

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Thursday, the May 11, 2006/Vaisakha 21, 1928 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Coal; Communications and Information Technology; External Affairs; Information and Broadcasting; Overseas Indian Affairs; Panchayati Raj; Parliamentary Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Shipping, Road Transport and Highways; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Urban Development; Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions — 20

#### Visit of the former Thai Foreign Minister to North-Eastern States

\*381. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:  
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent visit of the former Thai Foreign Minister to North-Eastern States accompanied by a group of academicians from South East Asia with a view to understand India's Look East Policy whereunder they had an interaction with the students of Guwahati University;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the delegation broached the conceptualization of Ganga-Mekong Subarna Bhumi idea;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to conceptualize the said idea by formulating any policy in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### Unoccupied Government accommodation in Delhi

\*382. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government accommodations that remained unoccupied during the last five years in Delhi;

(b) what was the revenue loss to Government on account of unoccupied houses, year-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to consider proposal of deducting Licence Fee and HRA only from the Government employee, who occupies the flat and not from his/her spouse, who is also a Government employee in order to have higher occupancy of Government accommodation and higher revenue to Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Authorized agents under Emigration Act, 1983**

\*383. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of authorized agents under Emigration Act, 1983 in Hyderabad who have been recruiting labourers for foreign countries and how many labourers have been sent by each of them to foreign countries during the last two years;

(b) whether Government are aware that a few agents whose licenses have expired since long have been sending labourers to foreign countries with connivance of Protector of Emigrants, Hyderabad;

(c) if so, the names of such recruiting agents and the number of workers sent by them after the expiry of their licenses; and

(d) what action Government have taken against them and the Protector of Emigrants, Hyderabad?

**Defining poverty line**

\*384. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are serious flaws in the methodology adopted by Government in defining poverty line as it makes very little provision for other essentials of life like drinking water, shelter and sanitation;

(b) whether it is a fact that the rate of decline of poverty since 1973 has been at dismal 0.81 per cent per annum and the number of poor stood at about 25 crore in 2004; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to include parameters like drinking water, shelter etc., in the definition of poverty?

**Relaxing of norms under Delhi Master Plan**

\*385. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of suggestions received on Delhi Master Plan 2021 and ground reality, Government have re-looked at Floor Area Ratio, dwelling units and height norms for plotted residential housing;

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

(c) the progress made/decision taken on suggestions to increase number of dwelling units to four in plots of sizes 100-250 sq. metres keeping in view the existing reality of lakhs of such units all over Delhi; and

(d) the status of report of Task Force on rehabilitation colonies which was to look into these issues?

**Interest rate on Seamens Provident Fund**

\*386. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Seamens Provident Fund attracts less interest than the Employees Provident Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering the issue of making the rate of interest uniform;

(d) if so, the details of the measures being taken; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Mapping of resources in remote and inaccessible areas of NER**

†\*387. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mapping of resources in the remote and inaccessible areas of North-East is being done through satellites by using remote sensing technique;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government are considering to make any special provision to carry out this task; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

**Rohini Residential Scheme of DDA**

\*388. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rohini Residential Scheme, 1981 of DDA envisaged allotment of 90 sq. mt. plots in MIG category;

(b) if so, the number of 90 sq. mt. plots allotted and date of last allotment;

(c) whether it is also a fact that later on, an option was given to applicants to opt for 60 sq. mt. plots for early allotments;

(d) if so, whether any 90 sq. mt. plots were allotted after calling the options; and

(e) if not, the purpose of calling options if all plots of only 60 sq. mt. were to be allotted and the reasons for disturbing priority list by making out of turn allotment?

**Development of Maritime Industry**

\*389. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps proposed by Government to ensure that various hurdles are not put by the Mercantile Marine Department in discharging their duties;

(b) what specific objection Government have if Indian boat and ship owners get their surveys done abroad at recognized shipyards;

(c) to what extent is the MMD harming the entrepreneurs; and

(d) the steps proposed to bring about reforms in this sector?

