

**RAJYA SABHA**

**List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS**

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Tuesday, the December 2, 2003/Agrahayana 11, 1925 (Saka)*

**(Ministries: Civil Aviation; Finance; Petroleum and Natural Gas; Tourism  
and Culture; Water Resources)**

**Total number of questions—20**

<b>Provision for CNG in cities</b>	<b>Profits of overseas branches of SBI and IOB</b>
<p>†*1. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:</p> <p>(a) the cities in the country where C.N.G. is proposed to be provided for the plying of buses during the next year;</p> <p>(b) whether the Ministry is considering to open a C.N.G. filling station in Dehradun, the capital of Uttaranchal; and</p> <p>(c) if not, the reasons therefor?</p>	<p>*3. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:</p> <p>(a) whether it is a fact that there had been drastic fall in the net profit of overseas branches of State Bank of India and Indian Overseas Bank during 2001-2002; if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;</p> <p>(b) what is the position of these banks reflected during the year 2002-2003; and</p> <p>(c) what steps have been taken to improve the situation?</p>
<b>Status of tourism industry</b>	<b>Pipeline for transportation of oil</b>
<p>*2. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:</p> <p>(a) the present status of tourism industry of the country as compared to those of prominent countries; and</p> <p>(b) what is the expectation for the current year and the steps taken to reach the target of three million international tourists for the country?</p>	<p>†*4. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI LAJPAT RAI:</p> <p>Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:</p> <p>(a) whether it is a fact that a project for laying of pipelines for transportation of oil has been prepared by certain public sector oil companies and sent for Government's approval;</p> <p>(b) if so, the names of the companies by which such proposals have been sent to Government by October, 2003; and</p>

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the rate at which the dividend is expected to accrue on the capital invested in these projects?

**Foreign investment in several sectors**

\*5. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to allow increased foreign investment in insurance, telecom, aviation, coffee and rubber plantations;

(b) whether it is also a fact that easier norms have been drawn for foreign investment in banks, small industries and petroleum retailing; and

(c) if so, the details of Government policy in this regard for the above sectors?

**Linking of Mahanadi and Vaigal rivers**

\*6. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take up linking of Mahanadi with Vaigal rivers early to tackle the problem of recurrent floods and droughts in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, by when the link-work would start; and

(c) if not, in what manner water requirements in Andhra Pradesh which are to be taken up with a national perspective, are proposed to be solved?

**Fake currency notes**

\*7. DR. ABRAR AHMED:  
DR. DASARI NARAYANA  
RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment about the fake Indian currency notes in circulation as on date;

(b) whether Government have reasons to believe that Pakistan Government is behind this fake Indian currency notes circulation; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken in this regard?

**Trade to Trade deals in BSE**

\*8. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether SEBI has banned Trade to Trade deals in Bombay Stock Exchange; and

(b) if so, the details of the companies which have been banned and the reasons therefor?

**Fraud cases in banks**

\*9. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether quite a good number of fraud cases have come to light in banking sector in which banks were defrauded substantial amount of money;

(b) if so, the details of frauds detected in each bank during the last three years, year-wise and bank-wise;

(c) in how many cases, insiders were involved, bank-wise; and

(d) the action taken by each bank, year-wise?

**Interest rate on deposits**

†\*10. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH  
'LALAN':  
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rate of interest  
on deposits was reduced from time to time  
by Public Sector Banks during the period  
from March, 2000 to October, 2003;

(b) if so, the extent of reduction in the  
rate of interest made by each of the Public  
Sector Banks alongwith the dates on which  
such reduction was made; and

(c) the rates of interest that were in force  
for the various term deposits schemes in  
these banks at the end of April, 2000 and  
October, 2003?

**Right to contamination-free water to  
domestic users**

\*11. SHRI MANOJ  
BHATTACHARYA:  
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR  
REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER  
RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Jal  
Board Act, 1996 does not recognise the right  
of the consumer to be supplied with  
contamination-free water to the domestic  
users;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and  
whether Government propose to correct this  
inadequacy in law to give a legal cover  
against unsafe water supply; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Pagladiya Dam in Assam**

\*12. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTA-  
CHARJEE: Will the Minister of WATER  
RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Assam  
Chief Minister has urged upon the Central  
Government to constitute an autonomous  
body for ensuring the timely completion  
of the multi-purpose Pagladiya Dam project  
in the State;

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

(c) by when the proposed autonomous  
body is likely to be put in place?

**Revision of rates of interest on loans**

†\*13. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:  
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of  
interest on the loan given to different  
sectors from time to time during April, 2000  
to October, 2003 by Public Sector Banks  
in the country has been revised;

(b) if so, when these changes have been  
made together with the details thereof; and

(c) the rates of interest being charged on  
different kinds of loans given to various  
sectors by Public Sector Banks during April,  
2000 and October, 2003?

**Financial performance of IA**

\*14.SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines has been  
continuously incurring loss which has been  
commented by the CAG in its latest report;

(b) whether delay in aircraft fleet  
maintenance, poor revenue management,  
injudicious implementation of the  
promotional fares and underutilisation of  
cargo capacity were the main reasons given  
by the CAG;

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether IA is expected to post a net loss of Rs. 93.98 crores in the first six months (April-September) of the current fiscal year; and

(d) if so, steps Government propose to take to improve its position after CAG's report?

**Fake stamp papers**

†\*15. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some fake stamp papers have been seized in some banks during the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of persons found involved in the same?

**Excavations at Qutab Heritage**

\*16. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:  
PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of many artefacts found during excavations at Qutab Heritage Complex, only 18 were last shifted out in 1998 and the rest are left unattended although many of these artefacts are from the 27-odd Jain and Hindu temples that were discovered in the Complex during ASI operations;

(b) if so, the reasons for this gross neglect which might have resulted in theft and pilferage of such important historical pieces; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to safeguard and interpret these artefacts to enrich historical records?

**Low credit offtake by industry**

\*17. SHRI GAYA SINGH:  
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite the low interest rate regime, the credit offtake from banks by industry continues to be sluggish; and

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

**Inquiry report on helicopter accident**

\*18. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:  
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Inquiry Commission on the helicopter accident set up by Government in August, 2003 to enquire into safety and security of lives in offshore operation especially air logistics and inspection, mechanism, has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations made by it; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

**Retrieval of articles belonging to Sikh Gurus**

\*19. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMA-CHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that articles belonging to Guru Nanak Dev and Guru Gobind Singh have been allegedly shifted to Canada; and

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the measures proposed to bring them back from Canada for preservation in the country?

**Lack of activity in primary issues**

\*20. SHRINILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the bullish upward movement in the secondary market

in the stock exchanges during the last six months in the secondary sector is not commensurate with the number of primary issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the relative lack of activity in primary issues which indicates domestic investment can be construed as reason for a 'feel good factor' of the economy?

NEW DELHI;

*The 25th November, 2003*

*Agrahayana 4, 1925 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN

*Secretary-General.*

**INDEX**  
**(Ministry-wise)**

<b>Civil Aviation</b>	: 14,
<b>Finance</b>	: 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 17, 20,
<b>Petroleum and Natural Gas</b>	: 1, 4, 18,
<b>Tourism and Culture</b>	: 2, 16, 19,
<b>Water Resources</b>	: 6, 11, 12.