

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, the August 4, 2005/Sravana 13, 1927 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy; Coal; Communications and Information Technology; External Affairs; Labour and Employment; Ocean Development; Overseas Indian Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Science and Technology; Shipping, Road Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions —20

Sale of former Indian Embassy Building in Bonne

*161. SHRISANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to sell 100 years old former Indian Embassy Building in Bonne, Germany despite strong objection from the Indian community in Germany;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the advertisement for selling this building appeared in the Daily Newspaper and the website in Germany; and

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

Miners killed in coal mine accidents

†*162. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of miners killed in

accidents during the last one year in coal mines operating under subsidiary coal companies of Coal India Limited in Jharkhand;

(b) the findings of the Enquiry Committees constituted for conducting enquiry into such accidents from time to time;

(c) the number of officials found responsible for such accidents against whom action has been taken; and

(d) the steps taken to check such accidents?

Government representatives in ILO Conference

†*163. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government sends representatives of labourers in the I.L.O. (International Labour Organisation) Conference;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the criteria adopted to grant permission to representatives for participating in the Conference;

(c) whether Government had sent representatives of labourers in the 93rd International Labour Conference, recently held in Geneva;

(d) if so, the aim with which these representatives had been sent in the above Conference;

(e) whether it is a fact that Government had received a proposal from the International Labour Organisation for sending the representatives of labourers in this Conference; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

Access to Indians in Pakistani jails

*164. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians held in Pakistan presently on various charges;

(b) whether Government have any access to these Indians;

(c) what steps Government propose to take to ensure that there is regular communication among these Indian prisoners and their families in India;

(d) whether any agreement has been worked out with Pakistan to humanize this issue; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Safeguarding interests of Indian IT companies

*165. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that unscrupulous operators are perpetrating frauds and duping unsuspecting Indian companies by giving BPO (Branching Process Operations) work from Indian or overseas clients;

(b) if so, whether our existing laws are adequate to deal with such a situation with a view to safeguarding interests of Indian IT companies;

(c) how many such cases were brought to the notice of Government during 2004 and first six months of 2005;

(d) whether any guidelines have been issued for the protection of interests of Indian Companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Widening of highways in Tamil Nadu

*166. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had accorded its approval for converting the Madurai-Aruppukottai-Tuticorin Highway into a four lane road;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other National Highways in Tamil Nadu that are being converted into four or six lane for which accord had been given, recently?

Expansion of communication services in Orissa

†*167. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the fact that communication services in Orissa are in bad condition and their expansion is taking place at a very slow pace;

(b) the efforts made by Government to provide communication services at a fast speed in the State and what is the outcome thereof;

(c) by when Orissa is likely to be brought under cent-per cent communication services; and

(d) the reasons for not achieving this target till now?

Level of scientific research in the country

*168. SHRI MANOJ
BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI C.
RAMACHANDRAIAH:

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent media reports that the Indian Scientist is a case of pointless and indolent research;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to rejuvenate the level of scientific research in the Universities and various scientific institutes of excellence and make them professionally useful for developing technology?

Provision of overloading to washeries

†*169. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether overloading is provided by S.E.C.L. in Chhattisgarh to two coal washeries;

(b) if so, whether these coal washeries use State highways for transportation;

(c) whether rules under Motor Vehicles Act are not being violated by providing such overloading; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

MMS clips

*170. SHRIDATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that instances of titillating MMS clips have been on the rise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the technology in the area of electronic communication has developed to such an extent that it is capable of being misused and abused;

(d) whether there is any legislation to deal with the abuse of electronic data which has been doctored;

(e) whether Government propose to suitably amend the Information Technology Act of 2000 to deal with the day-to-day problems of offensive electronic messages; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Demarcation of five points alongwith the LoC

*171. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has rejected the proposal on demarcation of five points alongwith the LoC;

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

(c) the reasons for rejecting the proposal by Pakistan Government?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Flat rate for telecom sector

*172. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating a flat rate for the whole country for telecom tariff;

(b) if so, the impact of this on local calls and long distance calls;

(c) whether it is a fact that the long distance calls in India are one of the cheapest in the world;

(d) if not, the comparative rates elsewhere; and

(e) the possible impact of flat rate on excessive deficit charges?

Indo-Bangladesh Foreign Secretaries talks on fencing

*173. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Foreign Secretaries of India and Bangladesh have agreed to discuss border fencing;

(b) if so, whether any date has been fixed for the joint meeting between Foreign Secretaries on this issue;

(c) whether Bangladesh has stated that Government have launched a military crackdown on Indian separatists bases, prompting security forces on this side of border to step into high alert to prevent fleeing militants from entering Indian territory; and

(d) to what extent border fencing has been completed upto now?

Pakistan President's statement regarding self governance in Kashmir

*174. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement made by Pakistan President Musharraf to the effect that solution of Kashmir problem lies not in autonomy but in 'self governance';

(b) whether it is a fact that Hurriyat Leaders during their recent visit to Pakistan had also advocated the concept of a United States of Kashmir from where Kashmiris can take a plane to Delhi, Islamabad or Tashkent; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction in regard thereto and in what manner Government propose to solve this problem?

Using postman as data collector

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

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Postal Department was established 150 years ago, and at that time no one would have believed that by 21st century, besides distributing letters, postmen would knock at your door to collect consumer data;

(b) if so, whether in that pilot project, postal department has collected a fairly comprehensive database of utilization of Fast Moving Consumable Goods (FMCG) products, telecom services and using postmen as data collectors;

(c) if so, by what time this scheme is likely to be introduced throughout the country;

(d) to what extent, it has been welcomed by all; and

(e) to what extent, data has so far been collected in various parts of the country?

Modernisation of ports

*176. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the steps taken so far to expand or modernise various ports like Karwar, Bhatkal, Honnavar, Malpe etc.?

Stem cell research

*177. SHRIMATI JAYABACHCHAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the possibility of the country becoming a nucleus of stem cell research; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

Attestation of certificates by Ministry of External Affairs

*178. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries which need the educational certificates to be attested by the Department of Education and the Ministry of External Affairs;

(b) whether it is a fact that all the job aspirants wishing to go to these countries

have to come to Delhi from all over India; and

(c) whether Government would extend this facility of attestation to the States as well?

Implementation of common rates Under 'One India' programme

†*179. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to do away with the criteria of distance to implement the common rates by removing the Local and STD rates under 'One India' programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Employment exchanges in Nagaland

*180. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jobless persons registered with employment exchanges in the State of Nagaland;

(b) the action taken by Government to provide employment to these persons in the future; and

(c) whether Government propose to provide special grants to the States for youth of NER to give employment allowance to the unemployed?

NEW DELHI;
The 29th July, 2005
Sravana 7, 1927 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Prime Minister	: —
Agro and Rural Industries	: —
Atomic Energy	: —
Coal	: 162, 169,
Communications and Information Technology	: 165, 167, 170, 172, 175, 179,
External Affairs	: 161, 164, 171, 173, 174, 178,
Labour and Employment	: 163, 180,
Ocean Development	: —
Overseas Indian Affairs	: —
Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	: —
Planning	: —
Science and Technology	: 168, 177,
Shipping, Road Transport and Highways	: 166, 176.
Small Scale Industries	: —
Space	: —
Statistics and Programme Implementation	: —
Youth Affairs and Sports	: —