

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, the December 16, 2005/Agrahayana 25, 1927 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Agriculture; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Consumer Affairs,  
Food and Public Distribution; Environment and Forests;  
Food Processing Industries; Health and Family  
Welfare; Railways; Steel)

Total number of questions — 20

#### Negative growth in crucial crops

\*341. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:  
SHRI ANAND SHARMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reports from across the  
country suggest a negative growth in  
output of crucial crops such as paddy,  
coarse grains, pulses and oilseeds;

(b) whether Government have received  
full report of erratic rainfall in the country  
and its effect on these coarse grains;

(c) whether the rains in September have  
also improved the position;

(d) if so, whether any final estimate of  
negative growth in Kharif crop has been  
made; and

(e) if so, the action plan being  
considered by Government?

#### Damage caused by wild elephants in Assam

\*342. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will  
the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND  
FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action taken to prevent

the regular movement of wild elephants  
within the habitation of tea gardens and  
villages under Amaribari Forest Range of  
DFO Tezpur in Sonitpur district, Assam  
for it causes damage to paddy, land,  
houses, property as well as people;

(b) whether any compensation has been  
paid to the affected families and the  
agencies entrusted with the task;

(c) the total forest cover maintained  
during the last five years as well as the  
details of forest marked as elephant  
conservation in Assam; and

(d) the steps taken to push back these  
wild elephants to the conservation area?

#### Damage to onion crop in Maharashtra

\*343. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:  
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether heavy rains and floods in  
Maharashtra have caused extensive  
damage to onion crop in Maharashtra, if  
so, the extent of loss and damage to the  
crop;

(b) what percentage of demand for onion in the country is met by Maharashtra, and how far the recent onion crisis in the country was attributable to this damage; and

(c) what Central aid, if any, was sought and given to the Government of Maharashtra to help the farmers out of the crisis caused by such damage to onion crop?

#### **Health-care for All**

\*344. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target for taking health care to all parts of the country has been fixed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government are aware that CII's health committee and Escorts Heart Institute have conducted a study and found that Rs. 1 lakh crores will be required for 'Health-care for All' project?

#### **Co-ordination Committee for agricultural development**

\*345. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted the Agriculture Co-ordination Committee to focus on agricultural development and policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have set any time-frame to implement the recommendations of such Committee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Price control on drugs**

\*346. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to ease control on pricing of drugs manufactured in India; and

(b) whether Government studied the position that would arise by relaxing the control on drug prices after which the drugs will become costlier for the consumers?

#### **National Steel Policy**

\*347. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI  
REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to form a Group of Ministers to finalize an action plan and monitor implementation of much awaited National Steel Policy;

(b) whether Government have announced the Steel policy;

(c) if so, the details of the same; and

(d) whether this policy has been fully approved by the Group of Ministers?

#### **Increasing coverage of BPL families under TPDS**

\*348. SHRI SANTOSH  
BAGRODIA:  
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of BPL families identified/covered under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS); and

(b) the reasons for not covering the entire BPL families identified under the TPDS?

**Medicines available without prescriptions**

\*349. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fast action potent sedative drugs like Ketamine and Rohypnol are available in the market without prescriptions and there are reports of their rampant misuse; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to restrict the sale of such drugs in the market?

**Accidents due to failure of safety norms and human errors**

\*350. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that causes of accidents of trains are failure of giving due attention to rail safety and non-implementation of safety norms;

(b) the details of train accidents in 2004 and 2005 due to failure of safety norms and by human error;

(c) what penalty is imposed on those employees who violate safety norms;

(d) how many persons have been booked for non-implementation of safety norms during 2004 and 2005; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to ensure strict compliance of safety norms?

**Stalls at platforms in Konkan**

†\*351. SHRI VASANT CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways on the demand of the residents of Konkan, had assured them at the time of introducing Konkan Railway in Maharashtra to provide stalls at the railway platforms;

(b) if so, the number of unemployed persons to whom stalls have been provided at railway platforms so far and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government would consider to provide employment to such unemployed persons as per their demand?

**Strike by CGHS staff**

†\*352. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether about thirty thousand health employees of various institutions of the Central Government went on strike on 18 November, 2005, which had widely affected the health services;

(b) if so, the reasons for their strike;

(c) whether employees have requested Government to accept their demands before going on strike; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to accept their demands?

**Rotary Cancer Hospital at AIIMS**

\*353. SHRIMATI JAYA

BACHCHAN:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

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

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Indian Rotary Cancer Hospital at AIIMS has been delayed and is yet to become fully operational and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the equipment and external services had not been planned alongwith the construction of the building thus contributing to the delay and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the cancer unit is likely to become fully operational?

#### **Design and manufacture of agricultural equipments**

\*354. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps during the last two years to design and manufacture agricultural equipments which are suitable for Indian conditions and for enabling the farmers to carry out farm operations economically and efficiently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the success achieved therefrom;

(c) whether the country is still lagging behind many countries in farm mechanisation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Frequency of Bhubaneswar-Yeswantpur-Bhubaneswar Express**

\*355. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhubaneswar Citizens' Forum has requested the railway authorities to increase the frequency of the

Bhubaneswar-Yeswantpur-Bhubaneswar Express from once to twice a week, due to heavy rush of traffic; and

(b) if so, the status of the proposal and the time-frame within which it would be agreed to?

#### **Restructuring of FACT**

\*356. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal pending for restructuring of the FACT;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount required for the restructuring;

(d) whether Government have released the required amount for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the restructuring process?

#### **Registered nursing institutions in the country**

\*357. SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of registered nursing institutions in the country, both Government and private, approved by the Indian Nursing Council and the number of those institutions in Kerala;

(b) whether the Council had prescribed and maintained any guidelines for the approval of these institutions and whether any instances have been reported from any State relating to the irregular approval of those institutions which have got no basic amenities; and

(c) whether any such instances have been brought to the notice of Government from Kerala and if so, the details thereof?

### **Decline in fish production**

\*358. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a great fall in fish production especially wild stock from sea and rivers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective measures being undertaken to stimulate the fish production?

### **Disparity in prices of drugs and medical equipments**

\*359. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that catheter of different companies have different prices with huge variation;

(b) the details of medicines and medical equipments serving the same purpose but having abnormal deviations in prices;

(c) the detailed reasons for such abnormal deviations in prices though they

serve the same purpose and all of them are manufactured by standard companies; and

(d) the measures already taken and proposed to be taken to put an end to such deviations in prices and develop an effective price controlling vigilant monitoring system throughout India?

### **Amendment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980**

†\*360. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Ministers of States in the country have demanded that more rights should be provided to the tribals by amending the Forest(Conservation) Act, 1980;

(b) if so, the names of the States which have made this demand and when such demand was made; and

(c) the decision taken, so far, by Government to effect amendments in the above Act?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 10th December, 2005*  
*Agrahayana 19, 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>Agriculture</b>	: 341, 343, 345, 354, 358,
<b>Chemicals and Fertilizers</b>	: 349, 356,
<b>Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</b>	: 348,
<b>Environment and Forests</b>	: 342, 360,
<b>Food Processing Industries</b>	: —
<b>Health and Family Welfare</b>	: 344, 346, 352, 353, 357, 359,
<b>Railways</b>	: 350, 351, 355,
<b>Steel</b>	: 347.