

RAJYASABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, the December 8, 2003/Agrahayana 17, 1925 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Commerce and Industry; Health and Family Welfare; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Information and Broadcasting; Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs; Shipping; Social Justice and Empowerment; Tribal Affairs; Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation)

Total number of questions—20

WTO meeting at Cancun

*81. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTA-
CHARYA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of the World Trade Organisation was held in Cancun in September this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the issues which were considered in the Conference;

(c) the major decisions taken in the Conference and the impact thereof on the agricultural sector;

(d) how far the outcome of Cancun Conference been favourable to India;

(e) whether it is a fact that USA pressurized India to join former's approach in the Conference;

(f) whether it is also a fact that USA and other developed countries have agreed to reduce the subsidies to their farm sector

and market access to their farm produce by developed countries; and

(g) the action proposed to be taken including the policy for the next meeting?

Availability of safe drinking water

*82. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that per day availability of safe drinking water is extremely limited in the country according to Census 2001;

(b) if so, the per day availability of safe drinking water in all 10 lac plus category cities in the country;

(c) whether it is also a fact that water supply in many cities falls far below the national average of 140 litres per capita per day;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether there is any time bound programme to make available safe drinking water in the Indian cities at par with Sri Lanka and Malaysia?

**Unauthorised tobacco barns in
Karnataka**

*83. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unauthorised tobacco barns in Karnataka;

(b) whether there is any proposal from Karnataka to regularise these unauthorised tobacco barns; and

(c) whether in view of the drought in Karnataka, Government would come to the rescue of farmers of the State and allow unregistered farmers to market their produce at one per cent service charge?

**Policy for development of tribals
and dalits**

†*84. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by Government in the rural areas to ascertain where the percentage of tribal and dalit children is higher;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether any specific policy has been

implemented by Government to provide health, education and the opportunities to move forward to the tribal and dalit children; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Medical degrees from foreign
universities**

†*85. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Medical Council of India had made it compulsory for the Indian students who have obtained degrees from certain foreign universities to appear in an examination before starting medical practice in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the countries and universities in respect of which the decision is applicable; and

(c) when the said order was issued by the Medical Council of India and the date when it came into effect?

Sale of Letrozole in market

*86. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Letrozole, prescribed in the USA for treatment of breast cancer is being marketed and used as an infertility cure in India for the last one year or so;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether the approval of the Drug Controller General of India to this variation was obtained by the concerned Pharmaceutical Company and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if answer to (b) above be in negative, the action proposed to be taken against the company for such a grave lapse?

Uniform media policy

*87. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMA-CHANDRAYYA:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA
RAO:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Media Group has raised the issue of a uniform media policy; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

Dengue cases in Delhi

*88. SHRI LALIT SURI:
PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dengue and malaria cases reported in Delhi during August to October this year, month-wise;

(b) whether there has been increase in these cases as compared to the last two years during these months;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to treat these cases and also the preventive measures taken to ensure that such cases are reduced to the minimum in future?

Child sex-ratio

*89. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN:
SHRI R. P. GOENKA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent joint report by the Registrar of Census, UNFPA and her Ministry, entitled 'Missing-Mapping the Adverse Child Sex Ratio in India' has shown an alarming downward trend in the Child sex-ratio, in the last decade;

(b) whether the prosperous States like Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat have revealed the worst performance with as low a ratio as 800 girls for every 1000 boys born;

(c) the exact figures of child sex-ratio for all the States; and

(d) the steps, if any, taken by Government to correct the situation?

Anomalies in fixation of Duty Entitlement Pass Book Rates

*90. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no clear cut guidelines for fixing Duty Entitlement Pass Book Rates for blended socks;

(b) if so, whether it is affecting the exporters who are in the trade of manufacturing of socks made of cotton/polysters;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Export Promotion Councils like Apparel Export Promotion Council/Synthetic Export Promotion Council are not serious

and not supporting the exporters' cause; and

(d) the steps being taken to help and increase the faith of the exporters?

Strength of Judges in High Courts

*91. SHRI N. R. DASARI:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have created 94 more posts of judges in various High Courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that there has been inordinate delay in filling up even the existing vacancies in the High Courts and Supreme Court; and

(d) if so, the details of the vacant posts, since when these are lying vacant and the measures being taken to speed up appointment of the judges?

Phase-I clinical trial of new drugs

*92. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to reverse their earlier stand on the issue of Phase-I clinical trials of new drugs of foreign origin on Indian patients;

(b) whether the proposal is being considered to take advantage of getting access to the latest drugs and therapies in the world developed by foreign MNCs;

(c) whether Government have adopted a policy in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Service negotiations with WTO

*93. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has drawn up an initial offers list for the on-going service negotiations with the WTO;

(b) the areas where offers are being made by India; and

(c) the modes of supply for such services?

Research project on Ayurveda

*94. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Fifteen medical scientists from USA came in October for a research project on Ayurveda;

(b) if so, whether this research project resulted in opening of new avenues for Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine;

(c) the export targets in monetary terms for the year 2004 for traditional medicines; and

(d) whether the country is adequately equipped to effectively show-case the herbal heritage of India to the interested foreign medical professionals?

Export of herbs and herbal drugs from Uttaranchal

*95. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has allowed export of certain herbs and herbal drugs produced in Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details and names thereof and the extent of quantity and value of herbs and herbal drugs likely to be exported during the year 2003-04;

(c) whether the State Government and private agencies have sought permission for export of more herbs and herbal drugs; and

(d) if so, by when the same is likely to be granted?

FDI norms for radio broadcasting

*96. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) norms for radio broadcasting;

(b) whether the guidelines for the same have been formulated, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the licence fee/entry fee for TV, print media and radio broadcasting is very high and Government propose to abolish this fee; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Shortage of nurses

*97. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the shortage of trained nurses in the country;

(b) the short term and long term plans made to meet this shortage; and

(c) the steps taken to stop the migration of nurses to other countries?

Import of food supplements

*98. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of food supplements for weight loss and muscle building from abroad are flooding the market without any check; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to regulate import of these products?

Rates of pay channels

†*99. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any yard-stick has been set to determine the prices of pay channels to be charged by the cable operators;

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

(c) whether the four metro cities, wherein the CAS is proposed to be implemented, the price determination shall be uniform; and

(d) the measures likely to be taken to ensure that the cable operators may not charge more than the fixed charges and may not increase them frequently?

Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation with ASEAN

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

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed a

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), paving the way for a Free Trade Area within a ten year time-frame;

(b) if so, whether China has also signed

similar agreement for three years with the ASEAN;

(c) if so, to what extent it is different than the Chinese pact; and

(d) to what extent, India would be benefited?

NEW DELHI;
The 2nd December , 2003
Agrahayana 11, 1925 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Commerce and Industry	:	81, 83, 90, 93, 95, 98, 100,
Health and Family Welfare	:	85, 86, 88, 89, 92, 94, 97,
Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	:	—
Information and Broadcasting	:	87, 96, 99,
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