

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 12, 2006/Vaisakha 22, 1928 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Agriculture; Agro and Rural Industries; Chemicals and Fertilizers;
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Environment and Forests;
Health and Family Welfare; Railways; Small Scale Industries; Steel)

Total number of questions — 20

AIDS hospital at Bellary

*401. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for establishment of 100 bedded AIDS Hospital at Vijayanagar Institute of Medical Science, Bellary is pending with Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when a final decision would be taken in this regard?

Doubling and electrification of railway lines in North East

*402. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the railway budget offered no new trains save for the Link Express from Darbhanga to Guwahati for the North East;

(b) whether Government have taken any decision on doubling the Guwahati-Tinsukia broad gauge line and also think in terms of railway electrification;

(c) what progress has been achieved, so far, regarding the conversion of the hill section's Lumding-Badarpur (Barak Valley) metre gauge into broad-gauge; and

(d) the reasons for Central budget's silence over Assam's Bogheebil rail-cum-road bridge which was to have been taken up as a national project?

Laying of Wardha-Nanded-Yavatmal rail line

*403. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since forwarded the project regarding laying of rail line in Wardha-Nanded-Yavatmal to the Planning Commission for approval as promised by the Railway Minister in the Budget Session;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, by when Government are

likely to forward the above project to the Planning Commission for approval?

Closing down of snack trolleys

*404. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) is closing down all snack trolleys so far being run by the commission vendors;

(b) whether it is also a fact that henceforth tea and snacks would be served from food plazas only in stations like Delhi and New Delhi; and

(c) whether IRCTC would ensure that tea and snacks to the daily commuters and poor people will be served by the food plazas at the same rate of commission vendors?

Complaints against pharma companies

*405. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints against the pharma companies for not following the notified prices of the drugs by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (N.P.P.A.); and

(b) if so, the names of companies and what action is being taken against them?

Pollution in Ganga

*406. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that pollution of holy river Ganga has assumed serious proportion inspite of action

plans phase-I (1992-97) and phase-II (1995-2001);

(b) if so, the steps being considered to minimise the pollution level of the river;

(c) whether Government are considering to ask the concerned States for raising money by levying minimum user charges; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cultivation of medicinal plants in Rajasthan

*407. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are special plans and a road map to encourage cultivation of medicinal plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are formulating any scheme for promoting cultivation of medicinal plants in Rajasthan also;

(d) if so, the details thereof, specifying the names of medicinal plants and the present status of their cultivation and production;

(e) whether Government have conducted any survey with regard to the problems being faced in this context by cultivators of the State;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures proposed therefor;

(g) whether some proposals are pending consideration with the Centre; and

(h) if so, the response of Government thereto?

Kaul Committee report on CGHS

*408. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kaul Committee appointed to go into the functioning of the Central Government Health Scheme has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, by when the same is likely to be submitted by the Committee?

Price of the imported wheat

†*409. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the procurement contracts finalised so far as per the decision to import wheat during 2006-07, the price of the imported wheat works-out to be Rs. 950 per quintal;

(b) if not, the original price of this imported wheat; and

(c) the total amount that would be incurred on transporting wheat to the ports of the country?

Outstanding dues of hospitals

*410. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:

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

(a) what are the details of outstanding dues as on the 31st March, 2006 of the Escort Hospital, Agarsen Hospital and Mata Chanan Devi Hospital in Delhi, which are providing medical facilities to the C.G.H.S. beneficiaries;

(b) since when these dues are pending and the reasons for not releasing the same; and

(c) by when these dues are likely to be cleared?

Locomotives in operation

*411. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:
SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 442 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd December, 2005 and state:

(a) the number of new trains introduced during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the number of locomotives in operation as on 31st March, 2000 and 31st March, 2005; and

(c) the number of locomotives aged out during the last five years?

Revenue earning of railways

*412. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways are on the up-swing in revenue earnings during 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the contribution of the East Coast Railway in the above share?

Wheat import

*413. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to import another 1.5 million to 2 million tonnes of wheat through the State Trading Corporation (STC); and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

Electrification of railway tracks

*414. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy of his Ministry regarding electrification of railway tracks;

(b) whether it is not proper to have railway tracks electrified to the optimum; and

(c) how many proposals for electrification of railway tracks have been recommended from Rajasthan and what is the present status of these proposals?

Operation of goods trains by private sector

†*415. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to entrust the operation of goods trains to private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) the names of the private sector companies from whom requests have been received for this purpose;

(d) the amount of revenue Government are likely to receive as a result thereof; and

(e) the details of the study conducted to assess the loss likely to be suffered by railway network due to implementation of the said scheme?

International agreements on growth of deep sea fishing industry

*416. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

have signed various international agreements which are inimical to the growth of the domestic deep sea fishery sector;

(b) the details of various agreements related to fisheries which have been signed with other nations and international organizations by Government from 1996;

(c) whether Government will review the continuance of such agreements presently; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to adopt a transparent attitude?

Conservation of Udaipur lakes

†*417. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accorded technical approval to the proposed scheme of 111 crore rupees for conservation of historical Pichola, Fatehsagar and Swarupsagar lakes of Udaipur under the National Lake Conservation Scheme of the Central Government;

(b) if so, when sanction was accorded and the date on which the work under this scheme is targeted to commence;

(c) whether the State Government of Rajasthan have submitted any proposal to Government for conservation of these lakes of Udaipur; and

(d) if so, the decision of the Government on the proposal?

Protest against import of wheat and its MSP

*418. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some farmers' organizations in Punjab

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

prevented ryots from selling their produce in markets across the State recently in protest against import of wheat and lower minimum support price for the foodgrains:

(b) whether the State Government has apprised the Centre about the situation and demanded immediate announcement of the MSP for wheat: and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

DMS booths in Delhi

†*419. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Milk Booths of Delhi Milk Scheme as on date in Delhi alongwith locations thereof;

(b) whether such booths are also existing in slum areas or Government are considering to set up the same there;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Directors in SAIL Board

*420. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED:

SHRI AJAY MAROO:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the posts of directors are lying vacant in SAIL Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for absence of succession planning at corporate level;

(c) whether the above includes posts of Managing Directors of Durgapur, Bokaro and Rourkela Steel Plants; and

(d) if so, how soon these posts are going to be filled up?

NEW DELHI;
The 6th May, 2006
Vaisakha 16, 1928 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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