

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on

Monday, the August 12, 2002/Sravana 21, 1924 (Saka)

(Ministries: Development of North Eastern Region; Disinvestment; Health and Family Welfare; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Information and Broadcasting; Law and Justice; Shipping; Social Justice and Empowerment; Tribal Affairs; Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation)

Total number of questions—20

Grant-in-aid for strengthening of ISM&H departments

*401. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

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

(a) the amount sanctioned a Grant-in-aid to various States for strengthening of existing ISM&H undergraduate departments and upgradation of undergraduate departments to postgraduate departments for the years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003; and

(b) the criteria on which the Grant-in-aid to each State is decided?

Educational low-powered FM radio stations

*402. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposals from universities or deemed universities to run educational low-powered FM radio stations;

(b) if so, the decision taken on the same;

(c) the progress in setting up 40 radio stations of the IGNOU in various parts of the country;

(d) the cities/States where these stations have been set up, and the places where these are yet to be set up; and

(e) the funds made available for this purpose?

Incidence of kidney stones

*403. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "North India's eating habits, climate cause kidney stones", which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 26th July, 2002;

(b) whether it is a fact that the incidence of kidney stones is rising in Delhi and adjoining States mainly because people here consume fatty, milk-based food and a lot of fried food whereas South Indians eat steamed food;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to use electronic media to make the public aware of all such diseases; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Punishment for construction of dry latrines

*404. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of dry latrines is unlawful under the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993;

(b) if so, the number of people punished/ fined for construction of dry latrines since the enactment of the Act, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for implementation of this Act only in fifteen States at present; and

(d) the steps taken to impress upon all the States to adopt and properly implement this Act?

Extension of Purchase Preference Policy

*405. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to extend Purchase Preference Policy for products and services of Central PSUs, which had expired on 31st March, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to make PSUs efficient, competitive and self-supporting?

Sale of ITDC hotels

*406. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ITDC hotels, so far, sold off;

(b) the number of hotels yet to be sold; and

(c) the details of ITDC hotels not to be sold off and the fate of the employees of ITDC hotels already sold?

Labelling on soft drinks

*407. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the harmful effects of carbonated soft drinks on health and their habit-forming nature;

(b) whether Government are also aware that many foreign countries make it mandatory to label soft drink bottles and cans with warning about presence of caffeine, calorie content and the type and amount of sweetener used;

(c) whether Government have conducted any study to find out which foreign country has regulations for such compulsory markings;

(d) whether Government have any plan of introducing such mandatory labelling of soft drinks in the country; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cheaper Hepatitis-B vaccines

*408. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Hepatitis-B spreads very easily and one in every

twenty Indians is already infected with this killer disease;

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to take for protection against this disease;

(c) whether cheap vaccines are available in the country for the poor; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken to procure Hepatitis-B vaccines at cheaper rates?

Use of the title 'Doctor'

*409. SHRI R. N. ARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to L.M. Harison's Medical Dictionary, the qualified professors, dentists and pharmacists in USA may use the title 'Doctor';

(b) whether the above professors, dentists, pharmacists may use the title 'Doctor' in their names in India;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds for upgradation of IGAS, Patna

†*410. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Bihar has requested for funds of more than Rs. 40 crores for strengthening and upgrading the Indira Gandhi Ayurvigyan Sansthan, Shaikhpura, Patna;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

Increase in heart and cancer patients

†*411. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing number of patients, particularly of heart and cancer in All India Institute of Medical Sciences and G.B. Pant Hospital in Delhi;

(b) whether Government have any scheme for providing easily accessible treatment to these patients;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Control on DDA

*412. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Delhi has sought the control of Delhi Development Authority;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether there is any other development authority in the States which is functioning under Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Arbitrary power of Estate Officers

*413. SHRI C. P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued new norms to limit the arbitrary use of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

powers by the Estate Officers for eviction from public premises;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for formulating new norms?

HUDCO loan to Andhra Pradesh

*414. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether HUDCO has provided loans to Andhra Pradesh Government for construction of dwelling units, upgradation of such units and development of plots in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the results achieved therefrom;

(d) the backlog of dwelling units to be constructed by the State; and

(e) the action being taken to ensure timely completion of housing activities in the State?

Civic amenities in metropolitan cities

*415. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in most of the slum areas of four metropolises, minimum civic amenities are not available;

(b) whether Government would consider fixing up yardstick of minimum civic amenities in slum areas proportionate to slum dwellers in each case; and

(c) whether Government would declare National Slum Development Policy and provide adequate funds to States?

Expenditure on 24-hour Satellite Channel Programmes

*416. SHRI INDRAMONI BORA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs. 9.5 crore was allocated for 24-hour Satellite Channel Programmes for commissioning, dubbing, etc., for the year 2001-2002;

(b) if so, how much was spent during the year;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a sum of Rs. 72.8 crore has been allocated for the year 2002-2003 for the above purpose; and

(d) if so, how much was spent upto June, 2002?

Replacement of LD-50 test on animals

*417. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan to replace LD-50 test on animals by acute toxic class method, up and down method and fixed dose method; and

(b) if so, the time-frame in which this test would be completely replaced by other tests?

Side-effects of tobacco

†*418. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the sum and substance of the scientific research with regard to the side-effects of tobacco;

(b) whether it is a fact that 50 per cent of smokers die due to smoking and smoking affects their children as well;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that pan masala is one of the main causes for the throat cancer;

(d) whether it is also a fact that various organisations are demanding ban on pan masala for the last several years; and

(e) if so, by when Government would take action in the interest of people?

Shortage of essential medicines in Government hospitals in NER

*419. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government hospitals functioning at present in the State of Assam and other States of NER;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of essential medicines in all Government hospitals of NER;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the necessary measures being taken by Government in this regard?

Development of small and medium towns

†*420. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN
SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of projects were sanctioned by Government for the development of small and medium towns during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the number of projects sanctioned during each of the above said years;

(c) the amount allocated for the implementation of the projects; and

(d) the number of projects completed, so far?

NEW DELHI;
The 6th August, 2002
Sravana 15, 1924 (Saka)

R.C. TRIPATHI,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Development of North Eastern Region	: —
Disinvestment	: 406,
Health and Family Welfare	: 401, 403, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 417, 418, 419,
Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	: 405,
Information and Broadcasting	: 402, 416,
Law and Justice	: —
Shipping	: —
Social Justice and Empowerment	: —
Tribal Affairs	: —
Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation	: 404, 412, 413, 414, 415, 420.