

## RAJYA SABHA

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### List of Questions for ORALANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Tuesday, the May 3, 2005/Vaisakha 13, 1927 (Saka)*

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**(Ministries : Civil Aviation; Company Affairs; Finance; Panchayati Raj;  
Petroleum and Natural Gas; Tourism; Water Resources)**

**Total number of questions —20**

#### **Enquiry reports on helicopter crashes**

\*541. SHRI AMAR SINGH:  
SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS  
KAUR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION  
be pleased to state:

(a) the number of choppers (civilian)  
which crashed during the last three years  
alongwith the causes of each crash;

(b) what action Government have taken  
in the light of findings of enquiries conducted  
in this regard;

(c) whether Government's attention has  
been drawn to the recent statement by  
IAF's Director-General (Inspection and  
Safety) after the recent mishap resulting in  
the deaths of two Ministers of Haryana  
Government to the effect that stringent  
norms for selection of pilots and  
helicopters and a review of Civil Aviation  
Rules enacted in 1934 can go a long way in  
preventing the mishaps; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction  
in regard thereto and by when, the rules are  
likely to be reviewed?

#### **Space crunch at major airports**

\*542. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the  
Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased  
to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indira  
Gandhi International Airport and other  
major airports are facing space crunch;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

#### **Management of National Investment Fund**

\*543. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS  
KAUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether any rules or guidelines have  
been laid down for management and  
appropriation of the National Investment  
Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the present corpus of this  
fund and the expected annual returns  
therefrom and how far these returns are  
higher than the dividend market price ratio  
of the PSUs in raising this fund; and

(d) what steps are being taken to ensure that the returns therefrom do not turn negative as it happened lately in the case of the Unit Trust of India?

**Permission to unmanned aircrafts to fly over civilian air space**

†\*544. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:  
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unmanned spy aircrafts are being allowed to fly over civilian air space;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether incidents of air crashes are likely to increase as a result thereof?

**Poor maintenance of aircrafts of Alliance Air**

†\*545. SHRI MANGANI LAL  
MANDAL:  
SHRI UDAY PRATAP  
SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the engines of many aircrafts of Alliance Air, a subsidiary of Indian Airlines, are dilapidated, defective and technically out of order;

(b) whether it is also a fact that despite strong possibility of accidents in flying the aircrafts of Alliance Air, no attention is being paid in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Oil contracts with OPEC countries**

\*546. SHRI RAMA MUNI  
REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:  
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA  
RAO:

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

(a) whether India have any long-term contract with the oil producing countries *i.e.* OPEC;

(b) if so, the details of the countries and contracts that India entered into with these countries;

(c) if not, whether India had made any efforts at the recently held Asian Round Table Conference on Oil Cooperation;

(d) whether any countries have agreed to India's proposal of long-term oil deals; and

(e) if so, the details of the countries that have accepted our proposal and how such contracts would help us in stabilising the volatile markets in the country?

**Operations of airlines on non-profitable routes**

\*547. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the non-profit making routes, where Indian Airlines and Alliance Air is operating;

(b) whether private airlines are also operating on these non-profitable routes;

(c) if so, the comparative details with regard to operations of both private and public sector airlines on such routes;

(d) whether Government are considering any proposal to make it mandatory for

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

private airlines to operate on non-profitable routes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Expenditure on salaries to Government employees**

†\*548. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR  
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is considerable increase in expenditure on salaries to Government employees since the year 2003-04 and the number of employees has also increased;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the increase recorded during the year 2004-05 compared to the year 2003-04; and

(c) the estimated amount to be spent during the year 2005-06 on the same?

**Aircrafts leased by the Indian Airlines**

\*549. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal made by the Indian Airlines to lease wide body Aircraft; and

(b) if so, the details of the same and the destinations for which these leased Aircrafts will be deployed?

