

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, the August 8, 2003/Sravana 17, 1925 (Saka)

(Ministries: Agriculture; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Environment and Forests;
Food Processing Industries; Human Resource Development;
Ocean Development; Railways; Science and Technology;
Steel; Youth Affairs and Sports)
Total number of questions—20

Joint venture of KIOCL

*281. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the products currently being manufactured by a Joint Venture Company floated by Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd. (KIOCL) alongwith two other public sector undertakings in June, 1995;

(b) the contribution to equity made by KIOCL to Joint Venture Co. and the reasons for non-allotment of shares;

(c) the amount of loan granted and the interest realised; and

(d) the reasons for grant of concessional loan and the loss caused in interest thereof?

Expansion of area under bamboo

*282. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced any scheme to expand the area under bamboo;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to encourage State Governments to grow bamboo in degraded lands under their control; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to give any assistance to State Governments for this purpose; if so, the details thereof?

Improvement in GER for boys and girls in Orissa

*283. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of children (boys and girls separately) in age group of 6 to 14 years, who go to school in Orissa;

(b) what are the latest figures for Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) and dropout ratio for boys and girls at primary level in Orissa; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve the GER especially for girls in Orissa?

Technical Education Quality and Improvement Programme

*284. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are implementing a Technical Education Quality and Improvement Programme (TEQIP) with the help of some international agencies; and

(b) if so, the details of the programme?

Foot and Mouth Disease Eradication Project

*285. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from Andhra Pradesh Government has been received to include Mahboob Nagar and Nizamabad districts in the National Programme for Foot and Mouth Disease Eradication Project;

(b) if so, when such a request was received; and

(c) what action Government have taken on the request?

Vacant posts in Kendriya Vidyalayas

†*286. SHRI GHANSHYAM CHANDRA KHARWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the region-wise, subject-wise and post-wise details of vacant posts in Kendriya Vidyalayas as on 30th June, 2003; and

(b) by when these posts will be filled up?

Bio-farm in Orissa

*287. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been impressed upon Orissa to set up a bio-farm in the State;

(b) if so, whether the State has asked for help in the matter from the Centre; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether bio-farms growing medicinal plants, have been set up in any of the States/areas; if so, the details thereof?

Efficiency in Railways

†*288. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a dialogue with the Railways personnel has been held directly to improve the efficiency in Railways and to stop rail accidents so that the deficiencies could be removed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of other steps being taken to remove the deficiencies?

Accreditation of Technical and Educational Institutions

*289. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) on the state of our

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Technical and Educational Institutions, none of the 171 Institutes audited by them could fulfil the AICTE requirements necessary for accreditation; and

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

Safety on Railways

†*290. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have so far implemented any important recommendations on railway safety made by the Khanna Committee and Rakesh Mohan Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) steps taken to implement the recommendations of those two Committees to prevent frequent recurrence of rail accidents which have shown a rising trend recently?

Purchase of DAP

*291. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fertilizers Association of India (FAI) determines the price for import/purchase of DAP phosphoric acid from various countries;

(b) if so, the price per ton and the quantity of DAP phosphoric acid imported/purchased from various countries by the Fertilizers Association of India, during the last three years, year-wise and country-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the FAI

also purchase/deal in the purchase/import of these fertilizers from various countries, separately; and

(d) if so, whether any analysis has been made of the purchases made by FAI for Government and for itself and if so, the details of its findings?

Encroachments on forests

*292. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to regularise the pre-1980 encroachments on forests by revoking the provisions of Forest Conservation Act;

(b) whether any proposal to regularise such encroachments has been received from Kerala;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the area if any, in the above category proposed to be regularised and converted into the Revenue land in Kerala;

(d) whether any proposal received from the Government of Kerala for compensatory afforestation is pending for approval; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Retrenchment in SAIL

*293. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SAIL has decided to cut 10,000 jobs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether there is no scope for diversification or expansion of SAIL to absorb the surplus staff?

Allocation for education sector

†*294. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ‘LALAN’:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an amount of Rs. 43,825 crores has been allotted to education sector during Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if not, the exact amount thereof;

(c) the amount-wise allocation for development and extension of primary education, secondary education, higher education and commercial education out of said amount; and

(d) the actual amount spent in each of the above sectors during the past years of the scheme?

Metro Project at Kolkata

*295. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Metro Rail Authority of Kolkata has released any amount to KMC from the date of inception of Metro Project at Kolkata for restoration of road, drainage and sewerage system water pipe-line, street light, parks and gardens and CRAVC from Esplanade to Shyam Bazar Fice Point; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Reorganization of Rajkot Division

*296. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received any petition on 17th February, 2003 to consider reorganization of Rajkot Division of Western Railway by increasing running kilometres, by transferring some sections of Bhavnagar Division;

(b) whether it is a fact that the General Manager, Western Railway, Mumbai has *vide* his letter of 13th February, 2003, addressed to the Secretary, Railway Board, New Delhi, opined to reorganize Rajkot and Bhavnagar Divisions and the same demand has been made by subsequent General Manager *vide* his letter of 9th May, 2003; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken to consider reorganization of Rajkot Division?

Award of degrees by the school of correspondence courses

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

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of students who passed B.A. Examination from Delhi University through correspondence course even about ten years back, have not received their degrees so far;

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government propose to direct the University to despatch the degrees of such students by post and if not, the reasons therefor?

Infrastructures for new trains

*298. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that trains are introduced or extended by his Ministry without making commensurate arrangements of supporting infrastructure in terms of drivers, guards, TTEs and maintenance staff; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of incidents when train drivers and guards were forced to perform duties beyond prescribed hours;

(c) action taken against the officers responsible for such mismanagement, which is a safety hazard; and

(d) steps being taken to ensure timely recruitment and training of Train Running Staff before introduction and extension of trains in future?

Recommendations of Ponnaiah Committee

†*299. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to each Central university during Ninth Five Year Plan

alongwith the amount spent by each university;

(b) whether it is also a fact that most of the universities have spent the funds which were meant for educational purposes on administrative works;

(c) what are the recommendations of Ponnaiah Committee regarding universities;

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure compliance of these recommendations by universities; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Coal-based fertilizer plants

†*300. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of coal-based fertilizer plants established in the country so far;

(b) the details of fertilizer plants closed so far;

(c) whether Talcher Fertilizer Plant has been closed alongwith its heavy water plants; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

NEW DELHI;
The 2nd August, 2003
Sravana 11, 1925 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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