

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Tuesday, the March 1, 2005/Phalguna 10, 1926 (Saka)*

**(Ministries: Civil Aviation; Company Affairs; Finance; Panchayati Raj;
Petroleum and Natural Gas; Tourism; Water Resources)**

Total number of questions — 20

Development of tourist spots

†*1. SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to develop some new tourist spots;

(b) if so, the details of the tourist spots likely to be developed; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to introduce the 'Incredible India' in the real sense of the term in the tourism market?

Unique Identification Number for transaction of equity/mutual funds

*2. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a circular issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), it has become mandatory for investors to obtain Unique Identification Number (UIN) for transaction of equity/mutual funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the companies issuing such UIN are charging Rs. 300/- per registration which is exorbitant; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to reduce the charges to Rs. 30/-, which is reasonable in view of administrative cost of issuing UIN?

Guidelines for air rights to private airlines

*3. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently framed the guidelines for allocation of air bilateral rights to private airlines;

(b) whether it is also a fact that according to the DGCA's guidelines, the entitlements on foreign routes could also be reviewed in case any of the eligible airlines try to corner the maximum international sectors by cutting down their domestic operations; and

(c) if so, what due consideration Government are giving to AI and IA before allotment of rights to private airlines?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Filling up of vacancies reserved
for SCs/STs**

*4. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to fill-up the posts reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and its subordinate offices;

(b) whether any special drive has been taken up to fill-up the back-log vacancies of the above categories; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Higher allocations for States

*5. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has agreed to provide higher allocations for States as recommended by the Twelfth Finance Commission;

(b) if so, what are the total allocations that have been suggested;

(c) to what extent, they have been fully agreed to; and

(d) whether States are satisfied with the allocations made?

Implementation of VAT

*6. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether VAT is going to be implemented in all the States; and

(b) if so, the details about the criteria being implemented?

**Creation of a National Investment
Fund out of the proceeds of
disinvestment of PSUs**

*7. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a National Investment Fund with a corpus consisting of the proceeds from disinvestment of PSUs;

(b) if so, the magnitude of the corpus and its *modus operandi*;

(c) the main objectives thereof; and

(d) whether the setting up of the proposed National Investment Fund closes the door of bridging fiscal deficit through the proceeds of disinvestment?

Oil refinery in Rajasthan

†*8. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on finding large quantum of oil reserves in the Western Rajasthan, a proposal made by the State Government for setting up oil refinery in the State is under consideration of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the status of the proposal; and

(c) by when Government propose to set up the refinery after according approval to the proposal and if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

JV document on modernisation of airports

*9. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to give greater weightage to bidders promising to develop world class infrastructure in the shortest duration particularly in case of Delhi and Mumbai airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have finalised the draft for the new Joint Venture;

(d) if so, the salient features of this JV document; and

(e) the time likely to be taken to modernise the above airports and the likely cost of this modernisation in respect of each of the above airports?

Airports for super jumbos

*10. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the AAI has identified any airports in the country to make them designated gateways to handle the newly-unveiled 555-seater super jumbos *i.e.*, A-380s;

(b) if so, the details of such airports and whether the identified airports have the parking bays for the super jumbos; and

(c) what are the other measures AAI are taking to ensure smooth handling of these jumbos?

Irrigation projects in Assam

*11. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Centre's major irrigation projects yet to be completed in Assam and the amount released so far, scheme-wise;

(b) the reasons for non-completion of these projects for such a long time;

(c) any time frame within which the projects are going to be completed; and

(d) whether there is any possibility of withdrawal of some of these projects?

Production of alternative fuels

*12. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the trees like pungan, neem, karanji, ratanjyot or jatropa can be grown to produce oil and this oil can be converted into bio-diesel after esterification and used as fuel in diesel engines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for using and producing alternative renewable energy to the petroleum products in the country?

Extension of Raipur airport

†*13. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently made any announcement regarding extension of some airports in the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether the extension of Raipur airport in Chhattisgarh has been included in this announcement;

(c) the land required for extension of Raipur airport and the amount required for acquiring the said land;

(d) whether Airports Authority of India has paid the required amount for acquiring the land to the State Government;

(e) if so, what was this amount and when it was paid; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and by when this payment will be made?

Allocation of Gas from Tapti Gas Field

*14. DR. A.K. PATEL:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM
KSHATRIYA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the additional development plan for allocation of Gas from Tapti Gas Field has been finalized;

(b) if so, by when it would be implemented; and

(c) the details of Government stand on the State Government of Gujarat's request for allocation of 3.65 MMSCMD Gas for the Pipavav Power Project?

Promotion of bio-diesel

†*15. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a policy decision on the proposal to propagate the use of bio-diesel as a fuel of the future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Protection of small investors

*16. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:

Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the special efforts being proposed to help the small investors in the share market; and

(b) the details of the steps which are being taken against vanishing companies under the Criminal Law?

Air services to Kangra

*17. DR. KARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) by when the Kangra airport will be ready to receive medium size aircraft; and

(b) by when regular and satisfactory services to Kangra will begin?

Expenditure on decoration of petroleum outlets

*18. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the petroleum companies have spent thousands of crores of rupees on decorating the petroleum outlets;

(b) the reasons for this huge expenditure on petrol pumps;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the oil PSUs have taken deliberate decisions to avoid giving dividends to Government through such expenditure;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether any enquiry is proposed in the matter ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

River interlinking scheme

*19. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the river interlinking scheme does not find favour from various States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the State Government of Bihar in its report has felt that there is no sufficient water in the Ganga to support the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Bangalore International Airport Project

*20. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CNS agreement between the Bangalore International Airport Limited and Airports Authority of India has been entered into;

(b) if so, when it was entered into;

(c) the present status of the proposed Bangalore International Airport Project near Devanahalli;

(d) the quantum of amount, if any, released by Government during 2004-05 as Central share for the above project; and

(e) by when, the work of the proposed airport will start and by when it is expected to be completed?

NEW DELHI;
The 23rd February, 2005
Phalguna 4, 1926 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Civil Aviation	: 3, 9, 10, 13, 17, 20,
Company Affairs	: 16,
Finance	: 2, 5, 6, 7,
Panchayati Raj	: —
Petroleum and Natural Gas	: 4, 8, 12, 14, 15, 18,
Tourism	: 1
Water Resources	: 11, 19.