

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, the May 9, 2003/Vaisakha 19, 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

International symposium on plant pathogens

*681. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE
be pleased to state:

(a) whether in an international
symposium on plant pathogens held at
Hyderabad in January, 2003, it was claimed
that toxicity of cow's urine is equivalent to
that of several known fungicides and
pesticides, etc.;

(b) if so, whether Government have
ordered further research in this regard; and

(c) the research institutes which have
been assigned this work?

Prediction of earthquake

*682. SHRI RUMANDLA
RAAMACHANDRAYYA:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA
RAO:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scientist of the Vikram
Sarabhai Space Centre at Thiru-
vanantapuram in Kerala has claimed of
developing a method of predicting
earthquake a number of days in advance;

(b) if so, whether Government have
ascertained facts about this invention;

(c) whether this would be utilised in
earthquake prone areas of the country; and

(d) if so, what are other details in this
regard?

Women benefited under "Swadhar Yojana"

†*683. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the
Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women benefited
under the "Swadhar Yojana" formulated for
women living in difficult conditions;

(b) the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) whether it has ever been investigated
that the benefit which is received by the
women is being provided appropriately?

Jana Shiksha Sangathan

*684. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
Will the Minister of HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased
to state:

(a) the list of operating Jana Shiksha
Sangathan in Assam indicating their
location, nodal agency, date of
commencement, total outlay approved;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) list of such proposals from Assam, pending for clearance showing date of application, present status and expected date of sanction; and

(c) the implementation status of Total Literacy Campaign (TLC) and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programmes in Assam with achievements made, so far, district-wise?

Competition in the field of higher education

†*685. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for allowing Indian universities to sign contract with foreign universities to deal with the increasing competition in the field of higher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Support prices of agricultural products

*686. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to authorise the State Governments to fix the minimum support price of agricultural products which do not get the expected price and the loss suffered would be shared by the State Governments and the Central Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Assistance to FPIs

*687. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under technology upgradation, establishment and modernisation of food processing industries, the Ministry is providing financial assistance to the implementing agencies;

(b) if so, the details of assistance provided by Government during the last two years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) what inventive methods Government propose to introduce in the food processing sector?

Damage to agricultural crops by elephants

*688. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the damage to crops and human lives caused by elephants in Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of steps taken to set up additional number of elephants projects to put them at one place and to save the crops in that State?

Committee to monitor projects under NRVY

*689. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a Committee to monitor various railway

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

projects under the National Rail Vikas Yojana (NRVY); and

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee and other terms of references relating thereto?

Allocation for food processing industries in Karnataka

*690. SHRI M. V. RAJASEKHARAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) how much allocation was made for the food processing industries of Karnataka, during the year 2002-03;

(b) the percentage of allocations during the same period, State-wise; and

(c) the utilisation of allocated money from Karnataka?

Erosion of agricultural land due to flood

†*691. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any increase in area of erosion of agricultural land due to flood *vis-a-vis* 1947;

(b) if so, what efforts Government have made to control the same; and

(c) the details thereof?

Revival of Nowgong-Moirabari-Silghat Section

*692. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are aware of public demand for revival of Nowgong-Moirabari

and Nowgong-Silghat Section metre gauge rail track by converting them into broad gauge line; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken to revive these lines?

Dope testing laboratories

*693. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plans to upgrade its existing labs throughout the country to facilitate dope testing;

(b) if so, by when and the amount of funds allocated for the same;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government feel that there is a need for a state-of-the-Art Lab for dope testing keeping in mind, the Afro-Asian Games?

Declaration of National Youth Policy

*694. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister had announced that National Youth Policy would be announced by 12th of January this year; and

(b) by when this policy is likely to be declared?

New guidelines to Central Universities

*695. DR. A. R. KIDWAI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Ministry's proposal to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

subject foreign scholars and students visiting India to intense Government scrutiny has started;

(b) whether guidelines were issued to all Central Universities, directing them to take permission from Ministry for "all forms of foreign collaborations and other international academic exchange activities" taking place in India;

(c) if so, the details of new guidelines;

(d) whether Ministry has now full control not only over foreign exchange programmes but also over selection and monitoring procedure for foreign scholars/students coming to India for any form of academic activity; and

(e) if so, to what extent these guidelines are being strictly followed?

New rail lines in Punjab

*696. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce new rail lines in the State of Punjab during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Review of food laws affecting growth of FPIs

*697. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a comprehensive review of various food laws

administered by different Ministries has been undertaken recently to remove bottlenecks affecting growth of the food processing industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures contemplated for rapid growth of the food processing sector, so as to realise its full potential?

Carrying capacity of National Parks

*698. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that overcrowding is disturbing peace of National Parks leading to aberrant behaviour of animals, especially tigers;

(b) if so, reasons for allowing more tourists during peak season in National Parks than recommended by Wildlife Boards; and

(c) steps taken by Government to review carrying capacity of all the National Parks?

Agriculture seeds

†*699. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per hectare production of wheat, rice, oilseeds, potato, apple, litchi and other fruits and pulses in Uttaranchal;

(b) whether improved seeds have been developed in the fields of agricultural research in that State since its creation; and

(c) if so, the names of seeds developed and the estimated rate of production in this regard?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Techniques to save energy
consumption**

*700. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT
AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that by adopting
several techniques, each hotel in the Capital
is saving a substantial amount on
consumption of energy, besides keeping the

environment eco-friendly as commented in
an environment related news-item in media;

(b) if so, whether there is ample waste
of energy in Government offices without
caring for environment; if so, the steps
proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(c) how the newly developed technology
would be embodied in the new structure
building for Government offices?

NEW DELHI;
The 3rd May, 2003
Vaisakha 13, 1925 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture	: 681, 686, 691, 699,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	: —
Environment and Forests	: 688, 698, 700,
Food Processing Industries	: 687, 690, 697,
Human Resource Development	: 683, 684, 685, 695,
Ocean Development	: —
Railways	: 689, 692, 696,
Science and Technology	: 682,
Steel	: —
Youth Affairs and Sports	: 693, 694,