offer(s) of employment made to the brilliant students of various colleges in the country including St. Stephens College of Delhi just four/five days before the date of their joining, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has taken note of the fact that the educational as well as career opportunities of such students have come to a halt and are at stake as a result of it, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the legal action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to blacklist such companies including the aforesaid one and direct them to compensate the affected students by paying at least ten years salary and perks to them without any delay?

Review of Foreign Policy

***18 Dr. Anirudhan Sampath, (Attingal):**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that thunderstorms are a regular feature during the pre-monsoon season in India but thunderstorm studies in the country are very rare and the people

working on thunderstorms are very few and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether in the wake of deadly thunderstorms that struck frequently in the north-west and eastern parts of the country, the Government has decided to set up an expert group on thunderstorms;

(c) if so, the details and the modalities to be examined by the expert group and the timeline set for the same;

(d) whether the Government has also plans to engage scholars from Universities and outside experts by funding thunderstorm prediction research and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote thunderstorm studies in India, improve IMD thunderstorm predictions and upgrade IMD to provide timely information in the affected areas?

Pension Scam in Railway Hospital

***19 Sh. Kaushal Kishore (Mohanlalganj):**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that thunderstorms are a regular feature during the pre-monsoon season in India but thunderstorm studies in the country are very rare and the people working on thunderstorms are very few and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether in the wake of deadly thunderstorms that struck frequently in the north-west and eastern parts of the country, the Government has decided to set up an expert group on thunderstorms;

(c) if so, the details and the modalities to be examined by the expert group and the timeline set for the same;

(d) whether the Government has also plans to engage scholars from Universities and outside experts by funding thunderstorm prediction research and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote thunderstorm studies in India, improve IMD thunderstorm predictions and upgrade IMD to provide timely information in the affected areas?

Construction of Level Crossings

***20 Miss. Bhawana Gawali (Patil) (Yavatmal-washim):**

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

(a) whether the construction work of several manned/unmanned level crossings, Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Road Under Bridges (RUBs) has been delayed across the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the zone-wise details thereof along with the present status of these level crossings/bridges;

(c) whether the construction cost of the said level crossings/bridges has increased due to delay in their construction during the said period and if so, the zonewise details thereof;

(d) the number and zone-wise status of such level crossings/bridges the cost of which has been shared by the concerned State or private company; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government to ensure timely construction of such level crossings/bridges in the country?

New Delhi .

Dated: July 13, 2018 .

**SNEHLATA SHRIVASTAVA,
Secretary General.**