

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Tuesday, the March 14, 2006/Phalgun 23, 1927 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Civil Aviation; Company Affairs; Finance; Heavy Industries and
Public Enterprises; Petroleum and Natural Gas; Tourism and Culture;
Water Resources)

Total number of questions — 20

Parking facility for private planes

*321. SHRI MOOLCHAND
MEENA:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Corporate
Houses are rushing in to buy business jets
and turbo prop planes for their top brass
and also queuing up to park at the hangars
at the Airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose
to take to accommodate such private planes
at the Airports?

Fake notes through ATM

†*322. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:
SHRIMATI JAYA
BACHCHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents
of finding fake notes through ATM
machines of various banks have been
brought to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of banks brought to the
notice of Government where such incidents
had taken place; and

(d) the action taken by Government
against the guilty persons?

Rate of interest on loans by NABARD

*323. SHRI N.K.
PREMACHANDRAN:

SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state:

(a) the interest rate allowed by the
NABARD for the agricultural loans;

(b) whether Government are aware that
the interest rate exceeds when the agriculture
loans of NABARD are routed through the
Co-operative and other commercial banks
for the agriculture; and

(c) whether Government consider to
extend the agricultural loans to farmers at
the interest rate prescribed by the
NABARD and the reaction of Government
thereto?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Excavations undertaken by ASI

*324. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS
BAL APTE:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has undertaken excavations during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the details of new discoveries of historic significance made during the excavations by the different circles?

Progress of water management programmes

*325. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that restructured Command Area Development and Water Management Programmes have not achieved the desired results and it is progressing at snail's speed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what was the total area in which the work has been completed under the said programme so far; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to accelerate the speed of work under the said programme?

Increase in revenue from petroleum products

†*326. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite low rate of tax on petroleum in the year 2005-06, the tax revenue is estimated to be rupees 5,115 crores;

(b) if not, what are Government's estimate in this regard, and whether this amount is more than the revenue amount of 4699 crore rupees in the year 2004-2005; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for which the revenue amount during this year is more as compared to that of last year?

New guidelines for penalties for adulteration in fuel by dealer/petrol pumps

*327. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that penalties for adulteration in fuel by dealer/petrol pump operators have been reduced/weakened under new guidelines;

(b) what were the penalties for adulteration earlier and what are they now; and

(c) what are the reasons for reducing them?

Production of bio-diesel

*328. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government consider higher production of bio-diesel as substitute to petroleum, keeping in view the spiraling global petroleum prices;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) the comparative cost of importing petroleum and producing bio-diesel;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government propose to encourage R&D in inventing petroleum substitute;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and the strategy to meet the future requirement?

(e) whether the ADB has expressed satisfaction in regard to utilization of the amount;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the interest paid to ADB for each project so far?

Future projections of domestic and Foreign Direct Investment

*329. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) when he proposes to actually translate his declared assertion that India has a competitive advantage in areas of manufacturing, services, BPO sectors etc. by ensuring greater investment both domestic and FDI; and

(b) what is the projected investments in these sectors during 2006-07 especially when considerable groundwork has been done by Government during the current fiscal?

Financial aid to Andhra Pradesh by ADB

*330. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes being implemented by Government through the financial assistance from ADB in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the details of such financial assistance taken for Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the amount allocated for each project;

(d) the present status of each project;

Companies in Andhra Pradesh vanishing with investors money

†*331. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the companies in Andhra Pradesh that vanished with the money of common investors during the last three years;

(b) the number of companies whose promoters/directors were prosecuted against and the number of those punished during the said period;

(c) the number of legal professionals engaged in Andhra Pradesh to fight the cases against such companies;

(d) the procedure of drawing panel of such legal professionals;

(e) whether Government propose to appoint more legal professionals in Andhra Pradesh to dispose off such cases expeditiously; and

(f) if so, the details in this regard?

Condition of Almatti Dam

*332. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether following the recent heavy rains and flood devastation in Mumbai and areas around, Government have caused thorough check of the condition of Almatti Dam;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, how far it is in good condition and what upgradation and augmentation is considered necessary to ensure that the dam is able to withstand future onslaught and natural calamity;

(c) the estimated cost of such augmentation of the dam; and

(d) the Central aid sought and given for the same?

Tax free interest on term deposits

†*333. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to make interest on term deposits tax free; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it would be effective?

Rate of inflation

†*334. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the inflation rate in the country has been estimated to be at 5 or 5.5 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the increase in the prices of items like flour, rice, milk, pulses, fruits, vegetables used in daily food of common man is more than above quoted rate; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Loans under PMRY to Bihar

†*335. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that only 13 per cent of the target to provide loan under the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojna has been achieved in Bihar, whereas the target has been enhanced by 35 per cent during the financial year 2005-06;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to improve the situation?

Cracks in Sun Temple at Konark

*336. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 12th Century Sun Temple at Konark, Orissa has developed cracks;

(b) if so, the reasons for such happening and details in this regard; and

(c) the action taken to restore/repair the Temple?

Excise package for Kutch area

*337. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has represented to the Central Government to extend the liberal benefits of excise package to Kutch area as has been extended to Sikkim, Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Himachal Pradesh; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, what is the response of the Central Government thereto?

Funds for tourism related infrastructure

*338. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has requested each Ministry to set aside a certain portion of their funds for tourism related infrastructure; and

(b) if so, the reaction of each Ministry thereon?

Shortage of 25 and 50 paise coins in Karnataka

*339. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 25 and 50 paise coins are withdrawn from circulation in Karnataka;

(b) if not, what are the reasons for the shortage of these lower denomination coins in Karnataka;

(c) whether Government are aware that in Karnataka, public have been given other goods in return for the balance amount; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure proper supply of these coins in Karnataka if they are not withdrawn?

GAIL's project in Kerala

*340. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether GAIL has signed a memorandum of cooperation during the year 2004 for setting up a petrochemical project at Kochi, Kerala;

(b) if so, the present status of the above project;

(c) the details of fiscal concessions sought from the State Government of Kerala and those actually granted for the above project;

(d) the details of the expected completion of the project; and

(e) the details of feedstock for the project and the source of fuel for the project?

NEW DELHI;
The 8th March, 2006
Phalguna 17, 1927 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Civil Aviation	:	321,
Company Affairs	:	331,
Finance	:	322, 323, 326, 329, 330, 333, 334, 335, 337, 339,
Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	:	—
Petroleum and Natural Gas	:	327, 328, 340,
Tourism and Culture	:	324, 336, 338,
Water Resources	:	325, 332.