

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, the December 6, 2001/Agrahayana 15, 1923 (Saka)*

**(Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy;
Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution;
External Affairs; Information Technology; Labour; Parliamentary
Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning;
Road Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries;
Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation)**

Total number of questions—20

Satellite money orders

*241. SHRI C. P. THIRUNAVU-
KKARASU: Will the Minister of
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to
state:

(a) whether the Department of Posts
has achieved the expected traffic of satellite
money orders;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government are taking
to improve the traffic of satellite money
order transfer?

New system of recruitment for All India Services

*242. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR
REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the method
of recruitment to the All India Services is
set to undergo a major revision;

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

(c) whether the new system would take

into account the special requirements for
the millennium leading to an era of a new
generation of reforms; and

(d) by when the new selection process
is likely to be put in place?

Steps for preservation of food

†*243. SHRIMATI SAVITA
SHARDA: Will the Minister of
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to
state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food
Corporation of India was established for
the preservation of food;

(b) if so, whether the Food Corporation
of India has not been able to achieve the
objective;

(c) if so, whether Government are
considering to take some steps for the
preservation of food; and

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Implementation of ESIC
Programme**

*244. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) to implement the programme it had drawn up for the Golden Jubilee year;

(b) what is the aggregate amount the insurers are to get as on the 31st March, 2001;

(c) what amount would be disbursed during the Golden Jubilee year; and

(d) how many model hospitals would be set up on the basis of the programme?

Sanction of Telephone towers

*245. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the towers for giving telephone connectivity and television facility particularly to Parvati Valley and other connected areas in Kullu District, Ashapuri Valley and other connected areas in Kangra District in Himachal Pradesh were sanctioned during 1994 to 1996 by the Department of Telecommunications;

(b) whether foundation was also completed during that period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and what action has been taken or proposed to be taken to complete the projects and if no action has been taken so far, the reasons therefor?

Underworld dons

*246. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UAE Government is not co-operating in dealing with the Indian underworld dons who have made Dubai their base for so many years;

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

(c) the details of the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

Indo-Russian joint venture

*247. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia are launching a number of joint ventures for manufacturing telecom equipments and optic fibres;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the work on the projects is likely to commence?

PoW lodged in Kot Lakhpat Jail

*248. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have refused to accept 51 PoW, lodged in Kot Lakhpat Jail in Pakistan, 32 of whom have been declared as internees after completing their jail terms awarded by various Pakistani courts;

(b) if so, whether Government have also refused to accept ashes of 21 cremated Indian Prisoners of War lying in the Kot Lakhpat Jail; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Handing over of NH-52 to BRO

*249. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to hand over National Highway-52 to the Border Roads Organisation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, the date of decision and actual execution;

(c) the details of the outstanding liabilities to the contractors and the category-wise strength and probable fate of the employees in the light of the said decision, working under Assam PWD for National Highway-52;

(d) the details of the improvement and repair plan, including target set for conversion into four lane; and

(e) the date of allocation and implementation status of bridge at Jaladia Suti by BRO?

Rise in unemployment

*250. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has admitted rise in unemployment after the economic reforms were launched;

(b) whether the employment growth rate slipped during 1993-94 to 1999-2000 in comparison to earlier decade (1983-84 to 1993-94) and if so, to what extent;

(c) whether the incidence of unemployment among youths (15-29 age group) is also rising and if so, to what extent; and

(d) what steps/programmes Government are likely to take/launch to create more employment opportunities?

Loan for modernisation of National Highways

*251. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new loan the country got from the Asian Development Bank to modernise National Highways System; and

(b) the Highways to be developed with that loan?

Introduction of German Passport Writing Machine

*252. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that German made passport writing machines would be

introduced in the Regional Passport Office, Hyderabad;

(b) in what manner the machine would prevent frauds;

(c) whether Government also propose to introduce such machines in passport offices in other parts of the country; and

(d) the manner in which Government propose to utilize services of a large number of excess personnel?

Accidents on National Highways in U.P.

†*253. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents that took place on the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the number of people killed/injured in such accidents in the State during the said period; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent road accidents on the National Highways?

Foodgrains stored in the FCI godowns

*254. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains stored in the godowns of FCI;

(b) whether it is enough to meet the States' requirement, and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the foodgrains taken by the States under BPL Scheme and Annapurna Anna Yojana in the third quarter of 2001?

V-SAT and E.S.M.O. Stations in Karnataka

*255. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of V-SAT Stations and Extended Satellite Money Order (E.S.M.O.) Stations that are presently functioning in Karnataka;

(b) the number of new V-SAT Stations and Extended Satellite Money Order Stations that are proposed to be set up in the State; and

(c) the places where these are proposed to be set up?

Central Road Fund Scheme

*256. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to the States from the Central Road Fund Scheme during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of the works undertaken by the State Governments from such funds, State-wise;

(c) whether Government are aware that the funds are being diverted by certain State Governments to cover State Highways as well as major district roads;

(d) if so, the facts thereof, State-wise; and

(e) the measures being adopted by Government to ensure proper utilization of funds and timely completion of the projects?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Financial package to SSI sector

*257. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the sickness in the Small Scale Industry sector;

(b) how many Small Scale Units have been closed down in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the manner in which Government plan to revive these sick units;

(d) whether there is any financial package for revival of these units; and

(e) if so, the amount allocated for this purpose by Government?

Agricultural workers in Jharkhand

*258. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey about the existing agricultural workers in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(c) the welfare measures, if any, Government have initiated for these agricultural workers?

Purchase of UP wheat by Punjab

*259. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: SHRI KHAGEN DAS:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "UP traders reap floor price" and "Punjab denies having bought UP wheat from traders" respectively which appeared in The Times of India', New Delhi dated 16th and 17th November, 2001; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

Threat to Indian software companies

*260. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether with the slowdown in the US Infotech sector, large American consulting companies are posing a major threat to Indian software companies that seek to ride on the offshore model;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons for posing a threat to Indian software companies; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to meet such threat?

NEW DELHI;
The 29th November, 2001
Agrahayana 8, 1923 (Saka)

R. C. TRIPATHI,
Secretary-General.

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