

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, the May 22, 2006/Jyaistha 1, 1928 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Development of North Eastern Region; Food Processing Industries;
Human Resource Development; Law and Justice; Mines; Minority Affairs;
Non-Conventional Energy Sources; Ocean Development; Power;
Science and Technology; Social Justice and Empowerment;
Tribal Affairs; Women and Child Development)

Total number of questions — 20

Right to food for children

*521. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an All-India Convention was held recently in Hyderabad on 'Children's Right to Food' examining the role of the Integrated Child Development Scheme;

(b) whether the Convention has called for universalisation with quality of the ICDS and strengthening of the Aanganwadi network; and

(c) the other salient findings of the Convention which are being considered by Government for early implementation?

Expansion of school education system

†*522. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a continuous

expansion of the school education system has been noticed since the last decade in the country;

(b) if so, the status of expansion of school education system with regard to primary schools, secondary schools and higher secondary schools during the last five years till 2005-06; and

(c) the names of those States in the country where such expansion remains at minimum level and also of those where maximum expansion has taken place?

Swadhar Scheme

†*523. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Swadhar Scheme has been launched by Government to look after the destitute women;

(b) if so, the facilities provided to the destitute women thereunder;

(c) the names of places in Madhya Pradesh where the said scheme is being operated; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether some measures are being taken to make these women self-dependent?

Assessment of creamy layer among OBCs

*524. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for assessing creamy layer among OBCs for issuing OBC certificates to eligible persons belonging to OBC;

(b) whether Government will consider revising the asset and income criteria in view of the fact that the existing criteria is outdated;

(c) whether all the vacancies reserved for OBCs in all categories of jobs are being filled up; and

(d) the details of departments/job avenues where suitable OBC candidates are not found?

Status of BALCO valuation

*525. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the process of valuation of the residual shares of BALCO has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether legal advice of the Attorney General of India has been obtained about the validity of the provision incorporated in the share purchase agreement vesting the call option rights on the entire residual shares of BALCO to the present owners of its fifty-one per cent shares;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps contemplated by Government in the light thereof?

Project guidance for energy plants

*526. SHRI R. SHUNMUGA-SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the institutions recognised by Government to offer project guidance for energy plants; and

(b) whether such institutions are screened and what are the methods by which their efficiency and performance are monitored?

Budgetary allocation for adult education

*527. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that budgetary allocation for adult education has been reduced to Rs. 214 crore this year, as against Rs. 263 crore in last year's revised estimates;

(b) if so, whether Government are of the view that targets in respect of adult education have been achieved and therefore lesser budgetary allocation is required;

(c) if not, the reasons for reduction in allocation; and

(d) the performance details of various schemes run by Government in the field of adult education?

ASSOCHAM's report on power situation

*528. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a countrywide survey

undertaken by ASSOCHAM on power situation has disclosed that in some key States, energy deficit slides nearly over 8 per cent to 27 per cent in mid-April, 2006 adversely affecting the industrial production and agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the details of the States where this survey was conducted;

(c) whether the lack of fresh investments and modernisation coupled with huge transmission losses are responsible for grave power situation in the country; and

(d) if so, whether Government have examined this survey report and if so, the action Government propose to take to meet the situation?

Plan for electrification of villages

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

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government envisage electrification of all the villages in the country by the year 2009-10;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government propose to electrify villages where grid extension is not likely, through distributed renewable power systems;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action plan of Government to cover such villages in Orissa under the above project, which are yet to be lighted up?

Development of forest villages

*530. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:
Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that

there is a need to provide basic facilities and services for improved livelihood to the people living in forest villages, if so, the position, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any financial allocation for the development of forest villages; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Reservation for minorities

*531. SHRI MANOHAR GAJANAN JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing any legislation regarding minorities reservation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Electrification of villages in Bihar under RGGVY

†*532. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Bihar covered under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana;

(b) the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) the details of works to be done under the said scheme;

(d) whether Government would make special arrangements for the areas where the system of electrification has collapsed completely; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Energy cooperation among BIMSTEC countries

*533. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the BIMSTEC countries had adopted a plan of action for cooperation in energy sector in October, 2005 at Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action has so far been taken in pursuance of the decision taken?

Problems faced by families affected by Tehri Dam

†*534. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether serious consideration is being given to solve the rehabilitation problem of Tehri Dam, Asia's largest dam under construction, within a period of three months on the lines of displaced persons of Sardar Sarovar Dam;

(b) the names of districts in which the displaced persons of Tehri dam (Garhwal division) have been rehabilitated;

(c) the details of facilities provided to the displaced persons in the districts in which they have been rehabilitated; and

(d) the number of persons to whom compensation amount has finally been paid and the number of cases pending so far out of the displaced people whose houses and land have got submerged?

Low literacy rate

*535. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

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

(a) whether the current literacy rate of the country is lagging behind many developing countries;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government during 2006-07 to increase the literacy rate further;

(c) whether it is a fact that female literacy rate is less than the male literacy rate; and

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating budgetary provisions made, State-wise during 2006-07 as compared to 2005-06, particularly in Rajasthan?

Proposal of Kolar Gold Mines Unions

*536. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the Unions working in Kolar Gold Fields Limited;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

Reaching of SSA to minorities

†*537. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the benefit

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has not reached the madaras which have been set up in the country for the basic education of the Muslim population;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the schemes formulated by Government to improve the educational status of the Muslims?

Allocation of power to Punjab

*538. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI DHARAM PAL
SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has assured that Punjab would be allotted a share equivalent to 1500 MW electricity from the super thermal power plant to be set up in Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the present position of the setting-up of the plant and by when it is likely to be commissioned;

(c) the action Government have taken on the request of the State Government of Punjab to set up a 1000 MW Central Sector Plant in the State; and

(d) whether the State will have to wait till the plant is set up in Chhattisgarh or some alternative arrangement is being made to provide them power immediately and if so, the details thereof?

Quota in deemed universities

*539. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government are considering to bring the deemed universities under quota net;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission has solicited the views of deemed universities in this regard; and

(d) if so, the views expressed by them in this regard?

Malnourished children in India

*540. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent UNICEF's globally released report, 'Progress for Children: A report Card on Nutrition', has indicated that India has the highest number of malnourished children in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the annual financial allocation made and utilised for ensuring nourishment of the poor children in the country and the target achieved during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise?

NEW DELHI;

The 16th May, 2006

Vaisakha 26, 1928 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,

Secretary-General.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

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| Development of North Eastern Region | : | — |
| Food Processing Industries | : | — |
| Human Resource Development | : | 522, 527, 531, 535, 537, 539, |
| Law and Justice | : | — |
| Mines | : | 525, 536, |
| Minority Affairs | : | — |
| Non-Conventional Energy Sources | : | 526, |
| Ocean Development | : | — |
| Power | : | 528, 529, 532, 533, 534, 538, |
| Science and Technology | : | — |
| Social Justice and Empowerment | : | 524, |
| Tribal Affairs | : | 530, |
| Women and Child Development | : | 521, 523, 540. |