

LOK SABHA

BULLETIN – PART II

(General information relating to Parliamentary and other matters)

Nos.1409- 1430] [Wednesday, September 2, 2020 /Bhadrapada 11, 1942 (Saka)

No. 1409

Committee Co-ordination Branch

Presentation of 154th Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce

Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy, Chairman, Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce, presented the 154th Report (in English and Hindi) on 'Export of Agricultural & Marine Products, Plantation Crops, Turmeric and Coir' to the Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha on 26th August, 2020.

2. Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha has permitted printing, publication and circulation of the Report. Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha has seen the Report on 28th August, 2020.

No. 1410

Parliament Security Service

Wearing of Face Mask and display of RF Tag/ Identity Cards

In view of the prevailing instructions of wearing of face mask to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, a difficulty in proper identification of Hon'ble Members is experienced at the entry points of Parliament House. Therefore, to facilitate a hassle free entry, all the Hon'ble Ministers/ Members are requested to carry and display their RF Tags/ Identity Cards while wearing face masks which would help in identification on gaining entry into Parliament House Complex. Kind cooperation of Hon'ble Members is solicited.

No. 1411

**Computer Management (H/W & S/W)
Management Branch Hardware Unit**

**'E-transmission of papers/agenda papers to Hon'ble Members from the Fourth Session of
Seventeenth Lok Sabha and their accessing these on tablets/I pads or similar devices**

Members are informed that due to the pandemic situation and with the intent of reducing infection transmission risks resulting from multiple handling of papers when circulated in hard copies, the circulation of Parliamentary papers to Hon'ble Members will be done electronically through Members Portal from the forthcoming Session of the Seventeenth Lok Sabha in place of circulation of hard copies. Members are provided with Rs. 3 lakh for procurement of computer equipment under the 'Scheme of Financial Entitlement of members of Lok Sabha for Purchase of Computer Equipment'. Those Members who have already purchased tablet/I Pad or similar portable devices are requested to bring the device to the House during the forth coming Session for accessing the electronic documents in the House. Members who have not procured any such device are requested to procure tablets/I Pads/ similar portable gadgets themselves out of the funds available with them under the said Scheme so that they can also access the electronic documents in the House for use.

It is also informed that PAs of more than 350 Members have already been imparted online training regarding facilities provided on Members' Portal.

Kind cooperation of members is solicited. '

No. 1412

Table Office (B)

Death of sitting member of Lok Sabha

Shri H. Vasanthakumar, an elected member of Lok Sabha from Kanniyakumari Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu passed away at Chennai on 28 August, 2020 and consequently his seat in Lok Sabha has become vacant with effect from that date.

**Allotment of Days for Unstarred Questions during Fourth Session of the
Seventeenth Lok Sabha**

In continuation of Para No. 1401 in Bulletin Part-II dated September 1, 2020, the Members are now informed that the Speaker has been pleased to allot the following days for laying of replies to Unstarred questions in the rotational order set out below during Fourth Session of the Seventeenth Lok Sabha:-

Date of Sitting	Allotment of Ministries and Departments	Group
1	2	3
	September, 2020	
Monday, 14 th September	Corporate Affairs; Culture; Education ; Finance; Labour and Employment; Petroleum and Natural Gas; Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Steel; Tourism; Tribal Affairs.	A
Tuesday, 15 th September	Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; Food Processing Industries; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Home Affairs; Panchayati Raj; Rural Development; Social Justice and Empowerment.	B
Wednesday, 16 th September	Prime Minister; 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.	C
Thursday, 17 th September	Civil Aviation; Housing and Urban Affairs; Jal Shakti; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Minority Affairs; New and Renewable Energy; Power; Road Transport and Highways; Shipping; Youth Affairs and Sports.	D
Friday, 18 th September	Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH); Earth Sciences; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Health and Family Welfare; Information and Broadcasting; Science and Technology; Textiles; Women and Child Development.	E

Saturday, 19 th September	}	As shown earlier in the respective Groups	A
Sunday, 20 th September			B
Monday, 21 st September			C
Tuesday, 22 nd September			D
Wednesday, 23 rd September			E
Thursday, 24 th September	}	As shown earlier in the respective Groups	A
Friday, 25 th September			B
Saturday, 26 th September			C
Sunday, 27 th September			D
Monday, 28 th September			E
Tuesday, 29 th September	}	As shown earlier in the respective Groups	A
Wednesday, 30 th September			B
OCTOBER, 2020			
Thursday, 1 st October	}	As shown earlier in the respective Group	C

No. 1414

Question Branch

Tabling of Notices of Questions

A Chart showing dates of holding Ballots and last dates of receipt of notices of Unstarred Questions for each sitting is being circulated to the Members separately.

