

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, the December 15, 2003/Agrahayana 24, 1925 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Commerce and Industry; Health and Family Welfare; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Information and Broadcasting; Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs; Shipping; Social Justice and Empowerment; Tribal Affairs; Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation)

Total number of questions—20

Declaring carpenters as SC

†*181. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some MPs from Himachal Pradesh as well as some members of the State Assembly repeatedly requested for declaration of carpenters as SC as in case of black-smiths of that State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the present status in this regard?

Free treatment for AIDS

*182. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has the second largest number of patients of HIV/AIDS;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is growing demand from the public that Government should provide free treatment for this disease, as it is not within the reach of a patient of average means; and

(c) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration to offer free or subsidized treatment to the patients, if so, the details thereof?

Anti-India propaganda by BBC

*183. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the TV programme, "Question Time India", telecast over BBC on Friday August 22, 2003 night relating to Kashmir;

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

(c) what is Government's control and regulation on media agencies to prevent anti-Indian propaganda and to ensure that they confirm to publicity norms and principles keeping in mind the policies of integration and the Constitution of India?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Incentives for units in SEZ

*184. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend additional incentives for setting up of units in the Special Economic Zones through a five year exemption from Provident Fund/Employees State Insurance liabilities for the entrepreneurs;

(b) whether it is also proposed to relax labour laws and trade union Acts to attain higher and committed productivity; and

(c) whether Government expect that these incentives would spur growth of the existing SEZs and also the new ones coming up especially in Padubidri in Dakshina Kannada region?

Misappropriation of tribal funds

†*185. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the issue of misappropriation of Central funds provided for development of tribals by the officers of Bihar and Jharkhand Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of action being taken by Government; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent such misappropriation of funds in future?

Growth of core sector industries

*186. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

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

(a) whether growth of six core sector

industries sharply declined to 2.6 per cent in July 2003 as compared to 10.2 per cent in July, 2002;

(b) if so, whether between April and July 2003, the infrastructure sector grew by 3.6 per cent as compared to 7.2 per cent in 2002;

(c) whether this was core sector's worst performance since September 2002, when it grew by 1.7 per cent;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) to what extent this core sector has been able to increase its growth during 2003-04?

Prices of cement

*187. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a sudden spurt in prices of cement recently due to the play of cartels in the industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

Objectionable advertisements on TV

*188. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of
INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the steps his Ministry and the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) are taking under the Cable TV Regulation Act and the code prescribed by the ASCI in order to check the menace of objectionable advertisements on TV Channels;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that recently a meeting was held between the ASCI and his Ministry to deal with this issue; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

Polio and Hepatitis patients

*189. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons suffering from Polio and Hepatitis B and C in the country;

(b) the number of persons suffering from the above diseases in Uttaranchal;

(c) whether Government are extending any assistance for making the State free of Polio and Hepatitis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Survey of disposal of pending cases

†*190. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of pending cases in district courts and other subordinate courts in the country is 2, 07, 48, 130;

(b) if not, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have conducted any survey with regard to the delay in disposal of these pending cases; and

(d) if so, the details of the cases pending for the last ten years, five years and two years?

DDA's residential schemes

*191. SHRI G.K. VASAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of DDA's residential schemes for flats and plots;

(b) the number of people on waiting list, scheme-wise and category-wise;

(c) the criteria for allotment to the waitlisted people scheme-wise and category-wise;

(d) whether out of turn allotments are being made if so, on what basis and to whom; and

(e) the details of the new schemes launched, if any, for economically weaker sections?

Medical Universities

*192. SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Health and Medical Universities in the country;

(b) the expenditure on these Universities during the last five years, University-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the number of students, graduates and post-graduates passing out from these Universities, year-wise; during the above period?

Export and import of tea

*193. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the export and import status of tea

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

during the last three years, year-wise and the future prospects;

(b) the reason for overall decline in the share of Indian Tea in the world market and the action contemplated to aggressively capture the world market;

(c) whether a Tea Registering Authority as provided under the Tea (Marketing) Control Order, 2003 is functioning;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the authority to ensure fulfilment of requirements for determination of reasonable price of green leaf and the achievement so far?

Sagar Mala project

*194. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Sagar Mala" project with a proposed investment of Rupees One Lakh Nine Thousand crores is being considered by his Ministry;

(b) whether the existing and the proposed ports are being excluded from the purview of the Coastal Regulatory Zone Regulations which are at present in force;

(c) whether the project would take into account the needs of the landlocked States and the Union Territories and infrastructure requirements such as inland water transport etc;

(d) how the project is proposed to be financed; and

(e) whether private sector participation in the project is envisaged and if so, the details thereof?

World Investment Report of UNCTAD

*195. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the latest World Investment Report of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD);

(b) if so, Government's observations thereon;

(c) whether UNCTAD report has suggested any recommendations for FDI friendly and easier policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response thereto?

Organ donation

*196. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to encourage organ donation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

FDI in the country

†*197. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount of Foreign Direct Investment in the country from the financial year 1991 to 2003 had been 33.53 billion;

(b) if not, the actual amount thereof; and

(c) the names of the five industries with maximum and minimum amount of foreign investment?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Amendment in food adulteration laws

*198. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

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

(a) whether Government propose to amend the laws, equating adulteration of food and beverage with 'poisoning with knowledge of consequences' a criminal offence, similar to causing death due to rash and negligent acts for which punishment would be more severe;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be brought forward?

Introduction of CAS

*199. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that introduction

of CAS scheduled for September, 2003 has been postponed further;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by Government to prevent cable operators from charging fee at will; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure uniform charges in metros within the maximum limit beyond approved rates?

Cruise terminals in coastal areas of Karnataka

*200. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up cruise terminals in the coastal areas of Karnataka between Mangalore and Karwar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 9th December , 2003
Agrahayana 18, 1925 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

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Health and Family Welfare	:	182, 189, 192, 196, 198,
Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	:	—
Information and Broadcasting	:	183, 188, 199,
Law and Justice	:	190,
Parliamentary Affairs	:	—
Shipping	:	194, 200,
Social Justice and Empowerment	:	181,
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