

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on

Friday, the August 2, 2002/Sravana 11, 1924 (Saka)

(Ministries : Agriculture; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Environment and Forests;
Food Processing Industries; Human Resource Development;
Ocean Development; Railways; Science and Technology;
Steel; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions—20

Manure from hospital wastes

*281. SHRI B.P. SINGHAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have funded any project for generating manure out of hospital wastes;

(b) if so, whether the project has proved successful;

(c) whether a similar project is contemplated for municipal wastes also; and

(d) if not, whether Government would examine the possibility of utilizing the municipal wastes also?

Forest area for rope-way in A.P.

*282. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received from Andhra Pradesh Government for surveying the forest area of Sri Venkateswara Wildlife Sanctuary, for a rope-way project;

(b) if so, the details of the request; and

(c) the steps contemplated by the Ministry in this regard?

Forest land for public use

*283. SHRI M.V. RAJASHEKHARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how many requests from State Governments are pending in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, requesting to release the waste forest land for public use;

(b) whether many such requests from the Karnataka Government are also pending in the Ministry, for consideration; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposals and the action taken by the Ministry in this regard?

Battery regenerator in the Railways

*284. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the use of Gionatex Battery Regenerator, to enhance the life of batteries, was approved by Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) to prevent recurring loss to the Railways;

(b) if so, when and the implications thereof;

(c) the details regarding its impact on life of batteries and the estimated annual financial gain on its introduction to the Railways;

(d) the time to be taken for actual implementation and the target fixed to do so;

(e) whether these regenerators are used extensively by the advance countries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Conservation of lakes and ponds

*285. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any separate authority has been constituted for conservation and management of all the water bodies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, how the need to conserve lakes, ponds, etc. would be taken care of?

Death of animals in Sariska

†*286. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of animals that died in Sariska Sanctuary this year, as on date;

(b) the reasons for the death of animals;

(c) the steps taken by Government to check recurrence of such incidents in future; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Bio-technology policy of West Bengal

*287. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the West Bengal Government have launched a new bio-technology policy, to meet the future requirements;

(b) if so, whether the main thrust of the policy would be on agriculture and food-based products, medicinal plants and environment;

(c) whether the Union Government have provided all assistance to the West Bengal Government, to implement the same;

(d) if so, whether such scheme has been launched in other States also; and

(e) if not, by when it would be launched in all the States?

Boosting up steel consumption

†*288. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA
MURTHY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a new policy to boost the sagging steel consumption, or resort to legislation to promote steel consumption in the country; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether a Committee of experts on steel industry has recommended implementation of Buy Indian Act, to promote use of Indian steel by projects funded by public money, in tune with the Buy American Act; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) what other steel industry related measures like over-capacity of production, making anti-dumping duty more effective, credit flow to steel sector, etc. are under consideration of Government?

National Leechi Research Centre in Bihar

†*289. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foundation stone for the National Leechi Research Centre was laid in Mushhari region of Muzaffarpur district in Bihar by the Minister of Agriculture, during last year; if so, what are the reasons for not starting the construction work, even after a lapse of more than one year;

(b) whether construction of the Centre would be completed during the current financial year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

FPIs' in North East

*290. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Food Processing Industries set up in the country and the total amount of money spent for the same, during the current financial year;

(b) whether it is a fact that the existence of such industries in the North-Eastern region particularly in Assam;

(c) if so, whether there is any policy of Government in that regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Setting-up of fertilizer factory in Tripura

*291. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for setting-up a fertilizer factory has been initiated by the Tripura Government;

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

(c) whether the proposal would be conceded to by the Central Government and the setting-up of the fertilizer factory expedited?

Hiring of foreign coaches

*292. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Sports Authority of India has engaged foreign coaches for training Indian sport persons for International meets;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the salaries paid to them;

(c) whether these coaches are from the countries which have excelled in the respective games in the International meets; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Bookstall structures at railway stations

*293. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in the interest of the administration as well as to curb congestion

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

at the platforms, vacant space has been provided at the railway station buildings itself for erecting structures of bookstalls by the Contractor themselves, and an additional amount as rent is being recovered; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the guidelines in that regard?

Gurudakshina scheme

*294. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report appearing in The Times of India dated 30th June, 2002, under the caption, "Human Resource Development Ministry reminds to the past, plans to impose Gurudakshina";

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government are aware of the mounting opposition to the proposed scheme; if so, whether it is proposed to roll it back, in view of the opposition; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Storage and distribution infrastructure for foodgrains

*295. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foodgrains production in 2001-2002 had been estimated at 211.32 MT, according to the latest estimates;

(b) whether this spells a growth rate of 7.8 per cent over last year's output and would impact favourably the GDP and food security; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to ensure that the growth and development of infrastructure for storage and distribution is adequate, to prevent crores of rupees worth of grain wastage?

Degraded forest lands for landless poor

*296. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made to pressurise State Governments to distribute waste and degraded forest lands among the landless poor; and

(b) the measures proposed to identify excess lands in villages and towns, for distribution among the poor?

Betelnut production in Assam

*297. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether pollution and some diseases are affecting the betelnut production in Assam, badly; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by the Central and the Assam Governments to eradicate such maladies?

Decline in growth of soyabean in M.P.

*298. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for decline in growth of soyabean in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether ICAR has taken up any study in this regard in general, and worm affected crop in particular;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to study the matter in depth; if so, by when? recommendations, specially for setting-up of a welfare fund?

Veeresh Committee on suicide by farmers

*299. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the recommendations of the Veeresh Committee, set-up to study suicide by farmers in the country; and

(b) the action taken to implement the

Modernisation of Hubli rail workshop

*300. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to modernise the rail workshop at Hubli; and

(b) if so, details of the project and the amount earmarked to complete the same?

NEW DELHI;
The 27th July, 2002

Sravana 5, 1924 (Saka)

R.C. TRIPATHI,
Secretary-General.

INDEX
(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture	: 281, 289, 295, 297, 298, 299,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	: 291,
Environment and Forests	: 282, 283, 285, 286, 296,
Food Processing Industries	: 290,
Human Resource Development	: 294,
Ocean Development	: —
Railways	: 284, 293, 300,
Science and Technology	: 287,
Steel	: 288,
Youth Affairs and Sports	: 292.