

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, the February 21, 2003/Phalgun 2, 1924 (Saka)*

**(Ministries : Agriculture, Chemicals and Fertilizers; Environment and Forests;  
Food Processing Industries; Human Resource Development; Ocean Development;  
Railways; Science and Technology; Steel; Youth Affairs and Sports)**

**Total number of questions—20**

#### **Accidents due to derailment**

†\*61. SHRIMATI PREMA  
CARIAPPA:  
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be  
pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents  
occurred due to derailment during the last  
four years;

(b) the main reasons thereof and the  
steps taken by Government to stop these  
accidents;

(c) whether it is a fact that the  
Bangalore Express met with an accident  
on 21st December, 2002; and

(d) if so, the details of loss of lives  
and property and the reasons for accident?

#### **Strategic plans to counter drought**

\*62. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked  
on strategic plans to counter the drought in

the coming year, in dry States like Rajasthan,  
Gujarat, MP etc.;

(b) if so, the highlights of such a plan;

(c) if not, whether Government realize  
that planning to counter drought conditions  
needs to be done in advance; and

(d) if so, what steps Government  
propose to take to protect the standing  
crops when the drought conditions arise  
this summer?

#### **Grants and aids to fraudulent educational institutions**

\*63. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA  
MURTHY:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there were  
many fraudulent universities, colleges and  
schools in Southern India that were getting  
grants and aid from Government;

(b) if so, number of such schools,  
colleges and universities receiving aid  
from Government have closed down  
during the past three years;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether some schools and colleges which are still receiving aid but are not operational; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take to keep a check on such fraudulent schools and colleges?

#### **Environmental education**

\*64. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes and the steps taken by Government for environmental education, awareness and training during the last three years;

(b) whether World Bank assistance has been taken to promote Environment Management Capacity Building Project in the State of Karnataka; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent thereon during the last three years in that State?

#### **New Kendriya Vidyalayas**

\*65. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to open 100 new Kendriya Vidyalayas in the ensuing academic session; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise/ UT-wise?

#### **Setting up of a regional office of National Innovation Foundation at Guwahati**

\*66. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives and achievements of forming National Innovation Foundation;

(b) list of programmes taken up for implementation during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) whether Government had decided to set up a North Eastern Regional office of National Innovation Foundation at Guwahati; and

(d) if so, the target set and the progress made therefor?

#### **Accreditation to educational institutions**

\*67. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UGC is or not required to consult the concerned administrative Ministry/authority before awarding NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council) accreditation or the 'deemed to be University status' on an institution;

(b) whether it is a fact that in a few instances where institutions, particularly the institutions offering professional courses, were accorded, and continue to be accorded, Accreditation/University status even before the course or the college was/is formally recognised by the administrative Ministry; and

(c) if so, the details of such institutions with date of conferring Accreditation/University status and recognition by the concerned administrative authority and the Government's reaction thereto?

#### **Train between Bangalore and Vijayawada**

\*68. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the heavy demand from commuters to run express train from Bangalore to Vijayawada and

to run Yeshwantapur-Howrah Express on a daily basis and consequent on the meeting with Chief Minister of Karnataka any decision has been taken; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Effect of drought on rabi sowing**

\*69. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a depressive Kharif season due to drought and low soil moisture has affected rabi sowing in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether sowing so far of rabi wheat, coarse cereals, pulses and oilseeds has shown shortfall over the last year;

(c) if so, to what extent there has been a shortfall of rabi crop during the current season; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to meet the situation?

#### **Development and expansion of fisheries in States**

†\*70. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:  
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Haryana Government has been given grant for development and expansion of fisheries in that State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would implement this scheme in other States also; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Ban on plastic carry bags**

\*71. DR. ABRAR AHMED:  
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH  
LIBRA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state what steps Government have taken to ban the manufacture, distribution and sale of plastic carry bags?

#### **Convention on Rights of the Child**

\*72. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRIMATI SHABANA  
AZMI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's first periodic report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child observed that India lacked separate legislation to deal with such cases;

(b) if so, whether the report prepared by the Department of Women and Child Development is to be submitted to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child;

(c) if so, what are the other recommendations of the report; and

(d) whether Government are considering any legislation to deal with child abuse cases?

#### **Import duty on cotton**

\*73. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN:  
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of cotton reached all time low during 2001;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the import of cotton had increased in the country steeply;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, whether Government evaluated the impact of the increased import on the cotton producing areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government have taken steps to increase import duty on cotton on the permissible level in accordance with the WTO conditions;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Funds for safety in Railways**

\*74. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in an effort to curb the rising number of accidents, the railway have increased spending on safety related matters;

(b) whether General Managers of zonal railways will have more funds at their disposal for this purpose; and

(c) if so, what amount they would have now and what was the limit of funds previously?

#### **Anti-collision device in Railways**

†\*75. SHRI C. O. POULOSE:  
SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Konkan Railway has developed an Anti-Collision Device (ACD);

(b) whether trials have been conducted to ascertain its efficiency;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether this device has since been installed in any sector of the railways; if so, details thereof;

(e) whether railways propose to install this device in all the sectors; and

(f) if so, details alongwith the time frame set for the completion of this work?

#### **Pollution in Yamuna**

\*76. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:  
SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

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

(a) whether it is a fact that pollution in the Yamuna river has reached a very high level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court issued a set of directives some time back for the reduction of pollution level of that river;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the same have been fully implemented; and

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

#### **Recommendations of National Commission for Cattle**

\*77. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the salient features of the recommendations made by National Commission for Cattle;

(b) whether Government have examined those recommendations;

(c) if so, what is the future course of action thereon; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if not, by when the recommendations will be examined and follow up action taken?

**Availability of banned medicines**

\*78. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:  
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many drugs that are banned in several countries are freely available in India;

(b) if so, whether Government have made inquiries in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Chennai-Madurai Jan Shatabdi Express**

\*79. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railways propose to introduce a Jan Shatabdi Express between

Chennai and Madurai in view of ever increasing need and pressure;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Destruction of trees due to insects**

\*80. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether *Derolus Discollis* from Pakistan have infested the Khejri tree, which is known as 'Kalpvriksha' of Rajasthan resulting in drying of a large number of trees in the State;

(b) whether the insects have surfaced after almost 97 years and have devastated thousands of trees in the four districts of Nagaur, Churu, Sikar and Jhunjhunu in the State; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Centre in co-operation with the State authorities to solve the problem?

NEW DELHI ;  
*The 15th February, 2003*  
*Magha 26, 1924 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

## **I N D E X**

**(Ministry-wise)**

<b>Agriculture</b>	: 62, 69, 70, 73, 77,
<b>Chemicals and Fertilizers</b>	: 78,
<b>Environment and Forests</b>	: 64, 71, 76, 80,
<b>Food Processing Industries</b>	: —
<b>Human Resource Development</b>	: 63, 65, 67, 72
<b>Ocean Development</b>	: —
<b>Railways</b>	: 61, 68, 74, 75, 79,
<b>Science and Technology</b>	: 66.
<b>Steel</b>	: —
<b>Youth Affairs and Sports</b>	: —