

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Wednesday, the March 9, 2005/Phalgun 18, 1926 (Saka)*

**(Ministries: Commerce and Industry; Defence; Home Affairs; Non-
Conventional Energy Sources; Power; Rural Development;
Textiles)**

Total number of questions — 20

Damages caused by Tsunami

*101. SHRIMATI SARLA
MAHESHWARI:

PROF. M.M. AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of damages caused by
Tsunami in India; (i) the loss of lives
identified; (ii) the number of people
remaining untraced; (iii) the number of
houses destroyed; (iv) the estimated value
of loss of properties with State-wise back-
up;

(b) the total amount of relief funds
collected; and

(c) the details of rehabilitation of the
affected people done?

Connection of Nepalese Maoists with terrorist groups

*102. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

(a) following recent political
development in Nepal, the steps taken by
Government to prevent infiltration into
India of the Maoists; and

(b) whether it is a fact that KLO
activists are in touch with different terrorist
groups across the border?

Increase in rape cases in the country

*103. SHRI THANGA TAMIL

SELVAN:

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of
rape including minors is on the rise in the
country;

(b) the steps taken by Government to
prevent this heinous crime; and

(c) whether Government would
consider imposing death penalty on rapist
by amending the existing criminal law?

Additional grants to Naxal affected States

*104. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government
propose to float a plan providing additional
grants to Naxal hit States for road
construction to contain insurgency in the
country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) the existing present grant allocated to backward districts affected by Naxalism?

Out of turn promotion to police officers of Tamil Nadu

*105. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal was received from Government of Tamil Nadu suggesting out of turn promotion for certain police officers for their unprecedented outstanding courage and planned action in eliminating the dreaded forest brigand Veerappan who was threatening the three States for more than three decades;

(b) if so, the action taken on this; and

(c) what is the stage of another proposal for conferring the Padma Shree award and Ashoka Chakra on a few police officers involved in the killing and encounter of the said Veerappan?

Defence procurement from Russia

†*106. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to procure defence equipments and sophisticated weapons from Russia; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Power projects in Assam funded under CPPFS

*107. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing projects funded out of the Central Power Project Finance Scheme in the State of Assam; and

(b) the details of project-wise estimated cost amount sanctioned and released so far?

Ratio of Powerloom and Handloom Sector

*108. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the size of handloom sector has diminished over the years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the ratio of powerloom and handloom sector in the country; and

(d) the steps taken to rejuvenate the handloom industry?

Irregularities in relief material for Tsumani victims

†*109. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some irregularities in the supply of relief materials for Tsunami victims in some parts of the country have come to the notice of Government; and

(b) if so, the details of officers and traders found to be involved therein;

Meeting fuel requirement from bio-diesel and bio-petrol

*110. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Tamil Nadu has submitted a proposal to Central Government aiming at procuring about 5% of the country's fuel requirement from bio-diesel and bio-petrol from Jatropha, sweet sorghum and sugarbee stalks that can be grown in the vast waste lands on hills like that in Coimbatore;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the claims of Tamil Nadu Government that Jatropa has lately been found to yield such fuel, has been verified by Government and what decision has since been taken on the said proposal and what steps taken to promote the cultivation of such bio-fuel yielding crops?

Manpower structure of Jute Manufacturers Development Council

*111. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the draft comprehensive policy on jute has identified several loopholes in the existing manpower structure of Jute Manufacturers Development Council;

(b) whether the report has suggested complete overhaul of the organization; and

(c) if so, the salient deficiencies detected in the system and action plan of Government to streamline the process?

Potential of wind energy to meet power deficit

*112. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether expanding at rate of over 30 per cent per annum, the wind energy sector in India promises to emerge as an economically viable option to meet current power deficit of the country;

(b) whether with 100's of wind turbines producing clean green energy at an economically competitive cost, the Indian wind energy market is emerging as the third most rapidly growing wind market in the world after German and Spain; and

(c) if so, what are the steps Government propose to take to improve wind energy further in the country to meet power shortage?

Wind energy mills

*113. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BALAPTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wind energy mills working in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to increase power generation through wind energy sources;

(c) if so, the States where steps have been taken in that regard with Central assistance;

(d) whether the potential of wind energy in Orissa has not been fully tapped; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

Indo-Pak Economic Cooperation

*114. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:

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

(a) whether India and Pakistan decided to set up a joint study group on economic cooperation between the two countries;

(b) if so, whether this decision was taken after joint meeting of India and Pakistan Commerce Ministers held in January, 2005;

(c) if so, what were the main decisions taken and to what extent this study group will help to improve economic cooperation between two countries; and

(d) whether all hurdles that were put up by Pakistan in regard to trade had been removed and to what extent this joint group will help in removing these hurdles and improve trade relation between the two countries?

Corruption in jails

*115. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is large scale corruption in various jails in the country and under trials are provided with all the luxuries on payment of bribes to the jail officials;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to check this menace?

Funding for police modernisation

*116. DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:
SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI
BARUPAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre is pursuing policy of arming State Governments to teeth in dealing with overgrowing menace of Naxalites and cross border terrorism;

(b) if so, whether Home Ministry has approached Finance Ministry with a proposal to hike central funding for police modernization in several Naxal hit States from 75 per cent to 100 per cent;

(c) if so, to what extent States have been provided sufficient funds to improve modernization of police forces in States to meet this threat; and

(d) to what extent these States have been able to control the menace of Naxalites and cross border terrorism?

Capacity addition of thermal power projects

*117. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of projected capacity addition to thermal power production during the current year (2005-06);

(b) whether the major thermal power producers including the NTPC are assured of additional supply of indigenous coal to meet the requirements of capacity addition for 2005-06;

(c) whether it is a fact that NTPC and other SEBs are importing large volumes of coal, adding upto the per unit production cost by 145%; and

(d) whether the power sector has made any attempt to get the coal import duties lowered to keep the production cost still lower?

FDI in real estate

*118. SHRI C. RAMA-
CHANDRAIAH:
SHRI NAND KISHORE
YADAV:

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

(a) whether Government propose to open up Foreign Direct Investment in real estate;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and its impact on real estate market;

(c) the norms fixed for the purpose; and

(d) the time by when decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Inflow of weapons from Maoists in Nepal

*119. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has

been drawn to the media reports regarding Arms consignments belonging to Maoists insurgents in Nepal being sold to the underworld in Mumbai; and

(b) the seizures, if any, made by the police and the steps taken to check inflow of weapons?

Allocation for rural water supply

*120. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:
DR. A. K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation for rural water supply during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(b) out of total allocation for rural water supply, what is the allocation for Swajaldhara Programme in these years;

(c) whether Government have received any proposal for increasing the allocation of funds to Gujarat under Swajaldhara Programme;

(d) if so, the response and how much additional funds have been released to the State so far; and

(e) whether Government wants to discourage this programme under which Panchayat/local people have been given power to construct and maintain their own water supply system?

NEW DELHI;
The 3rd March, 2005
Phalguna 12, 1926 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

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