

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, the May 2, 2002/Vaisakha 12, 1924 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy; Communications and Information Technology; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; External Affairs; Labour; Parliamentary Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Road Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation)

Total number of questions—20

Commissioning of Bodh Chakki-Dhar Road

*521. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the Tribune, dated the 12th April, 2002 captioned "7-km. long 'strategic road' Bodh Chakki-Dhar", which was constructed by Central Government in 1993, has not yet been thrown open to public;

(b) whether it is a fact that the funds allocated by Centre for this purpose have been diverted by the State Government for some other purpose;

(c) whether this inordinate delay has also stopped linkage of Mukerian-Bodh and Dhar-Udhampur roads, apart from providing an alternative approach to Jammu and Kashmir; and

(d) if so, by when the road would become operational?

Foreign satellites

*522. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether satellites of the foreign countries are launched from the Indian earth station on a payment basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been reached with any foreign country regarding launching of satellites; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Ware Houses

*523. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Ware Houses being operated by the Central Ware Housing Corporation in the country as on the 31st March, 2002 with total storage capacity thereof;

(b) the number of Ware Houses in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the new storage capacity added last year in the country and in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) what are Government's plans in respect of the proposal mentioned in part (c) for the current year?

Revival of sick SSI units

†*524. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN
SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have explored the possibility of new capital investments in the existing sick units in the small scale industries sector with a view to revive them;

(b) if so, the additional capital required for revival of the sick industrial units by March 2001; and

(c) the capital investment made in these units so far and the capital invested by the public sector financial institutions?

South Korean Cooperation

†*525. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the issues/subjects discussed for cooperation in the field of defence, commerce, finance and information technology during his recent visit to South Korea;

(b) whether cooperation of South Korea to combat terrorism was also solicited during the visit;

(c) if so, South Korea's reaction thereto; and

(d) the existing percentage of trade

between India and South Korea and the agenda framed in the talks to boost the same?

Use of Internet

*526. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that use of Internet in the country is not at the expected level;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for promotion of Internet in rural, remote and hilly areas during the last three years?

Development of roads under Golden Quadrangle Scheme

*527. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:
DR. (MS.) P. SELVIE DAS:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected through petrol and diesel cess to develop the road infrastructure since commencement of cess collection, till date;

(b) the details of the road development in various States under the Golden Quadrangle Scheme together with the length of road developed (in kilometers) and the amount allocated for the purpose, State-wise; and

(c) whether any timeframe has been fixed for completion of these projects, if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Implementation of recommendation of
CPF Trustees**

*528. SHRI N. K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to implement the recommendations of the Central Provident Fund Trustees relating to reformation of the Provident Fund Pension Scheme;

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

(c) whether Government have considered to extend another opportunity to the employees who retired but did not opt for the Family Pension Scheme of 1971 to enroll in the PF Pension Scheme; and

(d) Government's reaction in this regard?

Poverty projections

*529. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poverty projections have been worked out for the tenth plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the basis on which the projections have been worked out?

**United States policing duties in
Pakistan**

*530. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that

a team of American law enforcement and intelligence officials stormed several houses in Pakistan on the 28th March, 2002 and captured Taliban and Arab fighters;

(b) whether this decision on the US role in policing Pakistan could help India;

(c) if so, whether India has welcomed the move; and

(d) whether India has also urged the US to compel Pakistan to take action on the extremists operating in Jammu and Kashmir?

Violation of labour laws

*531. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Visakapatnam Export Processing Zone in Andhra Pradesh, the management of 'World Wide Diamond Manufacturing Ltd.' is violating all sorts of labour laws by curbing their rights; and

(b) if so, what action Government are going to take for protection of rights of the labours?

Golden Quadrilateral Project

*532. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the "Golden Quadrilateral Project" for highways;

(b) the allocation made for this purpose for the year 2002-2003; and

(c) by when the project is likely to be completed?

Janata PCs

*533. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for providing something like Janata PCs at affordable price to the people; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Goodwill mission to Afghanistan

*534. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to send a goodwill mission to Afghanistan to establish people to people contact to rebuild old relations and confidence;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) whether the mission would be official or unofficial?

GDP growth rate

*535. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that GDP growth during the Ninth Five Year Plan period (1997-2002) would be average 5.4 per cent as compared to 6.7 per cent during Eighth Five Year Plan, 5.9 per cent during Seventh Five Year Plan or even 5.6 per cent during Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) the reasons for the declining trend in GDP rate during the successive Plans and what is the projected GDP growth during the Tenth Five Year Plan period; and

(c) what measures are proposed to be adopted so that the targeted GDP growth rate is achieved?

Installation of telephones in Mainpuri

†*536. SHRI R. N. ARYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the officials of the Mainpuri Telecom Circle have provided incorrect facts with regard to target fixed for providing telephones during the last two years and the bills are being sent there even before installation of telephones;

(b) the number of telephones working in Mainpuri and nearby towns upto March, 2002 along with the number of working telephones shown as on paper during the last two years;

(c) whether any complaints have been received with regard to receipt of telephone bills even before installation of telephones;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken against the guilty persons and the remedial steps taken in this regard?

Involvement of private sector in export of foodgrains

*537. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal is being considered for a long term timeframe for capping foodgrains procurement by FCI;

(b) if so, whether the proposal envisages that a timeframe be outlined for amending the minimum buffer stock provision to a maximum buffer stock;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) what is FCI's own storage capacity at present;

(d) whether this new proposal would help the private sector in exports;

(e) whether Government would also make provision to free them from the State taxes; and

(f) if so, to what extent Government have agreed to involve private sector in exports as well as setting up of godowns in the country?

Connectivity of Garuda Mobile Service

*538. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether connectivity of Garuda Mobile Service is growing;

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

(c) whether MTNL has recently imported a huge number of mobile instruments for this service; and

(d) if so, the number of pieces imported, the country from which imported and the price thereof?

Concession in bus fare to senior citizens

†*539. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are giving concession on ticket charges to the senior citizen for journey by bus, as is being done in air and rail journey;

(b) if so, whether Government have circulated this order to the Transport Ministries of the State Governments in this regard; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to provide such facility to the senior citizen of the country?

Upgradation of Mandvi-Nalia-Narayan Sarovar Highway

*540. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat Government's request regarding upgradation of Mandvi-Nalia-Narayan Sarovar Highway into a National Highway has been agreed to by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

NEW DELHI;
The 26th April, 2002
Vaisakha 6, 1924 (Saka)

R.C. TRIPATHI,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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