

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on

Thursday, the March 7, 2002/Phalguna 16, 1923 (Saka)

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy; Communications and Information Technology; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; External Affairs; 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

Bridge between India and Sri Lanka

*101. SHRI C. P. THIRUNAVU-KKARASU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to construct a bridge between India and Sri Lanka; and

(b) if so, whether Government have dropped the scheme of "Sethu Samuthram Scheme"?

Discontinuation of Centrally assisted projects

†*102. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to discontinue the projects being implemented with the Central assistance and those being run by the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what would be its likely impact on development of the country;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the targets

fixed by Government have not been achieved, so far; and

(e) the number of projects which have not been completed as per its time schedule and budget provisions?

Aid to new Afghan regime

*103. DR. KARAN SINGH:
SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned \$ 200 million aid to the new Afghan regime;

(b) if so, on what terms and conditions; and

(c) what other steps have been taken to establish economic, trade and diplomatic relations with the new regime?

Identification of BPL families in H.P.

*104. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the BPL families in Himachal Pradesh to be covered under the targeted PDS;

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

(c) whether all of them have been given special ration cards; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Families covered under 'Antodaya Anna Yojana'

*105. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families which have been covered under the 'Antodaya Anna Yojana' till 31st December, 2001, State-wise; and

(b) the quantity of foodgrains distributed to these families under the scheme till the aforesaid date, State-wise?

Indo-US Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism

*106. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR:
SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the subjects discussed by the Indo-US Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism during its recent meeting in New Delhi;

(b) the decisions taken thereat; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to install high-tech sensors to detect cross border human movements?

Award of excellence relating to labour

*107. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria of selection for the "Shram Ratna, Shram Bhushan and Shram Vir" awards of excellence relating to labour;

(b) the content of such awards;

(c) when these awards were established and since then how many have been awarded these awards, category-wise;

(d) whether it is a fact that BHEL employees have got it for the last sixteen consecutive years; and

(e) the composition of the Committee for selection of such awards?

Increase in unemployment

*108. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unemployment is gradually increasing in the country;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what steps are being taken to wipe out unemployment; and

(d) how many persons were registered with various employment exchanges in the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and so far in 2002 for employment?

Telephone facility in villages in Almora District

*109. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no telephone facility in Seem, Bungga,

Siyalkot, Chanuli, Sarpatta, Kunjhina, Srikot, Kota and Majhali villages of Patti Kaklashon in Almora District of Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and by when this facility is likely to be provided in these areas; and

(c) the steps being proposed by Government for development of telephone network and laying of optical fibre cable in these areas?

Amendment to Central Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985

*110. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to amend the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985, so that the Administrative Tribunals could be abolished by the Central and the State Governments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what alternative fora would be available to Government employees for redressal of their service grievances?

Making CBI a multi-disciplinary organisation

*111. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for making the Central Bureau of Investigation a multi-disciplinary organisation; and

(b) the number of CBI cases, against IAS, IPS, IRS, (Custom and Central Excise), IRS (Income Tax), IA & AS (Audit and Accounts), Indian Railways

Services, and other All India Services officers, separately, since 1996 to 2001?

Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism

*112. SHRI BHAGATRAM
MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised a key anti-terrorist project titled Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) and presented it before the United Nations, recently;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the countries that have supported the Indian Government on this proposal and in what way it would help Government to curb terrorism?

Dividend paid by VSNL to exchequer

*113. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the amount of dividend paid by VSNL to Government exchequer during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001?

Funds under technological support scheme

*114. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:
SHRI C. RAMACHAND-
RAIAH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry provided funds to some institutions under the scheme of Technological support;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of work turned out by these institutions with particular reference to development of software in the Indian languages; and

(d) what steps Government propose to speed up the development process?

Demarche to Pakistan to handover criminals

*115. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued a fresh Demarche to Pakistan on the 11th February, 2002, asking them to hand-over 20 criminals and terrorists sought by India;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the 20 criminals have Interpol red corner notices against them; and

(c) if so, what pressure, at diplomatic level, Government have applied so far on Pakistan if it is not willing to follow the example of the United Arab Emirates for handing over such terrorists to India?

Cut on Central financial assistance

*116. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to cut 15 per cent Central Financial Assistance to the States; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

Discontinuation of STD/ISD services in Jammu and Kashmir

†*117. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

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

(a) whether STD/ISD services have been banned in Jammu and Kashmir as a result of which the Army Jawans and other security forces posted at the border are not able to talk to their families on phone;

(b) whether due to closure of telephone booths unemployment has also increased;

(c) if so, whether Government would reinstate STD/ISD services in the State; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Private sector investment in satellites

†*118. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country needs a large number of satellite transponders in the ensuing years;

(b) whether we are in the position to meet this requirement;

(c) if so, whether there is any scheme for investment by the private sector in satellites; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Regularisation of Government servants

*119. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government servants who rendered 240 days or more service each in two consecutive years in a higher category would be regularised in higher category;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details of rules in this regard;
- (c) whether the above said rules are being followed by the various Departments and Ministries; and
- (d) if not, what action Government propose to take to regularise such workers in the higher category?

Visit of foreign dignitaries after attack on Parliament

*120. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign dignitaries who have visited India during December and January 2001 and 2002 respectively especially after attack on Parliament by the terrorists on 13th December, 2001;

(b) the details of the discussions and agreement on various issues especially the countries view on cross border terrorism; and

(c) the stand of those countries thereon?

NEW DELHI;
The 1st March, 2002
Phalgun 10, 1923 (Saka)

R.C. TRIPATHI,
Secretary-General.

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