

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 15, 2005/Agrahayana 24, 1927 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy; Coal; Communications and Information Technology; External Affairs; Labour and Employment; Ocean Development; Overseas Indian Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Science and Technology; Shipping, Road Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions — 20

Roads damaged due to floods in Mumbai

*321. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

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

(a) whether following the recent
unprecedented floods in Mumbai, the State
Government of Maharashtra has sought
any special technical and other aid from his
Ministry for speedy upgrading and
reconstruction of roads and bridges in
Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's response thereto?

Creation of a gene bank

*322. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any

proposal to create a gene bank for private
and public organisations;

(b) if so, the modalities worked out in
this regard so far; and

(c) the funds allocated for the current
Five Year Plan for this purpose?

Funds for roads in NE Region

*323. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH
SHARMAH: Will the Minister of
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND
HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allotted and
utilised during the last three years in the
States of North Eastern Region under road
funds to upgrade highways and main
district roads of the NER; and

(b) the names of the roads for which
allocations had been made and the details
of the progress of works on these roads of
the region during this period?

Investment in ARIs

*324. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH
KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of investments made in agro and rural industries during the last three years and as on date in different States, State-wise;

(b) what are the problems of these industries; and

(c) what strategy has been devised to give a boost to the agro and rural industries?

State-wise teledensity

†*325. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

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

(a) the telephone density in rural and urban areas during the last year and this year till now, State-wise;

(b) whether the telephone density in rural areas is less than that in urban areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to increase the telephone density in rural areas particularly in the rural areas of Orissa and Himachal Pradesh?

Nehru Yuva Kendras in Punjab

*326. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the numbr of Nehru Yuva Kendras functioning in Punjab at present, location-wise; and

(b) the details of the programmes being run by these Kendras during the last three years and the current year alongwith performance of these Kendras?

Conditions imposed by USA on nuclear deal

*327. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ever since the Indo-US Nuclear deal was signed, the U.S. administration has been asking for more concessions and placing the burden of meeting conditions associated with the deal entirely on India;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

Opening of LoC for relief work

*328. SHRI SHARAD YADAV:
SHRI PYARELAL
KHANDELWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to open points on LoC between J&K and PoK with a view to provide assistance to recent earthquake victims which has hit the region;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of assistance provided/likely to be provided at these points for the victims, especially for those belonging to Pok; and

(c) the number of victims who have attended camps opened at these points and what is their response to it?

Abolition of Administrative Tribunals

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

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to abolish the Central Administrative Tribunals and the States Administrative Tribunals;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for taking such a decision; and

(c) what would be the fate of the employees of these tribunals after their abolition?

Guidelines on child labour

*330. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated the guidelines on child labour;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that many States are not implementing the guidelines; and

(d) if so, the action taken against these States for non-compliance of the guidelines?

Status of PIOs *vis-a-vis* NRIs

*331. PROF. ALKA BALRAM
KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI KAMLA
MANHAR:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations seeking clarifications on the status of Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) *vis-a-vis* Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) in domestic aviation sector;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take in this regard;

(c) whether according to recent amendment in Citizenship Act, 1955, notification of the Ministry of Home Affairs, FEMA and RBI Regulations, there is parity to PIOs with NRIs in respect of FDI in Air Transport Services (Domestic Airlines);

(d) if so, the reasons for creating discrimination for PIOs in aviation sector inspite of existing well-conceived policy of Government; and

(e) what steps Government have taken to clear the ambiguity on FDI in aviation sector?

Telecom facilities in rural areas of Maharashtra

*332. SHRI VASANT CHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme for providing telecom facilities to rural areas in Maharashtra;

(b) the total number of villages in Maharashtra where "wireless in local loop" services have been provided, so far;

(c) the number of villages where no telecom facilities exist; and

(d) the steps taken to provide telecom facilities in those villages?

National Highways in Uttar Pradesh

*333. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any new Road Policy for development, expansion and maintenance of the various roads including National Highways in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to implement the above policy?

Availability of Sim Cards in Jharkhand

†*334. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending for excel pre-paid Sim Card of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited in Jharkhand;

(b) by when the Sim Cards are likely to be made available to them; and

(c) by when the system of making excel pre-paid Sim Card available on demand would be brought in place?

E-auction of coal

†*335. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sale of coal through E-auction was introduced in the country;

(b) if so, the date on which the said process for sale of coal was introduced;

(c) whether it is also a fact that certain people had objected to the said process; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and whether the Gauhati High Court has declared the said process as unconstitutional, if so, the process to be adopted by the Government for the sale of Coal?

Demand for opening of Stilwell road to Myanmar

*336. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an increasing demand for re-opening of the historic Stilwell road to Myanmar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have decided to give its nod to such a proposal; and

(c) if so, the details of the same including the stipulated time period within which the proposal would materialise?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Use of earthquake resistant technology for buildings

†*337. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the parts of country hit by the earthquake in October, 2005 and what is the loss of life and property suffered by the States along with their names;

(b) to what degree Delhi is safe from earthquakes;

(c) the steps taken by Government for compulsory use of earthquake resistant-technology in the newly built buildings;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when a final decision would be taken in this direction?

PPF for unorganised sector

*338. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI K. B. KRISHNA
MURTHY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Public Provident Fund (PPF) covers less than one in every thousand workers in the unorganised sector;

(b) whether it is further a fact that PPF has not been very successful in attracting low income earners;

(c) whether it is also a fact that over half of PPF customers are in the taxable income bracket;

(d) what are the objectives of constituting PPF and whether the objectives have been achieved; and

(e) the steps taken to achieve the same and to make PPF a successful scheme?

Expenditure on project under social sector

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

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a need to increase the expenditure on projects under social sector in the country;

(b) if so, total amount spent on these projects during the current year and the extent to which this amount exceeds the amount spent during the last year; and

(c) the amount likely to be increased for this purpose during the year 2006-07?

Waterway between Hoogly and Allahabad

*340. SMT. JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce waterways for transportation of goods between Hoogly & Allahabad [in Uttar Pradesh]; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 9th December, 2005
Agrahayana 18, 1927 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

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External Affairs	:	327, 328, 336,
Labour and Employment	:	330, 338,
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