

LOK SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

Wednesday, August 4, 2021/Sravana 13, 1943 (Saka)

(Prime Minister; Ministries of Atomic Energy; Coal; Commerce and Industry; Communications; Defence; Development of North Eastern Region; Electronics and Information Technology; External Affairs; Law and Justice; Mines; Parliamentary Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Railways; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation)

(प्रधान मंत्री; परमाणु ऊर्जा; कोयला; वाणिज्य और उद्योग; संचार; रक्षा; उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास; इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी; विदेश; विधि और न्याय; खान; संसदीय कार्य; कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन; योजना; रेल; अंतरिक्ष; सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय)

Total Number of Questions — 20

Stalled Railway Projects

†*221. SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared any scheme to complete the railway projects stalled by the State Governments due to lack of budget, at the earliest;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the State/project-wise details of the railway projects stalled by the States/UTs including Loharu-Bhiwani railway line in Haryana due to lack of budget?

Maintenance of Railway Bridges

†*222. SHRI DULAL CHAND GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is formulating any plan to review the existing system of categorizing railway bridges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government is planning to formulate any new policy regarding inspection/maintenance of bridges so that the life-span of bridges can be taken into consideration?

Modernisation of Railway Stations in Kerala

*223. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to modernise and enhance amenities at various railway stations in Kerala including Chengannur, a prominent railway station that is the hub for pilgrims/devotees of Sabarimala Dharma Sastha temple in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the allocations, if any, made by the Government in this regard; and

(c) whether the Government has received any request or proposal from the Government of Kerala in this regard and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government?

Cadets injured during Training

*224. SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE

रक्षा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether after going through four years of rigorous training in Defence Academy, cadets join the three Forces;

(b) if so, whether many cadets during training period suffer serious injuries and become disabled and are left without any financial or medical help;

(c) whether in the year 2015, an Expert Committee recommended disability pension and financial help to such cadets which were not accepted by the Government;

(d) whether a proposal to give such cadets pension and other financial help has again been received by the Government; and

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

Funds to North Eastern States

225. SHRI VINCENT H. PALA:

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number and amount of financial packages granted to the North Eastern States during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the amount sanctioned and released to the North Eastern States during the last two years, project-wise and State-wise;

(c) the names of banks and institutions which provided grants or loans to the North Eastern States along with the amount and rate of interest;

(d) whether the schemes under Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) are still valid; and

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

Ban on Asbestos Mines

*226. SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA:
SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of MINES

खान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of asbestos mines which are currently functional in the country, State-wise including Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Government has put a ban on asbestos mines for health-related reasons;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the date when the said ban was imposed along with details of any deadline to comply with the conditions of the ban;

(d) the details of the health hazards/crises associated with asbestos mining as noted by the Government; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to ensure closure of open cast asbestos mines in the country including in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan?

PLI Scheme for IT Hardware Products

*227. SHRI TALARI RANGAIAH:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently approved 14 eligible applicants under Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Information Technology (IT) Hardware Products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government aims to provide incentives worth Rs.7,000 Crore over a period of four years for manufacturing of the aforesaid products in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Minimum Referral Wages

*228. SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P.:
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

विदेश मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reduced the Minimum Referral Wages applicable to Indian workers in the Gulf and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether organizations representing Indian workers in the Gulf have requested the Government to rollback this reduction;

(c) if so, whether the Government intends to accede to their request and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has estimated the impact in terms of loss of earnings for each worker; and

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

Freight Smart Cities

*229. DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (RAJU BHAIYA):

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has planned to develop 'Freight Smart Cities' to improve the efficiency of urban freight and create an opportunity for reduction in the logistics costs and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has also launched a website on 'Freight Smart Cities' to improve urban freight and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has urged the State Governments to identify ten cities, to begin with, to be developed as 'Freight Smart Cities' and if so, the details thereof; and

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

New Broad Gauge Railway Lines in Haryana

*230. SHRIMATI SUNITA DUGGAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the list of new Broad-Gauge (BG) railway lines which are under construction or have been constructed in the country during the last ten years with their rate of return;

(b) whether new BG railway lines have been constructed in Haryana during the last ten years and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways has received any proposal regarding survey or construction of new BG railway lines in Haryana during the last ten years;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the status of the proposals regarding survey or construction of new BG railway line with its cost of construction and rate of return, project-wise; and

