

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Tuesday, the May 16, 2006/Vaisakha 26, 1928 (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

Per capita burden of loans

†*441. SHRI JAI PARKASH
AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of
FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per capita burden of loans
in the country as on date;

(b) the amount paid against interest on
loans during the last three years and current
financial year so far; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be
taken by Government to reduce the same?

(b) whether the Ministry have a list of
all product lines, which face inverted duty
structure;

(c) what action is proposed to
rationalize the tariff regime to address this
anomaly; and

(d) whether Government propose to do
away with Early Harvest List in Regional
Trading Agreements (RTAs) as the Early
Harvest List of goods in RTAs create
inverted duty structure?

Rationalisation of tariff regime

*442. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for several
product lines, the existing tariff regime
results in higher import duty rate on raw
materials/intermediates than on finished
products, thereby discouraging value addition
by domestic manufacturers;

Allotment of petrol pumps to dependants of Kargil war martyrs

†*443. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN
SHARMA: Will the Minister of
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government
have formulated a plan to allot dealership of
petrol pumps and LPG to the widows of the
brave martyrs of Kargil war;

(b) if so, how many widows/dependants
of martyr soldiers have been allotted

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

dealership of petrol pumps and LPG till date and how many of them are still left; and

(c) the number of such persons in Madhya Pradesh allotted petrol pumps and LPG dealership?

Domestic LPG consumers in Rajasthan

*444. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) number of domestic LPG consumers in Rajasthan and Jaipur;

(b) quantum in metric tonnes of cooking gas required every month in Rajasthan;

(c) whether there is shortage of domestic LPG in Rajasthan;

(d) whether new domestic LPG connections have been stopped;

(e) whether Government are aware that LPG meant for domestic consumption is being diverted to hotels, restaurants, automobile filling stations;

(f) if so, steps taken to stop this pilferage;

(g) whether there is acute shortage of LPG cylinders in the country;

(h) number of persons on the waiting list for LPG connections, in Rajasthan, till date; and

(i) by when, this backlog is likely to be cleared?

Cancellation of Operation Safety Certificate of AI

*445. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the governing body for global airlines, International Air Transport Association (IATA) has cancelled Air India's Operation Safety Certificate for failing to meet International Operations Safety Audit (IOSA) standards; and

(b) whether Government have made any investigations to find out why the Indian flag carrier has failed to meet IOSA and if so, the action proposed?

Filling of backlog vacancies in Departments under M/o Civil Aviation

*446. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the backlog of vacancies as on 31st March, 2004 in various Departments under his Ministry;

(b) whether, special drive was carried out to fill in the above backlog vacancies;

(c) if so, the number of vacancies filled in during the last two years, Department-wise; and

(d) what are the backlog vacancies as on 31st March, 2006?

New guidelines for grievances of bank customers

*447. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether RBI has framed new guidelines/rules to address the grievances of bank customers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the action plan of Government to control addition of unjustified charges and making of harassing calls by the bank officials, etc.?

Financial package for Himachal Pradesh

*448. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the status/position of the financial package/assistance announced by the Prime Minister for Himachal Pradesh on the 28th May, 2005 while on a visit to the State; and

(b) the number of schemes sanctioned and funds provided for the same during the year 2005-06 by the Central Government?

Package for Rural Co-operatives

*449. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal of Rs.13600 crore package for Rural Co-operatives was approved during December, 2005;

(b) if so, the purpose of the above fund including guidelines for utilizing fund, total number of co-operatives and number of co-operatives to be benefited by above fund State-wise, category-wise as on today;

(c) the details including fund sought and allotted to various States as on today, State-wise, category-wise; and

(d) the total amount of rural co-operative credit, accumulated loss, invoked but unpaid and uninvoked guarantees given by State Governments, category-wise and State-wise, as on today?

New oil exploration

*450. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are Government's plans to

increase exploration in India by various PS Units involved in oil exploration;

(b) whether there is any formula fixed by Government on the financial ratios on domestic investment in oil exploration and overseas exploration for oil;

(c) if so, the details of such ratios; and

(d) the steps proposed to emphasize domestic oil exploration?

Staff strength of Global Trust Bank

*451. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons working in each branch of the then Global Trust Bank at the time when it was taken over by the Oriental Bank of Commerce and what is their present strength;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of these branches are being run with the skeleton staff of two or three persons only and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the work load in those branches has increased since its taking over by Government and if so, the reasons for not increasing the strength of staff in those branches?

Entry of LICs into Health Insurance Sector

*452. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India has sought entry into Health Insurance Sector;

(b) whether the IRDA has yet to clear certain regulatory issues, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to resolve the same?

Outsourcing of printing of currency notes and coins

*453. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made a proposal to outsource printing of currency notes and coins from different countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the problem of counterfeiting has been addressed;

(d) if so, the details of measures taken in this regard;

(e) whether ensuring the security and safe delivery of print runs has been a major problem; and

(f) if so, the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken?

Smooth management of airports

*454. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not extended adequate cooperation to the Airports Authority of India in the matter of immigration, passenger screening etc. by various agencies like the CISF and other such agencies;

(b) to what extent has such non-cooperation resulted in poor service at airports all over the country;

(c) whether Government would hold meetings with the Airports Authority of India to find solutions to routine problems of the day; and

(d) the reasons for not putting in place a modern and accountable system to help smooth management of all airports in the country?

Reservation of SCs and STs in M/o Civil Aviation

*455. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are successfully maintaining the requisite percentage of SCs and STs reservation in jobs in the Ministry and its various organisations;

(b) if so, the details of the status, organization-wise;

(c) if not, the details of the backlog status and steps taken to fill up the vacancies; and

(d) the reasons as to why the number of ST representation in Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Academi (IGRUA) is less as compared to SCs?

Reduction in cost of air travel

*456. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether private airlines now account for more than 60 per cent of domestic air traffic;

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

(c) whether low cost of private airlines, which are much cheaper than the Indian Airlines/Alliance Air, is the reason for their increase in domestic air traffic;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to reduce the cost of air travel of Indian Airlines/Alliance Air aircrafts;

(f) whether Indian Airlines/Alliance Air propose to introduce no-frills flights; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Irrigation projects of Rajasthan, M.P. and Gujarat

*457. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received any proposals relating to irrigation projects from the State Governments of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details of the projects sanctioned alongwith funds allocated therefor, State-wise and project-wise; and

(c) if not, the details of such projects alongwith reasons therefor?

BHEL's power project in Orissa

*458. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BHEL has clinched a Rs. 800 crore order for the expansion of the NALCO's captive power plant at Angul in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that on completion of the project, the installed capacity of the plant will go up to 1200 MW, making it Asia's largest captive power plant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 10th May, 2006
Vaisakha 20, 1928 (Saka)

Evasion of customs duty on imported cars

†*459. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered with regard to imported costly cars for which custom duty has not been paid;

(b) the number of such cars seized and the amount recovered as fine thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check evasion of custom duty on the imported cars?

Setting up of a National Heritage Sites Commission

*460. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a National Heritage Sites Commission to tender advice on heritage matters;

(b) whether this decision was taken in view of the inadequacies in the present legal and institutional framework to address the documentation and conservation of built heritage in its broadest outline;

(c) if so, what are the other main objectives of this proposed Commission; and

(d) by what time Commission is likely to start functioning?

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Civil Aviation	: 445, 446, 454, 455, 456,
Company Affairs	: —
Finance	: 441, 442, 447, 448, 449, 451, 452, 453, 459,
Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	: 458,
Petroleum and Natural Gas	: 443, 444, 450,
Tourism and Culture	: 460,
Water Resources	: 457.