**Borrowing of Central Police Organization's officers by CBI**

\*390. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Bureau of Investigation is unable to investigate various cases including housing scam due to shortage of manpower;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the CBI is planning to borrow officers from the Central Police Organization to meet its demand; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Nyaya Panchayat Bill**

\*391. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nyaya Panchayat Bill which Government propose to introduce in Parliament is ready;

(b) if so, the essential features of the Bill; and

(c) the response, if any, of the State Governments to the proposed Bill?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Opening of Indo-Pak border in  
Ferozepur**

\*392. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to open Indo-Pak border at Hussainiwala in Ferozepur district of Punjab;
- (b) if so, whether any negotiations are going on with Pakistan; and
- (c) the status of the talks?

**New spectrum policy**

\*393. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for announcing new spectrum allocation policy for GSM and CDMA telecom operators without waiting for the recommendations of Group of Ministers (GoM);
- (b) whether PMO and GoM have endorsed the policy announced by DoT;
- (c) if not, whether DoT would retract or keep on hold the announcement until the GoM formulates a comprehensive spectrum policy; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Land for Kerala Industrial Park**

\*394. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposal of the Kerala Government seeking transfer of unutilized land from Government of India Press at Koratty in Kerala to KINFRA for setting

up of Industrial Park is pending for sanction; and

- (b) the present stage of the proposal for land transfer and if the decision for transfer of land has been arrived at, the details thereof?

**Funds allocated for the development  
of National Highways**

†\*395. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that for the development and maintenance of National Highways in the financial year 2005-06 approximately twenty seven hundred crore rupees were allocated to all the States; and
- (b) if so, the State-wise details of the amount allocated, released and spent and the number of States that have sent utilization certificates to Central Government.

**Handing over of Kachatheevu Island  
to Sri Lanka**

\*396. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Kachatheevu Island was given to Sri Lanka under an agreement;
- (b) if so, the details of the agreement;
- (c) whether Sri Lanka has been abiding by the agreement, so far; and
- (d) the consequences that would follow in the event of Sri Lanka violating the agreement?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Funds allocated for opening of post offices in Andhra Pradesh**

\*397. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new post offices proposed during the current financial year, State-wise;

(b) the number of post offices and sub-post offices already opened so far, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the funds allocated for this purpose and the amount spent till date, State-wise, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

**National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers**

\*398. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned upto 31st March, 2005 to Uttar Pradesh under National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependants;

(b) the amount utilized upto 31st March, 2005 by the State Government for the training and rehabilitation of the scavengers and their dependants under the scheme; and

(c) the number of persons who have been benefited till 31st March, 2005 under the scheme in the State with specific figures for the cities of Lucknow, Kanpur and Allahabad?

**Agreement with Bangladesh**

\*399. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:  
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Bangladesh both have agreed to work closely on security, trade and river water sharing;

(b) if so, what were the main agreements reached during the recent talks;

(c) the steps being taken to implement these agreements; and

(d) whether there has been any improvement between the two countries on these issues?

**Mine expansion programme of NLC**

\*400. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister, while inaugurating the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Neyveli Lignite Corporation, announced the Corporation's Rs. 4,200 crore mine expansion programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 5th May, 2006*  
*Vaisakha 15, 1928 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

## I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

<b>Prime Minister</b>	: —
<b>Atomic Energy</b>	: —
<b>Coal</b>	: 400,
<b>Communications and Information Technology</b>	: 393, 397,
<b>External Affairs</b>	: 381, 392, 396, 399,
<b>Information and Broadcasting</b>	: —
<b>Overseas Indian Affairs</b>	: 383,
<b>Panchayati Raj</b>	: 391,
<b>Parliamentary Affairs</b>	: —
<b>Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions</b>	: 390,
<b>Planning</b>	: —
<b>Shipping, Road Transport and Highways</b>	: 386, 389, 395,
<b>Space</b>	: 387,
<b>Statistics and Programme Implementation</b>	: —
<b>Urban Development</b>	: 382, 385, 388, 394,
<b>Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation</b>	: 384, 398.
<b>Youth Affairs and Sports</b>	: —