(e) whether works for all the surveys have been sanctioned, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Dues of Coal India Limited

*231. SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL

कोयला मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) has exported coal to the neighbouring countries and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there has been savings of more than Rs.5,000 crore per annum on account of linkage rationalization by CIL and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of production target of CIL for the current year and the steps taken to improve the coal production;

(d) the number of First Mile Connectivity projects that are under implementation and the timelines for the completion of these projects;

(e) whether the outstanding dues of CIL from the power companies have increased manifold in the recent past and if so, the details thereof, power company-wise; and

(f) the steps being taken by CIL to recover the said dues?

Space Programmes

*232. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER

प्रधान मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details including the number of satellites launched by India during the last three years;

(b) the details of funds allocated and spent by the country on these space programmes, programme-wise;

(c) the details of revenue earned by the Government through launching of satellites of other countries during the above said period;

(d) the details of the space programmes planned for execution by the end of 2021; and

(e) whether the Government proposes to involve private sector through Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode in the Indian space sector, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Electoral Reforms

233. SHRIMATI SAJDA AHMED:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE

विधि और न्याय मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed electoral reforms and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has instituted any expert committee on electoral reforms and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to link Aadhaar with the electoral rolls and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of false affidavits filed by contesting candidates in the General Elections during the last ten years?

Indian Citizens Stranded Abroad

234. SHRI HIBI EDEN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

विदेश मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government conducted International flight operations from various foreign countries to India during the Covid pandemic era, free of cost and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the existing international flights to India are with any concession for the persons who lost their jobs, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of petitions received from Indian citizens stranded abroad, month-wise and country-wise starting from March 2020 including the details of the States to which they belong; and

(d) whether the Government has arranged flights from foreign countries for Indian citizens stranded abroad and if so, the details of the countries and the number of flights, number of persons who travelled free of cost and the number who paid with a special focus on NRIs who have lost their jobs in Middle East as a result of Covid- 19 pandemic?

Implementation of BharatNet Project

235. SHRI ARJUN LAL MEENA:

SHRI MANOJ TIWARI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has been facing difficulties in the implementation of BharatNet Project to achieve the set targets and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha and Rajasthan especially in the district of Udaipur and the Parliamentary constituency of Pali that are deprived of broadband connectivity; and

(c) the GPs in the country, State/UT-wise including of Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha and Rajasthan, identified by the Government for extending broadband services under the said project and the time by when the same is likely to be completed by the Government?

FDI in Telecom Sector

236. DR. HEENA GAVIT:
SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in telecom sector during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the new telecom policy envisages FDI in telecom sector to reach \$100 billion by 2022, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) whether huge investment is required to develop newer technologies which will be accessible to people at affordable rates and if so, the details thereof?

Silapathar-Bame(Along) Line

*237. SHRI PRADAN BARUAH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS

रेल मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated a new Broad Gauge Line from Silapathar-Bame (Along); and

(b) if so, the details thereof including Gauge, length and States covered?

Digital India

*238. DR. A. CHALLAKUMAR:
SHRI M. SELVARAJ:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in achieving the objectives envisaged under the 'Digital India' programme;

(b) the number of companies within the country as well as abroad which have entered into an agreement with the Government under the said programme;

(c) the investment made and the employment likely to be generated as a result thereof;

(d) the details of funds disbursed under the programme during the financial year ending on 31st March, 2021; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure coordination among different agencies involved in this programme?

IIFT Campus at Silchar

*239. DR. RAJDEEP ROY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to start a campus of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) at Silchar considering the fact that Northeast shares 98% of its borders with foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Grameen Dak Sevaks

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

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS

संचार मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Grameen Dak Sevaks (GDS) presently employed in the country, State/UT-wise including Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra;

(b) whether there is shortage of GDS across the country and if so, the details thereof including the number of vacant posts of GDS, State/UT-wise including Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra;

(c) whether the services rendered by GDS are beneficial to rural populace and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether pay/remuneration of GDS has not been increased as per the recommendations of Seventh Pay Commission, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government had constituted any committee to look into the salary structure, other service matters and problems of GDS, if so, the details and the major recommendations thereof; and

(f) whether the Government has implemented the recommendations of the aforesaid committee, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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