

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Wednesday, the December 14, 2005/Agrahayana 23, 1927 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Commerce and Industry; Defence; Home Affairs;  
Non-Conventional Energy Sources; Power; Rural  
Development; Textiles)

Total number of questions — 20

#### Import of pepper

\*301. SHRI N.K. PREMA-  
CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government allowed pepper  
import from other countries and if so, how  
many nations have been allowed free trade  
of pepper with our country;

(b) whether the pepper of Vietnam has  
been routed to India through Sri Lanka by  
misusing free trade import facilities and if  
so, whether Government initiated any steps  
to check the misuse of trading provisions;  
and

(c) whether Government propose to set  
up any limitation for the import policy to  
check the misuse of the concerned  
provisions?

#### Export of cash crops

\*302. SHRIMATI PREMA  
CARIAPPA:  
PROF. ALKA BALRAM  
KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE  
AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details on the export of cash  
crops, particularly cashew nut and import  
of cashew kernels in India for each of the  
last three years;

(b) whether Government have taken  
any steps to modernize the industry by  
introducing new technology;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to increase  
export of cash crops?

#### Construction of dwellings under IAY in Punjab

\*303. SHRI VARINDER SINGH  
BAJWA: Will the Minister of RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dwellings constructed  
in Punjab under Indira Awaas Yojana during  
2004-05 against the target fixed; and

(b) the dwelling units likely to be  
constructed during 2005-06?

#### SEZs established in the country

\*304. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will  
the Minister of COMMERCE AND  
INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of SEZs established so far;

(b) what are the advantages of establishing the SEZs; and

(c) how many of these SEZs have been established in backward regions of the country?

#### **Steps to improve balance of trade with ASEAN**

\*305. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that steep import tariffs slapped by Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) have been disturbing India's trade balance with them;

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

(c) steps being taken to improve the balance of trade with ASEAN?

#### **Jehanabad Jail attack**

†\*306. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:  
SHRI AJAY SINGH  
CHAUTALA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating on formulating any joint policy with Nepal to combat maoists after the incident committed by naxalites in Jehanabad;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Black-listing of NGOs**

\*307. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:  
SHRI DHARAM PAL  
SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have black-listed several Non-Governmental Organizations due to their involvement in corrupt practices;

(b) if so, the names of such banned NGOs, till date;

(c) what are the details of Government amount siphoned off by these NGOs; and

(d) whether Government propose to tighten the guidelines for grant of financial assistance to NGOs and if not, reasons therefor?

#### **Rape cases with minors in Delhi**

\*308. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rape cases with minor girls are on the increase in the country during these days;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof for the last three months;

(c) whether it is also a fact that more than sufficient time is taken by the court to punish the defaulters; and

(d) if so, the instructions to be issued for taking decision at the earliest in such cases and by when such instructions are expected to be issued?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**States lagging behind in the PMGSY**

\*309. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 15 States are lagging behind in the 'Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana';

(b) if so, which are the States and the year from which they have not claimed their share of funds from the Central Government; and

(c) why such lapses were not detected during this period through annual review meetings held from time to time?

**Provisions in the Armed Forces Tribunal**

\*310. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed Armed Forces Tribunal will address the inherent blatant deficiency in military law i.e. the absence of remedy of appeal against the order of the court martials;

(b) whether the existing court martial system under military law is regulated by mere power of military command rather than law;

(c) whether the western nations have upgraded their military justice system at par with civilian criminal justice system in the light of emerging changes in human rights standards; and

(d) whether Government will consider formulating a comprehensive common code of justice/discipline for all the three forces, separating the Judge Advocate General branch from the command control?

**Development and promotion of handloom**

\*311. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of targets fixed for development and promotion of handloom in the country in the last three years;

(b) whether the fixed targets have been achieved by Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Threat of terrorist-attacks on tourist destinations**

\*312. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to threat of terrorist attacks on popular tourist destinations and resorts in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure security of such resorts to ensure safety of the tourists?

**Doubling of bilateral trade by India and America**

†\*313. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the failure of most of the world-level talks under World Trade Organisation, India and America have decided to double the present level of foreign trade by the year 2008 in the bilateral talks;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether those industries where trade is to be increased, have been identified; and

(d) if so, the names of such industries and the target set for increasing the trade of agricultural products?

**Setting up an Inter-State Secretary level advisory group to frame the guidelines for NEG Act**

\*314. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has announced the setting up of an Inter-State Secretary level advisory group to frame the guidelines for National Employment Guarantee Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this move will bring some transparency and how it will function; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Plans to have Rapid Deployment Force to protect Indian interests**

\*315. DR. KARAN SINGH:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI  
REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether seas surrounding India are gaining strategic importance with global focus shifting to Indian ocean and Indian defence planners have mooted idea of having a Rapid Deployment Force to protect Indian interests;

(b) whether concept framed by Integrated Defence Staff comprising all three services, stresses on quick movement of troops, light and heavy weapons and logistical support to an area of operation;

(c) whether all Chiefs of services have examined this proposal and finally taken its decision; and

(d) if so, what are the details of scheme prepared and by when it is likely to be started?

**Pension to widows of freedom fighters**

\*316. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many widows of freedom fighters in the country are not getting pension;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of proposals received from Punjab Government for giving pension to the widows of freedom fighters; and

(d) the number of proposals cleared so far and number of widows are getting freedom pension in Punjab presently?

**Separatist forces in Manipur**

†\*317. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that separatist forces are creating obstructions in the functioning of local administration in Manipur;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the strategy prepared by Government to tackle separatist forces in the State and the main features thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government are preparing any comprehensive plan for early solution of this burning issue by including various ethnic groups and political leaders of Manipur, if so, complete details thereof?

#### **Export growth target**

\*318. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA  
RAO:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI  
REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether export growth target of 15 per cent fixed in this year's foreign trade policy has been surpassed in first half of 2005-06 with exports shooting up to \$ 43.2 billion and registered a growth of 20.52 per cent against last year's half-yearly export figure of \$35.86 billion;

(b) whether Inter State Trade Council had its first meeting in October-November, 2005;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to remove export cess on export of all agricultural and plantation commodities levied under various commodity board acts; and

(d) if so, to what extent Government is expected to improve further exports during the remaining period of current financial year?

#### **Strengthening the power production and its distribution system**

†\*319. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by Government for strengthening the system of production of power and its distribution in different States in the country specially in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government have formulated any national action plan in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the progress made so far with regard to strengthening the production of power and its distribution system in the country?

#### **Permission to Tobacco Board to increase their staff strength**

\*320. SHRI NANDI YELLAIHAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to shortage of staff the Tobacco Board is unable to set up additional tobacco auction platforms in Andhra Pradesh despite increased tobacco crop size in the State;

(b) if so, whether Government will consider allowing Tobacco Board to increase their staff strength and set up more tobacco auction platforms with increased tobacco handling capacity; and

(c) if so, by when?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 8th December, 2005*  
*Agrahayana 17, 1927 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**I N D E X**  
(Ministry-wise)

<b>Commerce and Industry</b>	: 301, 302, 304, 305, 313, 318, 320,
<b>Defence</b>	: 310, 315,
<b>Home Affairs</b>	: 306, 308, 312, 316, 317,
<b>Non-Conventional Energy Sources</b>	: —
<b>Power</b>	: 319,
<b>Rural Development</b>	: 303, 307, 309, 314,
<b>Textiles</b>	: 311.