Holding of Ballots for Notices of Unstarred Questions

Members are informed that they may submit the notices of Unstarred Questions for Fourth Session of the 17th Lok Sabha from **Thursday 3rd September, 2020**. In the wake of COVID-19 pandemic and also to achieve the objective of paperless Parliament, the Members are requested to submit all notices of Unstarred Questions through Members' Portal only. However, the hard copies of Notices will continue to be received in the Parliamentary Notice Office and other designated places.

Ballots will be held for Notices of Unstarred Questions on dates specified in column 4 of the Chart showing the Dates of Holding Ballots and Last Dates of Receipt of Notices of Questions circulated separately. Notices for a particular date of sitting received upto 1000 hours of the date of holding Ballot for that sitting will be included in the said Ballot. **Where the notices of Unstarred Questions are received before fifteen days from the day for which they are intended to be included in the List of Questions, they will be deemed to have been received at 1000 hours on the 15th day before such day** and their *inter-se* priority will be determined by ballots.

The Ballots will be held in the Question Branch, Room No. 324, Parliament House Annexe after 1400 hours.

Members are further informed that notices of Questions for the sittings to be held on **14.09.2020, 15.09.2020 and 16.09.2020** received upto 1000 hours on 04.09.2020 will be balloted on 04.09.2020; notices of Questions for the sittings to be held on **17.09.2020, 18.09.2020 and 19.09.2020** received upto 1000 hours on 05.09.2020 will be balloted on 05.09.2020; and notices of Questions for the sittings to be held on **20.09.2020, 21.09.2020 and 22.09.2020** received upto 1000 hours on 06.09.2020 will be balloted on 06.09.2020.

Members are requested to make it convenient to witness the balloting of the Notices of Unstarred Questions on the dates of ballot.

Ballot Results of Notices of Questions on Lok Sabha Website

Members are informed that Ballot results of Notices of Unstarred Questions will be made available on the Lok Sabha website. Since the information has been put under restricted circulation, a login page has been created for the purpose which can be accessed through the following path:

loksabha.nic.in → Questions → Ballot List

Guidelines to use this facility:

For the convenience of the Members, a dropdown list of names of Members participating in the Ballot has been created against the '**User id**' box. Members may just click in the box and select their names as '**User id**'. For the **Password**, the IC number of the Members has been preset in three digits. If the IC number of a Member is in single or the double digit, Zero (0) digit is accordingly required to be prefixed to make up the total of three. For example, if the IC number is '1' or '11', the same is required to be entered as '001' or '011' respectively as Password. Finally, a randomly generated **captcha number** has to be entered before the '**Submit**' command is given to access the desired information.

Hard copies of Ballot results are also available in the Parliamentary Notice Office (PNO) of Lok Sabha.

Notices of Questions

Attention of the Members is invited to the following paragraph in the "Handbook for Members":-

"10(2) (xii) Notices of questions should be clear, self-contained and complete. Questions which are illegibly handwritten are liable to be returned to the members. Proper names wherever occurring in the text of questions may be written in block letters."

Sometimes notices of questions tabled by the Members are illegibly written or typed/handwritten on a separate sheet of paper and stapled/pasted on the prescribed/printed form. Such notices which are not in order are returned to the Members.

Members are, therefore, requested kindly to have the notices typed or handwritten legibly on the printed proforma itself. Every notice of question which is tabled on the printed form should be signed in ink by the Member. Members are requested kindly to indicate their names in CAPITAL LETTERS and the IC Number at appropriate place in the notices tabled by them.

No. 1418

Question Branch

Notice Period and Number of Questions

Members are informed that in accordance with Rule 33 of 'Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha' fifteen clear days have been prescribed for tabling notices of Questions. Members are further informed that notices of Questions for the sittings to be held on **14.09.2020, 15.09.2020 and 16.09.2020** received upto 1000 hours on 04.09.2020 will be balloted on 04.09.2020; notices of Questions for the sittings to be held on **17.09.2020, 18.09.2020 and 19.09.2020** received upto 1000 hours on 05.09.2020 will be balloted on 05.09.2020; and notices of Questions for the sittings to be held on **20.09.2020, 21.09.2020 and 22.09.2020** received upto 1000 hours on 06.09.2020 will be balloted on 06.09.2020.

Further, according to latest Direction by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, a Member is permitted to table not more than five notices of Questions, for a given date. Members are requested to indicate the Order of Preference at the appropriate place, in the Question proforma including online notices.

Members are requested not to table more than 5 notices for a particular date.

No.1419

Question Branch

Addressing of Notices of Questions

It has been observed that sometimes Members raise two or more different and unrelated subjects, involving more than one Ministry/Department in one notice of question. This causes administrative inconvenience to the Ministry/Department. Accordingly, Members are requested to address their notices of questions appropriately to one Ministry/Department only.

