

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, the August 19, 2004/Sravana 28, 1926 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 20

Meteorological forecasting system

*341. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have analysed the shortcomings in the present meteorological forecasting system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been formulated to procure some hi-tech world class equipment worth Rs. 500 crores to secure better overall meteorological forecasting and even for district-wise predictions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and its present status?

Recruitment of ex-Servicemen to guard U.S. installation in Iraq

*342. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: SHRI AMAR SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government have made any

investigation into the incidents of some Indian companies smuggling ex-servicemen into Iraq from Kuwait and Jordan to guard U.S. installation there;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of companies which had recruited these ex-servicemen and what is the number of such recruits; and

(c) what action Government have taken against them?

Private Investment in Nuclear Energy Sector

†*343. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to encourage private investors in the nuclear energy sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of units functioning in the above said sector along with the unit-wise production thereof; and

(d) the details of the other important

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

steps Government are taking to increase the nuclear power generation besides inviting private investment?

Theft of coal

†*344. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of complaints have been received with regard to the theft of coal from Gevara/Deepika area of South Eastern Coalfields Ltd;

(b) whether it is a fact that keeping in view the seriousness of the matter in pursuance of their enquiry the State Government have demanded a C.B.I. enquiry;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any action has been taken or proposed in this regard, so far; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

CAG's report on BSNL and MTNL

†*345. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI UDAY PRATAP
SINGH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the CAG has severely criticised the working of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the value of the machines which could not be utilised by the said Nigams;

(c) the level at which a decision was taken to purchase these machines and what were the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government are taking to provide better facilities to the consumers?

Call girls from Central Asian countries coming to India on tourist Visas

*346. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that call girls from Central Asian countries are coming to India with tourist visa;

(b) if so, the volume of such traffic;

(c) what deterrent steps are being taken by the visa granting authorities in these countries to check the antecedents of the potential call girls;

(d) whether there is any functional coordination mechanism and information sharing arrangement between Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Home Affairs to control the menace; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Grant to States for project implementation

*347. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during 2003-04 the Planning Commission granted Rs. 33,000 crore to the States for Plan Projects implementation, but States incurred a debt of Rs. 85,000 crore to fund the balance of plan expenditure;

(b) if so, what percentage of Rs 85,000 crore constitutes the expenditure incurred by the States on account of their share; and

(c) if not, the actual availability of funds required by States for implementation of such projects?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Inclusion of Computer Science and Engineering in UPSC syllabus

*348. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have incorporated Computer Science and Engineering in the syllabus of the Engineering and Technology Examination and the Indian Administrative Service Examination which are conducted by the UPSC;

(b) if so, what are the comprehensive recruitment procedures of these posts and if not the specific reasons therefor; and

(c) what incentives Government would provide to those students who are holding the degree of Computer Science and Engineering?

Mining projects in Rajasthan and Punjab

*349. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new mining projects have been undertaken in Rajasthan and Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have made any new surveys to find new Minerals in the State of Rajasthan?

Human rights abuses in Iraq

*350. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of

Indians in Iraq are suffering from Human Rights abuses;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether many Indians are illegally detained there; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Delay in appointment of J.T.Os.

†*351. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees declared successful in departmental examination for the posts of Junior Telecom Officers in the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd., Delhi and Mumbai after 1998, have not yet been appointed to those posts;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when, Government would promote all the departmental employees who were declared successful in the examination for J.T.O.s?

Wireless services to the villages of Rajasthan and Punjab

*352. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SANTOSHBAGRODIA:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to connect all villages in Rajasthan and Punjab with wireless service;

(b) if so, the number of the villages that would be connected under the project, district-wise, in case they do not have regular telecom network; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Indo-China talks on border dispute

*353. SHRIRAVULA CHANDRA
SEKAR REDDY:
SHRI ABANI ROY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether talks between India and China on border issue were held recently at New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome of the talks between the National Security Advisor and Chinese Executive Vice Foreign Minister?

Labour related issues in MFI and BALCO

*354. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fact finding committee was formed on the advice of the Prime Minister of NDA Government during last year to look into the labour related issues after privatization of Modern Food Industries and BALCO;

(b) if so, the composition and terms of reference of the Committee; and

(c) whether any report has been submitted and if not, the reason therefor?

Tariff of BSNL and MTNL mobile phones

†*355. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether mobile tariff of BSNL and MTNL is equal to that of other private companies; and

(b) the status of utilisation of MTNL and BSNL services in comparison to other private companies?

National Road Safety Policy

*356. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that road accident scenario in the country is fairly dismal;

(b) if so, the number of road accidents that have taken place in the last three years and the deaths and injuries which have been caused due to such accidents;

(c) whether there is any National Road Safety Policy;

(d) if not, whether Government are considering for adopting the same and if so, by when; and

(e) whether the National Road Safety Policy drafted in 1992 is still under consideration of his Ministry?

Help for Indians in Iraq

*357. SHRIMATIPREMACARIAPPA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 5,000 Indians are in Iraq and as many as 11 have lost their lives;

(b) if so, whether Government have decided to provide all help to the Indians who want to return back;

(c) if so, whether any concrete steps and measures have been taken to help them;

(d) whether a number of Indians were held hostages in Iraq by militant group;

(e) if so, what efforts were made to get them released; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(f) whether all the Indians working there have been urged to return back?

Violation of Equal Remuneration Act

*358. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any reports in regard to violation of the provisions of Equal Remuneration Act during the year 2003-04;

(b) if so, whether it relates to women labourers working in the unorganized sector also; and

(c) if so, the remedial measures taken to check such violation and discrimination against the women labourers?

Separate company for coal mines in Rajmahal

†*359. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to create a separate company for operating the coal mines situated in the Rajmahal area of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the structure thereof; and

(c) the place where its headquarter is likely to be located?

Unemployment problem

*360. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Government's scheme to wipe out unemployment in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time fixed for effective implementation of the scheme; and

(c) if not, whether Government would formulate such scheme keeping in view that a large number of people are waiting for years after registering in the rolls of employment exchange?

NEW DELHI;
The 13th August, 2004
Sravana 22, 1926 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

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Agro and Rural Industries	: —
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Coal and Mines	: 344, 349, 359,
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Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	: 348,
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