

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, the December 12, 2003/Agrahayana 21, 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

Setting up of an IIT

*161. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH:
Will the Minister of HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased
to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high level
team of Professors belonging to various
IITs visited Basara in Andhra Pradesh to
study suitability of the site to set up an IIT
in the area;

(b) if so, the findings of the study;

(c) whether it is also a fact that
Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had
written a letter to Prime Minister
requesting to set up an IIT in Basara, which
has the India's only shrine of Goddess
Saraswati; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this
direction?

**Use of aluminium and steel in
coaches**

*162. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA
RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be
pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of steel that is roughly
required by the Indian Railways annually;

(b) the quantum of aluminium used in
coaches and wagons by the Indian
Railways;

(c) whether Government are thinking
of using aluminium to manufacture
coaches and wagons for the Indian
Railways; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not using
aluminium in the manufacturing for
coaches and wagons?

Animal welfare schemes

*163. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

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

(a) whether Government are considering to handover entire animal welfare schemes to the Animal Welfare Board of India;

(b) if so, by when a decision in this regard is likely to be taken;

(c) the funds allotted to AWBI during the years 1998-99 to 2002-03; and

(d) the number of institutions registered by AWBI during the years 1998-99 to 2002-03 and per animal grant the AWBI could provide to such institutions, yearly?

History textbooks for class XII

*164. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Secondary Education recommended a list of history textbooks for class XII students of CBSE-affiliated schools;

(b) if so, whether the list includes textbooks entitled "Modern India" and "Contemporary World History" brought out by NCERT in April, 2003 and May, 2003 respectively;

(c) whether the CBSE got these textbooks evaluated before recommending them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Food for work programme in drought affected areas

†*165. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to provide work to only one person in the affected family under Food for Work Scheme for people of drought affected areas;

(b) if so, the rule being implemented by Government for allocation of foodgrains to the families having four five or more than five members;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that families comprising more than one number are not getting any benefit of the said scheme; and

(d) if so, the action government propose to take in this regard for welfare of such people?

Reducing import duty on steel

*166. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to cut down the import duty on steel;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it would not adversely affect the interests of indigenous steel producers?

Recommendations on wildlife

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

(a) at what stage is the implementation

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

of the recommendations on wildlife consequent to the construction of the Rengali Irrigation Project in Orissa pending;

(b) the details of the recommendations; and

(c) how much money has remained unutilised on this head and the interest that has accrued on the principal by non-action on the wildlife points?

Relation to sportsmen and folk artists in Railways

†*168. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the relaxation being provided to sportsmen and folk artists in employment has been withdrawn;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of persons from arts and sports, so far, absorbed in various departments?

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

*169. SHRI R.S. GAVAI:

SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that States are showing lukewarm attitude towards the 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' Scheme of Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have considered the recommendations made by Tapas Majumdar Committee in its report regarding financial assistance needed for education sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(f) the names of the other international participant countries in the said 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' with details thereof?

Development of co-operatives

*170. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government consider that the banking functions are an essential ingredient for the furtherance of the co-operative movement;

(b) if so, its possible impact on the co-operative movement; and

(c) whether wide ranging restrictions imposed on the co-operatives to launch and continue banking functions will affect the co-operatives and if so, the details thereof?

Drought assistance to Karnataka and Rajasthan

*171. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of foodgrains and financial assistance demanded by Karnataka and Rajasthan to meet the drought conditions during 2002 and 2003, so far;

(b) the quantum of foodgrains and financial assistance provided to each of them against their demand; and

(c) how much is yet to be provided during the remaining period of the current year?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Railway projects in Kerala

*172. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the electrification and doubling of lines in Kerala is yet to be completed;

(b) if so, the details including the fund sanctioned and utilized, the details of the lines completed alongwith the fund required for the completion of the work and the period for completion of the work;

(c) whether the work on the Angamaly-Sabari rail line has been initiated; and

(d) if so, the details including the progress of the work, the grant given for the work and the expected date of completion of the work, if any?

New Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Uttaranchal

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

(a) the number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras proposed to be opened during 2003-04;

(b) whether proposals from Uttaranchal have also been received to open Krishi Vigyan Kendras in some districts; if so, the location-wise details thereof; and

(c) the proposals accepted for 2003-04 and 2004-05 alongwith the locations thereof?

All training centres in Uttar Pradesh

†*174. DR. AKHTAR HASAN RIZVI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of training centres established by the Sports Authority of India in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the places in the State where these training centres have been established by the Authority; and

(c) whether Government propose to establish any new training centre in the State for imparting training to the rural players?

Modernisation of Madarsas and Maktabas

*175. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme of the modernisation of 'Madarsas' and 'Maktabas' is being implemented since 1993-94, as a Central scheme;

(b) if so, the main objectives of the scheme; and

(c) the assistance provided to State Governments under the scheme since its inception, year-wise?

Environment protection

*176. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to make corporates more responsive towards environment protection;

(b) if so, the details of such proposal; and

(c) what steps the Government are taking or propose to take to make corporate bodies adopt environmental audit and management system which helps in achieving the goal of sustainable development?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Mercury pollution

*177. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:
SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR:

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

(a) what studies have been made on the increasing threat of mercury pollution in the country;

(b) whether the mercury imports by India have doubled during the last five years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) what steps are being taken by the Ministry to stop Europe from turning India into a mercury dumping ground; and

(e) whether India would attempt to use substitute for mercury which is non-hazardous and is widely used abroad?

Corporate Safety Plan

*178. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR
REDDY:
SHRI MANOJ
BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have prepared a Corporate Safety Plan (CSP) in order to ensure safety in rail journeys;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of the major recommendations of Justice H.R. Khanna Committee and Rakesh Mohan Committee have been incorporated in the CSP in so far as they relate to renewal and

replacement of assets and modernisation and technological upgradation and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the CSP is likely to be put in place?

Howrah-New Delhi Rajdhani accident

*179. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether inquiries into the cause(s) of the Howrah-New Delhi Rajdhani accident on September 9, 2002, have been completed;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) whether it was attributed to a sabotage and if so, the details thereof?

Proposal to spend six per cent of GDP for education

†*180. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN
SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to spend six per cent of gross domestic product of the country on education in 1986;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken steps to implement this proposal during 1986 to 2003; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government as well as the progress made in this direction upto 2003?

NEW DELHI;

The 6th December, 2003
Agrahayana 15, 1925 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,

Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

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Chemicals and Fertilizers	:	—
Environment and Forests	:	163, 167, 176, 177,
Food Processing Industries	:	—
Human Resource Development	:	161, 164, 169, 175, 180,
Ocean Development	:	—
Railways	:	162, 168, 172, 178, 179,
Science and Technology	:	—
Steel	:	166,
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