

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Thursday, the December 12, 2002/Agrahayana 21, 1924 (Saka)

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy;  
Communications and Information Technology; Consumer Affairs,  
Food and Public Distribution; External Affairs; Labour;  
Parliamentary Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and  
Pensions; Planning; Road Transport and Highways;  
Small Scale Industries; Space; Statistics and  
Programme Implementation)

Total number of questions—20

<p><b>Display of wholesale/maximum retail price on goods</b></p> <p>*321. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:</p> <p>(a) whether the Supreme Court has asked Government to evolve a policy for display of wholesale price alongwith maximum retail price printed on goods; and</p> <p>(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?</p>	<p>Investigation had asked for permission to file court cases;</p> <p>(b) if so, the number of such cases till September, 2002; and</p> <p>(c) the number of cases in which Government have granted its approval during the years 1999, 2000, 2001 and till September, 2002?</p>
<p><b>Permission sought by CBI to file court cases</b></p> <p>†*322. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':</p> <p>Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:</p> <p>(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of cases are pending under consideration of Government for which Central Bureau of</p>	<p><b>Food Insecurity Atlas of Urban India</b></p> <p>*323. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:</p> <p>(a) whether Government are aware that Nagpur has been ranked at the lowest level <i>i.e.</i> 18th while Pune is on 1st position on the food security index in the Food Insecurity Atlas of Urban India compiled by Swaminathan Research Foundation in collaboration with the World Food Programme; and</p> <p>(b) if so, what steps Government</p>

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

propose to take to ensure that food security (an essential input) is maintained at comparatively even levels atleast in metropolitan cities to begin with, with provision to gradually eliminate insecurity in food level all over the country?

**Indian fishermen captured by Pakistan Marine Security Agency**

\*324. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian fishermen and boats captured by the Pakistan Marine Security Agency and since when they have been captured; and

(b) the action taken by his Ministry to get the fishermen released?

**Revenue sharing between BSNL and VSNL**

\*325. SHRI GAYA SINGH: SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been reached between BSNL and VSNL over the revenue sharing formula in International Long Distance (ILD) services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Telephone facility in Chhochhi village in Haryana**

\*326. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no telephone facility is available in Chhochhi village of Beri Block in District Jhajjar, Haryana;

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

(c) the steps Government propose to take to provide telephone facility in that village till January, 2003?

**National Highway 83**

†\*327. SHRI LALU PRASAD: SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Jahanabad to Dobhi section of National Highway No. 83 in Bihar is not in good condition;

(b) whether it is a fact that a proposal pertaining to the said section has been submitted to his Ministry by the State Government; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take any action in this regard and if so, by when?

**Annual growth rate**

†\*328. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an assessment of the annual growth rate in the agricultural, industrial and service sectors in the country has been made by Government in order to achieve the target of 8 per cent annual growth rate during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the annual growth rate necessary for these sectors; and

(c) the average annual growth rate in these sectors during the Ninth Five Year Plan period?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Reorganisation of Taliban in the borders of Pakistan**

\*329. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Taliban forces are reorganising in the border areas of Pakistan in preparation for a new wave of terrorist attacks on Afghanistan as per recent news reports;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the matter has been brought to the notice of US Government; and

(c) if so, whether there has been any perceptible change in US attitude towards Pakistan, and if so, the details thereof?

**Indo-ASEAN Summit on economic co-operation and terrorism**

\*330. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first-ever Indo-ASEAN Summit was held on 5th November, 2002 to focus on economic co-operation and terrorism;

(b) if so, the discussions held in the Summit;

(c) whether any declaration was made; and

(d) to what extent India supported the resolution on terrorism and economic cooperation?

**Provision of plots/flats to EPF members**

\*331. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since decided to provide plots and flats at low cost to all 3.5 crore members of the Employees Provident Fund;

(b) whether Employees Provident Fund members would not incur any expense;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the proposed scheme would cover the metropolitan cities too;

(e) if so, the names of such cities; and

(f) by when the scheme is likely to be launched?

**Sugar stock in Karnataka**

\*332. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stock of sugar in various sugar factories in Karnataka;

(b) whether it has come to Government's notice that sugarcane growers have not been paid the price for their produce due to piling up of stocks; and

(c) if so, whether Government would take steps to permit the sugar factories to release sugar stocks in the market?

**Monthly rental and free calls in Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar**

†\*333. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly rental and free calls fixed on the basis of telephone exchange capacity for village Thaparkhera, Ambedkar Nagar

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

and rural areas of district Gautam Budh Nagar;

(b) the higher and lower calls limit for rural and urban areas on the basis of telephone exchange capacity;

(c) the details for the demarcation of limits for rural and urban areas by the telephone exchange; and

(d) the details of the classification shown in the telephone directory for the rural areas?

**Helplessness of sugarcane growers**

†\*334. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that desperate farmers are forced to put sugarcane fields on fire due to non-commencement of crushing by the sugar mills, non-declaration of price of sugarcane and non-payment of outstanding dues to the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to improper attention, standing crops are getting destroyed and the farmers are facing miserable conditions?

**BPL families**

\*335. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Supreme Court's direction Andhra Pradesh and other States have identified BPL families;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that

Government do not recognise the number of BPL families identified by Andhra Pradesh and are releasing foodgrains for the BPL families as estimated by the Planning Commission only;

(d) whether this is not violative of Supreme Court's directive; and

(e) what action Government propose to take to rectify the situation?

**Satellite money orders**

\*336. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, “Satellite se money order kiya to paise uranchhoo ho gaye”, as reported in the 'Nav Bharat Times', dated the 21st September, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the money orders sent through satellite are not reaching in right hands;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to streamline functioning of the Department of Posts to ensure delivery of money orders properly?

**High Security Number Plates**

\*337. SHRI B. J. PANDA:  
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the report captioned, "High Security Number Plates mandatory from February, 2003",

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

appearing in the 'Times of India' dated the 24th August, 2002;

(b) if so, what are the details of this action plan;

(c) whether this would be made mandatory for all vehicles, both old and new; and

(d) in what way would this help in controlling misuse and theft of vehicles?

**Relaxation in existing labour laws**

† \*338. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to boost the export, the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industries has requested Government to relax the existing labour laws for particular economic zones and include labour as a Union subject;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the details of the labour interests likely to be affected thereby?

**Revision of E.P.F. Pension Scheme**

\*339. SHRI N. K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to revise the E.P.F. Pension

Scheme extending the benefit to all the employees who are member of E.P.F.;

(b) whether Government are facing any practical difficulty in extending the benefit of pension to those who are not covered under the family pension scheme, irrespective of their age limits;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) Government's views to enhance the pension amount on the basis of price index?

**Toll tax in Punjab and Haryana**

\*340. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:  
SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:

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

(a) the places in Punjab and Haryana where toll tax is being charged and at what rate;

(b) the body responsible to collect toll tax;

(c) the tax collected, so far, and the share given to the concerned State Governments; and

(d) the terms and conditions for awarding contract to collect toll tax to private bodies?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 5th December, 2002*  
*Agrahayana 14, 1924 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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