RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Monday, the May 2, 2005/Vaisakha 12, 1927 (Saka)

(Ministries: Culture; Development of North Eastern Region; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Human Resource Development; Information and Broadcasting; Law and Justice; Mines; Parliamentary Affairs; Social Justice and Empowerment; Tribal Affairs; Urban Development; Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation)

Total number of questions — 20

New building bye-laws

- *521. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to frame new building bye-laws to control illegal construction in Delhi;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) Government's action plan to regulate illegal/unauthorized private constructions which are overstretching public land and are in complete violation of the building provisions?

Extention of Mid Day Meal Scheme

- *522. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Karnataka Government has sought more grants to extend the Mid Day Meal Scheme upto the tenth standard;

- (b) if so, the amount of additional grants sought for;
- (c) the number of children to be benefited as a result thereof; and
- (d) the present status of the above proposal?

Relaxation in norms for handicapped persons

- *523. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to relax the norms set under the scheme for assistance to the handicapped persons for purchase and fitting of various types of aids and appliances;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government have enhanced the income eligibility ceiling for purchase of software for visually handicapped persons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Promotion of Urdu language in Bihar

- *524. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Urdu is second language in Bihar:
- (b) if so, what steps are being taken to promote Urdu in the State;
- (c) whether Government are aware that examination papers of different State level examinations are not made available in Urdu: and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

Funds for development of NER

- *525. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:
- (a) the funds released by Government for the development of North-Eastern Region during the last three years ending the 31st March, 2005, area-wise and scheme-wise;
- (b) the funds actually utilized, yearwise, area-wise and scheme-wise; and
- (c) the reasons and explanation given by the State authorities for non-utilization of the allotted funds?

Orphans and destitute children

- †*526. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government are aware that

- orphans and destitute children born in India, on being adopted by foreigners, wish to return to India because they have to live in mental stress while living in racial atmosphere in foreign countries but due to uncertainty and lack of proper system, it is not possible;
- (b) if so, whether Government are considering this issue on humanitarian ground; and
- (c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

New mission for Secondary Education

†*527. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a new mission for secondary education is needed to be set up on the pattern of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Mission;
- (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that approximately 2.8 crore children are now registered for the secondary education;
- (d) if not, the actual number thereof in the year 2004-05; and
- (e) the number of such children estimated to be in the year 2010-11 and the existing number of children in the age group of 14-18 years not registered in the schools?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Monorail System

*528. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR:

SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration for introduction of the new monorail system in different metros to ease the traffic and contain the pollution;
- (b) if so, the decision taken to introduce the system in Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Delhi; and
- (c) the features of the new monorail system?

Heavy industries in Andhra Pradesh

- *529. SHRI C. RAMACHAND-RAIAH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to refer to reply to Starred Question 163 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th April, 2005 and state:
- (a) the investment made in each industry/enterprise;
- (b) the economic viability of the above industries/enterprises; and
- (c) the steps being taken to improve health of each such industry/enterprise?

Censor certificates for film festivals and National Awards

- *530. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that eminent film producers have requested that

censor certificates should not be mandatory for the films competing for the National Awards and film festivals;

- (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) what is the accepted international practice and whether censor certificates are mandatory for such films; and
- (d) how many films were denied censor certificates during 2004 and the percentage in relation to the films granted censor certificates?

National Capital Region Board

- *531. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) when the National Capital Region Board was constituted;
 - (b) the composition of the Board;
 - (c) the terms and reference of the Board;
- (d) the amount spent so far by the Board:
- (e) whether the Board has failed in achieving its objectives;
 - (f) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the measures taken by Government to develop the NCR towns so as to reduce pressure of population in Delhi?

Positive growth in illiteracy

- *532. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a substantial positive growth in illiterate population aged 7 years and above has been observed in some of the districts in various States showing exception to the over all positive growth trends in literacy in the country as well as in the respective States;

- (b) if so, the details of such districts with positive growth of illiterate alongwith the growth rate of literacy of the concerned States:
- (c) the reasons for such exceptions in respective districts; and
- (d) the details of the steps, if any, being taken to reverse the trend in those districts?

Prathmik Shiksha Kosh

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

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the money collected from 2 per cent education cess imposed in this year's Union Budget would actually go towards financing primary education;
- (b) whether the Prime Minister has decided to set up a dedicated non-lapsable fund for the purpose;
- (c) if so, whether this fund called "Prathmik Shiksha Kosh" would be created and maintained by the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy similar to the Central Road Fund (CRF);
- (d) if so, to what extent this fund has been utilized by his Ministry so far; and
- (e) the steps taken so far to utilize this money for developing education?

Thefts in cultural heritage

- †*534. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government are aware that

- incidents of theft in the cultural heritage is on the rise; and
- (b) if so, what action Government have taken so far to protect the same?

Distance Learning Programmes in collaboration with foreign universities

- *535. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that IGNOU has signed agreements with the foreign universities for carrying out distance learning programmes during 2005-06;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government have recognized the degrees to be awarded by IGNOU under such agreements; and
- (d) if so, whether Government have issued necessary notifications in this regard?

Recruitment of quality teaching staff

- *536. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that various Indian Institutes of Technology are finding it difficult to recruit quality teaching staff and these institutions are likely to face shortage of qualified staff in the coming years;
- (b) if so, the details of the existing vacancies in the IITs, institute-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken to review the situation and fill up these vacancies early, in a time-bound manner, so that the quality of these premier institutions of excellence does not suffer due to shortage of qualified staff?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Review of policy on FDI

- *537. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to review the policy of Foreign Direct Investment in a holistic manner and bringing greater consistency in rules for various segments as 20 per cent FDI is allowed in DTH and 49 per cent in the cable television industry; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Withdrawal of Constitution (Seventy-Ninth) Amendment Bill

- †*538. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to withdraw the Constitution (Seventy-Ninth) Amendment Bill;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government are considering framing of uniform civil law after making comprehensive amendment in the personal law for effective control on the problem of population; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor and how far it would be in the interest of the country?

Rehabilitation Centres for handicapped

*539. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

New Delhi; The 26th April, 2005

Vaisakha 6, 1927 (Saka)

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of handicapped persons till January, 2005;
- (b) the number of vocational rehabilitation centres set up for them, location-wise;
- (c) whether Government are aware that rehabilitation centres are not sufficient to meet the needs of the handicapped persons; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to open more rehabilitation centres for benefit of the handicapped?

Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana

- *540. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY);
- (b) the allocation made during the last five years to the States/UTs, year-wise and State-wise:
- (c) whether the Government of Karnataka has sought additional allocation for bringing about sustainable improvement in Urban poverty alleviation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

YOGENDRA NARAIN, Secretary-General.

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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