

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, the July 22, 2004/Asadha 31, 1926 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy;
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

Pending projects of various Ministries

†*241. DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:
SHRIRAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND
PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are
several projects under various Ministries
which were sanctioned 25 years back but
their construction has not started as yet;

(b) if so, the number of such projects;

(c) the names of the Ministries to which
these projects belong together with the
number of such projects under each
Ministry; and

(d) the total amount spent on each of
these projects upto March, 2004?

Poor functioning of Rohru telephone exchange in Shimla

†*242. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ:
Will the Minister of
COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of
the fact that all the telephone sub-exchanges
under Rohru telephone exchange in Shimla
are not functioning properly;

(b) whether it is a fact that the earthing
has not being done properly in telephone
sub-exchange at Bhatwari as a result of
which cards either become defective again
and again or these get burnt and it takes
2-3 months to get them repaired;

(c) if so, by when, Government would
improve its condition so as to make it
function properly; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor
together with the number of telephones
which are lying out of order for the past six
months?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Broadband policy

*243. PROF. ALKA BALRAM
KSHATRIYA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government have decided
to announce a fresh policy to push
broadband and internet penetration with
focus to provide faster connectivity at
lower prices;

(b) if so, whether Government have also
decided to have a revamp of the telecom
policy; and

(c) if so, to what extent this new policy
would attract new investment, create job
opportunities and provide access to new
and improved services?

Joint venture for making satellites

*244. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to
state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ISRO has
entered into an agreement with Boeing
company to make satellites under joint
ventures;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what will be the financial
implications for ISRO;

(d) whether any profits are expected
by ISRO; and

(e) to what extent ISRO would be able
to technically contribute to this joint
venture?

Number of unemployed persons

*245. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND
EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed persons
from 2000-01 to 2003-04, State-wise;

(b) what steps are being taken to make
available the employment opportunities
and reduce the rate of unemployment
growth;

(c) whether it is a fact that the
Agriculture and Animal Husbandry field
has a potential to generate many crore jobs
at local village level, if proper programmes
and policies are adopted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Inclusion of new industries in list of
ARIs**

†*246. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR
PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND
RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have got any
survey or research conducted for including
certain new industries in the existing agro
and rural industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the industries which
have recently been included therein;

(d) the number of industries covered
under agro and rural industries till March,
2004 alongwith details thereof; and

(e) the value of annual production done
by these industries?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Increase in number of pilgrims for
Kailash Mansarovar**

†*247. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sent any proposal to Chinese Government to increase the number of pilgrims visiting Kailash Mansarovar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Chinese Government in this regard?

Children covered under the NCLP

*248. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of children covered under the National Child Labour Project since its inception, State-wise;

(b) budget allocated for eliminating the child labour under NCLP, State-wise; and

(c) what action plan does the Ministry have to eliminate child labour by the year 2007?

National Highways in Jharkhand

*249. SHRI R. K. ANAND: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the condition of National Highways is very bad in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and what steps have been taken/proposed to be taken to improve their condition; and

(c) by when the condition of National Highways would be improved?

Scheme for agricultural workers

*250. SHRIMOTILAL VORA: SHRIMATISARLA MAHESHWARI:

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

(a) whether Government are implementing any scheme or considering to pass a comprehensive law for the welfare of the agricultural workers who are particularly in the unorganized sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether any scheme is proposed for them; and

(d) at what stage this scheme is pending for implementation at present?

Child labourers in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh

†*251. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of child labourers estimated in the country, particularly in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh as on January, 2004;

(b) the action taken by the Central as well as the State Governments upto the year 2003-04 to check child labour alongwith the details of success achieved in this regard; and

(c) the action contemplated in this behalf for the next two years?

Abolition of contract labour

*252. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is proposal under Government's

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

consideration to exempt some of the industries, from the purview of law on abolition of contract labour;

(b) if so, the details of industries that are going to be exempted from the purview of law;

(c) whether it is a part of the recommendation made by the Second National Commission on Labour; and

(d) what are the other recommendations made by the Second National Commission on Labour?

Funds for Uttaranchal under PMRY

†*253. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the funds released to Uttaranchal as compared to the targets fixed under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana during the last three years;

(b) whether any target has been fixed under the said scheme for this State for the year 2004-05; and

(c) if so, the amount released and the number of beneficiaries as against the target fixed?

Declaration of Asia Co-operation

*254. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India, China and Pakistan and 18 other countries have agreed to move hand in hand to build up a better Asia and

have pledged to resolve disputes among them through dialogue to preserve peace and security in the region;

(b) whether declaration of Asia Co-operation adopted at the end of the Asian Co-operation Dialogue in Qingdao, China, recently decided to vigorously develop intra-regional trade, promote investment activity for bilateral and regional economic development and encourage regional trade arrangements; and

(c) if so, to what extent they have started implementing these projects?

Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly National Waterway system

*255. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1606 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th August, 2003 and to state:

(a) the details of infrastructural facilities created as on date on the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly National Waterway system, and their location;

(b) the volume and type of river traffic on the National Waterway system; and

(c) the river ports selected for development into major inland Waterway terminals and the infrastructure created at each terminal?

Postal facility in Gram Panchayats

*256. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
SHRIMATISARLA MAHESHWARI:

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

(a) the number and percentage of Gram

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Panchayats in the country which are devoid of post offices, State-wise;

(b) the details of the norms set up for fulfilment in the matter of distance, population, income and availability of resources; and

(c) the action proposed to open more village post offices for rural people?

Setting up of logistics posts by Postal Department

*257. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Postal Department propose to set up logistic posts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far this initiative would help to improve our customer-care service, upgrade its revenues and usher in the new era of e-governance?

Nuclear energy

*258. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to tap nuclear energy for meeting the increasing demands of energy, keeping in view the limited availability of petroleum resources including gas;

(b) what is the percentage of nuclear energy as part of the total electricity output in the country;

(c) whether there is any proposal to augment investment in exploiting nuclear energy in the country;

(d) whether any study has been prepared on the costs and benefits of nuclear power expansion in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Torture of Iraqi prisoners

*259. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Iraqi prisoners at Abu Gharib prison and elsewhere were subjected to unprecedented torture and immoral abuse of their rights as human beings; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the measures intended by India to get the heinous crime stopped?

Amendments in the Emigration Act, 1983

*260. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to bring any amendments in the Emigration Act of 1983 to improve the facilities for job-seekers in the Gulf countries;

(b) whether Government propose to open new protector of emigrant offices in Kerala;

(c) Government's reaction thereto;

(d) whether any practical difficulty exists to open new certificate attesting centres in the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether Government are considering to explore the possibilities to overcome such difficulties, if any?

NEW DELHI;
The 16th July, 2004
Asadha 25, 1926 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Prime Minister	: —
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