

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, the December 2, 2005/Agrahayana 11, 1927 (Saka)*

**(Ministries: Agriculture; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Environment and Forests; Food Processing Industries; Health and Family Welfare; Railways; Steel)**

**Total number of questions — 20**

#### **Condition of railway yards and washing lines**

†\*141. SHRIMATI PREMA  
CARIAPPA:  
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the condition of the railway yards and washing lines located in Delhi has so much deteriorated that any serious mishap may occur there at any time;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the employees working there have been demanding for repairs for the last five years;

(c) if so, the action taken, so far, by Government for improvement in the condition; and

(d) by when, reconstruction work of the buildings of the railway yards and washing lines would be completed?

#### **Approval of dangerous projects and industries**

†\*142. SHRIMATI KUM KUM  
RAI: Will the Minister of

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last two years Government have given clearance to such type of projects and industries which are very dangerous from environmental point of view; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Clinical trials by multinational companies**

\*143. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT:  
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's policy regarding clinical trials being conducted by multinational companies in the country;

(b) the steps taken by Government for regulating such clinical trials;

(c) whether Government have any mechanism to monitor/regulate such medical trials;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Introduction of trains running 100 Km. per hour**

\*144. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have any proposal to introduce trains in Andhra Pradesh which run at 100 Km. per hour;
- (b) if so, whether Government have identified any routes for this purpose;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government have conducted any trial before introducing these trains;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) the time-frame set to introduce these trains; and
- (g) the details of extra expenditure likely to be incurred for this purpose?

**Ban on smoking scenes in films and TV serials**

\*145. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have imposed a ban on smoking scenes in films and Television serials with effect from 2nd October, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of film industry, if any, received by Government; and
- (d) how Government propose to tackle foreign films having smoking scenes released in theatres?

**Crops under NCIS**

\*146. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names and details of the crops which are presently covered under the National Crop Insurance Scheme;

(b) the names and details of those new crops which are presently under consideration for being covered under the scheme;

(c) whether the scheme is being implemented in the whole country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the total number of farmers in the country, and out of them, the total number of farmers who have got the benefits of the scheme during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(g) whether any target was fixed for the coverage under the Scheme during 2005-2006; and

(h) if so, the target achieved upto date?

**Funds for agricultural research**

\*147. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated during each of the last three years for agricultural research, State-wise;

(b) the achievements made in regard to higher productivity in the field of agriculture as a result of these researches;

(c) whether any high-yielding varieties of paddy and wheat were produced during these years;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken to popularize the same among the farmers;

(e) whether it is a fact that per-hectare productivity of wheat and paddy is very low when compared to other countries

particularly the western countries and the far east; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken thereon?

**Allowing imported deep sea fishing vessels in EEZ**

\*148. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing a policy to allow imported deep sea fishing vessels on deferred payments to fish in our EEZ;

(b) if so, the number of such trawlers which fished in 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(c) whether Government are aware that new conditions and new restrictions make it impossible for such ventures to succeed and the spirit of the original policy is being vitiated;

(d) the objectives of such activities; and

(e) the steps proposed to adopt a pro-active role?

**Making KVK system contemporary**

\*149. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to make Krishi Vigyan Kendra system contemporary;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had set up Agriculture Technology Management Agencies in several districts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Indebtedness of farmers in Andhra Pradesh**

\*150. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:  
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the latest Sample Survey Organisation's Report, 82 per cent of the farm holdings in Andhra Pradesh are suffering from indebtedness;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in spite of high GDP growth and agricultural prosperity, nearly half of the farm holdings in the country are indebted at various degrees; and

(c) if so, the action Government are taking to reduce indebtedness in the country, with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

**Growth of FPIs**

†\*151. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the annual growth rate of food processing industries in the country remained at around 6 per cent in the past;

(b) if not, the annual growth rate assessed from the period 2000 to 2004;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are ample opportunities for growth of the said industry in the country; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Fixing profit margin on drugs**

†\*152. DR. MURLI MANOHAR  
JOSHI:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR  
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS  
AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no maximum limit for earning share of profit by the drug manufacturers in the drug manufacturing industry has been fixed in the present price fixation policy;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the percentage of the share of profit being earned by drug manufacturers at present in comparison to the average manufacturing cost;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a committee under the chairmanship of a Joint Secretary has been constituted by Government to decide the limit of trade-margin in the drug industry; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and by when the said committee would submit its final report?

**Unauthorised homoeopathic medical colleges in Assam**

\*153. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA  
TAIMUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH  
AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some unregistered private homoeopathic colleges are mushrooming without affiliation from either the Central Council of Homoeopathy or the Assam State Homoeopathic Board, which affects the reputation of the homoeopathic system of medicine and also exposes the patients seeking treatment to a grave danger;

(b) whether Government have taken any measures to identify such bogus institutions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Rise in prices of essential commodities**

\*154. SHRI AMAR SINGH:  
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC  
DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the hardships being faced by the public at large on account of abnormal rise in the prices of essential commodities in general and specially of onion and other vegetables during the months of October and November, 2005;

(b) if so, the specific reasons for the steep rise in prices of all the commodities which had hurt the lower strata of the Society; and

(c) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

**MSP for Rajasthan crops**

†\*155. SHRI LALIT KISHORE  
CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of  
AGRICULTURE be pleased to state  
whether there is any scheme to buy main  
crops from Rajasthan such as gwar,  
corriander, cumin, isabgoal, onion and garlic  
at support price?

**Decline in growth rate of foodgrain production**

\*156. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS  
KAUR: Will the Minister of  
AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that annual growth

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

rate of foodgrain production has slipped from 16 per cent in 1991-96 to merely 2.9 per cent in 2001-05;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a fall; and

(c) the special steps contemplated for the last phase of the Tenth Five Year Plan to improve this growth rate and the targets fixed for these years?

#### **Model stations in Uttar Pradesh**

†\*157. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan to give model look to some of the stations in the State of Uttar Pradesh under the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated for this purpose and the number of stations made as model stations, so far; and

(d) the amount spent thereon, so far?

#### **Cotton variety by CICR**

\*158. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR) has been able to introduce the CryI Ac gene in an Indian cotton variety and the Institute's Bt variety is likely to hit the market in the next two years; and

(b) if so, the special features of the CICR's Bt variety?

#### **Scheme for health infrastructure development in rural areas**

†\*159. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government schemes to develop infrastructure relating to health in rural areas;

(b) the funds reserved for rural areas under Health for All Scheme;

(c) whether any special scheme would be formulated to provide medical facilities at a cheaper rate in view of economic condition of rural poor; and

(d) if so, the expected outline thereof?

#### **Supreme Court directive on drug price control**

\*160. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India had directed the Government in 2003 to formulate appropriate criteria to ensure that essential and life saving drugs do not fall outside the ambit of price control;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had promised to make all life saving drugs available at reasonable prices and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the steps taken, so far, to honour the Supreme Court's directive and the commitment made in by Government?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 26th November, 2005*  
*Agrahayana 5, 1927 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

## **I N D E X**

**(Ministry-wise)**

<b>Agriculture</b>	: 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 155, 156, 158,
<b>Chemicals and Fertilizers</b>	: 152, 160,
<b>Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</b>	: 154,
<b>Environment and Forests</b>	: 142,
<b>Food Processing Industries</b>	: 151,
<b>Health and Family Welfare</b>	: 143, 145, 153, 159,
<b>Railways</b>	: 141, 144, 157.
<b>Steel</b>	: —