**Different rates of interest on Bank loans to SSI sector**

\*550. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector banks of

the country give loans to Small Scale Industries on different rates of interest;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to adopt uniform policy with respect to the nationalised banks in the matter of sanctioning loans to SSI units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Mid-term appraisal of oil PSUs**

\*551. SHRI MOOLCHAND  
MEENA:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI  
REDDY:

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

(a) whether taking note of their incorrect investment pattern in oil and gas sector, Central Public Sector Undertakings viz. ONGC, IOCL, HPCL, BPCL, GAIL and OIL have been urged to improve their intrinsic competitiveness and professional functioning;

(b) if so, whether during discussions in mid-term appraisal it was felt that there is a need to restructure the oil companies to attain sectoral objectives;

(c) if so, what suggestions were made by the Planning Panel and how many of its recommendations have been accepted by the Ministry; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement them?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Proposals for big irrigation projects**

†\*552. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:  
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for big irrigation projects all over the country pending with the Central Government for approval; and

(b) the number of proposals which pertain to Orissa and Himachal Pradesh and the number of these proposals which have been approved and their present status?

**Requirement of pilots**

\*553. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have visualized the likely growth of air traffic from India in the next five years and the requirement of qualified pilots for the purpose;

(b) whether it is a fact that 70 per cent of the pilots now working with many leading Asian Airlines are Indians because they are offered better salaries and other perks as compared to Air India and Indian Airlines;

(c) if so, Government's views thereon; and

(d) the total capacity of flying clubs and training academies in India to train qualified pilots per year and whether the Ministry is considering to increase the training centres for pilots?

**Sale of IOC and ONGC's shares**

†\*554. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that both the Indian Oil Corporation and the ONGC propose to sell the shares of each other in the market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Strategic storage of crude oil**

†\*555. DR. MURLI MANOHAR  
JOSHI:  
SHRI C. PERUMAL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the work on the project regarding strategic storage of crude oil is going on in the country;

(b) if so, the Institute which has primarily been entrusted with the responsibility of this project;

(c) the total amount of money spent on this project by this Institute till March, 2005; and

(d) the total cost that has been assessed to be incurred on the construction of this project and the time schedule given to the Institute to complete project?

**Guidelines on acquisition of private banks by foreign banks**

†\*556. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India proposes to issue guidelines with regard to acquisition and running of private banks by the foreign banks in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress of the action taken till now/to be taken in this regard?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Assistance to rural women by  
NABARD**

\*557. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the poor women living in rural areas of Gujarat are being provided assistance by NABARD through its programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of districts covered under these programmes during the last two years alongwith the programme-wise details of number of women provided assistance?

**Measures to meet shortage of water  
during summer in Delhi**

\*558. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact Delhities face acute shortage of water during summer season and the State Government of Uttar Pradesh (UP) has refused to release 140 MGD water to Delhi for Sonia Vihar water treatment plant;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to counter water shortage in Delhi; and

(c) how much money has been spent on the construction of Sonia Vihar water treatment plant?

**Campaigns on water conservation  
and management**

\*559. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:  
SHRI DHARAM PAL  
SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to create awareness on water conservation and management in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how much money is being spent during the current financial year on various educational campaigns on water conservation?

**Amount released to Andhra Pradesh  
for small irrigation projects**

†\*560. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released by the Central Government to Andhra Pradesh Government for small irrigation projects, tubewells and shallow tubewells during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of utilization of this fund, year-wise; and

(c) the latest details of tubewells set up, small irrigation projects completed/under construction with the help of Central assistance under National Equal Development Scheme in Andhra Pradesh, during the last three years?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 27th April, 2005*  
*Vaisakha 7, 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>Civil Aviation</b>	: 541, 542, 544, 545, 547, 549, 553,
<b>Company Affairs</b>	: —
<b>Finance</b>	: 543, 548, 550, 556, 557,
<b>Panchayati Raj</b>	: —
<b>Petroleum and Natural Gas</b>	: 546, 551, 554, 555,
<b>Tourism</b>	: —
<b>Water Resources</b>	: 552, 558, 559, 560.