No. 1420

Question Branch

Demarcation of Responsibilities in Government of India

At times, notices of questions tabled by the Members are addressed to Ministers who are not concerned with the subject-matter thereof. This necessitates transfer of questions from one Ministry to another causing avoidable inconvenience to the Members themselves. They may, therefore, address the notices of questions to the Ministers who are responsible for their subject matter. For this purpose, the Members may refer to the link "Demarcation of Responsibilities in Government of India" available on the Lok Sabha Website which is accessible through the following path:

loksabha.nic.in → Questions → Home → Demarcation of Responsibilities in Government of India

It indicates the subjects for which the various Ministers are responsible for answering questions in Lok Sabha.

Procedure regarding Unstarred Questions

Members are informed that the notices of Unstarred Questions can be given after issuance of summons. In the wake of Covid-19 pandemic and also to achieve the objective of paperless Parliament, the Members are requested to submit the notices of Unstarred Questions through Members' Portal only. However, the printed forms are also available in the Parliamentary Notice Office.

The procedure for Questions is governed by Rules 32 to 54 of the 'Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha' and Directions 10 to 18 of the 'Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha'. In particular, attention is invited to the following provisions of Rules/Directions concerning admissibility of notices of Questions:-

Speaker to decide admissibility

43(1). The Speaker shall decide whether a question, or a part thereof, is or is not admissible under these rules and may disallow any question, or a part thereof, when in the opinion of the Speaker, it is an abuse of the right of questioning or is calculated to obstruct or prejudicially affect the procedure of the House or is in contravention of these rules.

Admissibility of Questions

41(2). The right to ask a question is governed by the following conditions, namely:-

- (i) it shall be clearly and precisely expressed and shall not be too general incapable of any specific answer or in the nature of a leading question;
- (ii) it shall not bring in any name or statement not strictly necessary to make the question intelligible;
- (iii) if it contains a statement, the Member shall make oneself responsible for the accuracy of the statement;
- (iv) it shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions, imputations, epithets or defamatory statements;
- (v) it shall not ask for an expression of opinion or the solution of an abstract legal question or of a hypothetical proposition;
- (vi) it shall not ask as to the character or conduct of any person except in that person's official or public capacity;
- (vii) it shall not ordinarily exceed 150 words;
- (viii) it shall not relate to a matter which is not primarily the concern of the Government of India;
- (ix) it shall not ask about proceedings in the Committee which have not been placed before the House by a report from the Committee;
- (x) it shall not reflect on the character or conduct of any person whose conduct can only be challenged on a substantive motion;
- (xi) it shall not make or imply a charge of a personal character;
- (xii) it shall not raise questions of policy too large to be dealt with within the limits of an answer to a question;

- (xiii) it shall not repeat in substance questions already answered or to which an answer has been refused;
- (xiv) it shall not ask for information on trivial matters;
- (xv) it shall not ordinarily ask for information on matters of past history;
- (xvi) it shall not ask for information set forth in accessible documents or in ordinary works of reference;
- (xvii) it shall not raise matters under the control of bodies or persons not primarily responsible to the Government of India;
- (xviii) it shall not ask for information on matter which is under adjudication by a court of law having jurisdiction in any part of India;
- (xix) it shall not relate to a matter with which a Minister is not officially concerned;
- (xx) it shall not refer discourteously to a friendly foreign country;
- (xxi) it shall not seek information about matters which are in their nature secret such as composition of Cabinet Committees, Cabinet discussions, or advice given to the President in relation to any matter in respect of which there is a constitutional, statutory or conventional obligation not to disclose information;
- (xxii) it shall not ordinarily ask for information on matters which are under consideration of a Parliamentary Committee; and
- (xxiii) it shall not ordinarily ask about matters pending before any statutory tribunal or statutory authority performing any judicial or quasi-judicial functions or any commission or court of enquiry appointed to enquire into, or investigate, any matter but may refer to matters concerned with procedure or subject or stage of enquiry, if it is not likely to prejudice the consideration of the matter by the tribunal or commission or court of enquiry.

Direction 10-A. Besides the conditions of admissibility of questions mentioned in Rule 41, a question shall be inadmissible on any of the following grounds:-

- (i) it seeks information on matters which tend to encourage fissiparous and divisive tendencies and weaken the unity and integrity of the country;
- (ii) it relates to a matter of day-to-day administration or tends to further the interest of an individual or a few individuals;
- (iii) it relates to a matter falling primarily within the jurisdiction of the Chief Election Commissioner, CAG, Courts and other such functionaries;
- (iv) it relates to petitions and memoranda received by Ministers which are not of public importance;
- (v) it relates to a matter under negotiation with a government of other country and its disclosure may affect the course of negotiations to the detriment of the national interests; and
- (vi) it relates to a matter within the jurisdiction of the Speaker.

Members are requested to kindly take note of the above provisions while tabling notices of Questions so as to avoid disallowance of the questions on the above grounds.

No.1422

Question Branch

Questions of Excessive Length

Attention of Members is invited to Rule 41(2) (vii) of the 'Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha' which is reproduced below:-

"41(2) The right to ask a question is governed by the following conditions, namely:-

* * * * *

(vii) it shall not ordinarily exceed 150 words."

Sometimes notices of questions tabled by the Members are of excessive length and these have either to be disallowed or referred back to the Members.

Members are, therefore, requested to keep in view, the above provisions, while tabling notices of questions.

Admissibility of Questions seeking information upto Block or District levels about implementation of Centrally Sponsored Programmes/Schemes

As information about block or district-wise outlays/expenditure/physical targets/achievements is primarily the concern of State Government, such information is not normally reported to or monitored by the Union Government. Members are, therefore, informed that questions seeking information about implementation of various Centrally Sponsored Programmes/Schemes at block or district levels are ordinarily inadmissible.

Members are, therefore, requested to keep in view the above position, while tabling notices of questions.

Questions on Newspaper Reports

Sometimes newspaper reports including vernacular newspaper reports are referred to in the notices of questions tabled by the Members without indicating the place of edition of such newspapers. As many of such news-items particularly vernacular newspapers are not easily traceable, the notices are returned to the Members to make them specific or to furnish a copy of press clipping referred to in such notices for processing them.

Members are, therefore, requested kindly to enclose a copy of the press clipping with the notices of questions, which have the reference of newspaper reports.

No. 1425

Question Branch

Treatment of Notices of Questions in Excess of 230

Members are informed that in accordance with Rule 45, not more than 230 questions are to be included in the list of questions for written answers on any one day. Such notices of questions in Excess of 230 stand lapsed. However, the copies of notices of Questions, in Excess of 230 shall be provided to the Members, if so, requested by them.

No. 1426

Question Branch

Status of Notices of Questions on Lok Sabha Website

Members are informed that Status of Notices of Questions is available on the Lok Sabha website. Since the information has been put under restricted circulation, a login page has been created for the purpose which is accessible through the following path:

loksabha.nic.in → Questions → Status of Notices of Questions

Guidelines to use this facility:

For the convenience of the Members, a dropdown list of names of Members, who have tabled notices of questions, has been created against the '**User id**' box. Members may just click in the box and select their names as '**User id**'. The IC number of the Members has been preset as **Password** and the same will be in three digits. If the IC number of a Member is in single or double digit, Zero (0) digit is accordingly required to be prefixed to make up the total of three. For example, if the IC number is '1' or '11', the same is required to be entered as '001' or '011' respectively as Password. Finally, a randomly generated **captcha number** has to be entered before clicking '**Submit**' key to access the search option page. Members may select any or all of the search parameters appearing on the search option page and get the desired results.

No. 1427

Question Branch

Dispensing with Circulation of Unstarred Question Lists

Members are informed that the circulation of List of Unstarred Questions has been dispensed with, from Budget Session-2016. The List is now being hosted on Lok Sabha Homepage.

No. 1428

Question Branch

Errata to the lists of Questions

Members are informed that lists of admitted Unstarred questions for a day are uploaded on Lok Sabha Website/circulated to Members in advance of the date(s) on which those are due for answer. Patent errors, mistakes in spellings of names, etc. noticed by them in the lists of admitted questions may be brought to the notice of the Secretariat, so as to facilitate issuing of necessary corrigenda in the matter.

No.1429

Question Branch

e-filing of Notices of Questions

As Members are aware, at present under the provisions of 'Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha', every notice is required to be given in writing and signed and the same should be submitted in Parliamentary Notice Office. As an initiative towards e-Parliament and paperless Secretariat, an e-portal namely Members' Portal was launched on 17th July, 2016 for the benefit of the Members. This portal is offering several online services to the Members including submission of notices for various parliamentary devices in electronic form, online references, etc.

In the wake of COVID-19 pandemic, Members are requested to submit all notices of Unstarred Questions through Members' Portal only in accordance with Bulletin Part-II Para No. 3739 dated 17th July, 2016. However, the Parliamentary Notice Office will continue to receive physical notices from Members who choose to submit the same.

Kind cooperation of Members is solicited.

No.1430

Question Branch

Uploading of Replies to Questions on Members' e-portal

Members are aware that replies to Unstarred Questions are being uploaded immediately after the same have been laid on the Table of the House.

Kind cooperation of Members is solicited.

SNEHLATA SHRIVASTAVA
Secretary General