RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Thursday, the December 22, 2005/Pausa 1, 1927 (Saka)

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

Total number of questions — 20

Treatment of road accident victims

†*421. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are contemplating to bring in a scheme of 'Road Safety System' in all the districts of the country for treatment of the injured persons keeping in view the fact that such persons die in road accidents on highways every now and then:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the persons killed in road accidents during the last five years, State-wise?

Prime Minister's Russia visit

*422. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a ministerial level delegation led by Prime Minister visited Moscow, recently;

- (b) if so, the composition of the team thereof;
 - (c) the expenditure incurred thereon;
- (d) whether Government have signed any MoU during the visit; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Ahmedabad-Vadodara express way

*423. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that extension of Ahmedabad-Vadodara express way upto Mumbai is being proposed under National Highway Development Programme;
- (b) whether Government are aware that Gujarat has frozen development in a band of 300 mts. on either side of finalized alignment; and
- (c) if so, the time-frame for acquisition of land and the starting of the project?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Quality of mobile services

- †*424. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 143 given in Rajya Sabha on the 24th November, 2005 and state:
- (a) according to the regulations issued by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India on 8th July, 2005 what are the revised criterions pertaining to the quality of service:
- (b) on which locations quality of service was found below the quality standards fixed by TRAI for these services;
- (c) whether due to paucity of Base Station Tower (BST) the subscribers do not receive SMSs on time especially on the eve of festivals, but they are charged for these services; and
- (d) if so, what steps Government are taking to check this situation?

Coal extraction by "Coal-Videsh"

†*425. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that an institute by the name of 'Coal-Videsh' was constituted by the Government for purchase of coal mines, etc. abroad;
- (b) if so, the date of constitution of the said institute and the number of persons appointed therein category-wise; and
- (c) the number of coal mines etc. purchased from abroad by the said institute upto October, 2005?

Growth of KVI sector

*426. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: DR. K. MALAISAMY:

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

- (a) whether enough priority and importance are given to the growth and development of Khadi and Village Industries sector in the wake of its vital role in rural economy and employment;
- (b) if so, what is the budgetary support given under Plan and non-Plan and the flow of institutional finance during the last three years as against its requirement; and
- (c) what are the core reasons for the decline and fall of this sector after its golden age for about three decades during 50s to 80s?

Investment in WI-MAX infrastructure

- *427. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.(BSNL) and MTNL are planning to invest in WI-MAX infrastructure;
- (b) if so, the total investment being planned in this sector; and
- (c) what are the services and applications that can be offered on WI-MAX technology?

Land reclaimed by MCL

- †*428. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the land reclaimed after levelling and filling where mining of coal had been done in the last ten years in the country;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) the land thus reclaimed in the last ten years by Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. at Sambalpur, Orissa;
- (c) whether the land reclaimed by MCL is likely to be used for some other purpose;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, whether Government would consider to give the said land to its owners?

59th report of NSS on agriculture

†*429. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the details of the 59th survey report of NSS on agriculture and farmers and the reaction of Planning Commission thereto;
- (b) whether due to non-provision of loans to farmers, particularly medium and marginal farmers they had to take loan from money lenders;
- (c) whether condition of farmers has worsened due to inadequate irrigation, drought and also due to not getting the fair price of agricultural produce;
- (d) whether as a result of this, most of the farmers want to get rid of farming; and
- (e) if so, the steps Government are taking to improve their condition and make them free from debt?

More expenditure on delayed projects

†*430. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that due to not taking-up various Government approved

projects on time or non-completion of these projects in stipulated time-period, Government have to spend more money on them:

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to complete these projects on time?

Bridge on River Zuari

- *431. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to build a second bridge on the River Zuari in Goa;
- (b) the details of the proposal, if any, made by the State Government; and
- (c) the cost involved in the construction of the bridge?

White passports to dancers

- *432. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTERbe pleased to
- (a) whether a troupe of Bhangra dancers from Punjab was given white passports to visit Germany in September, 2005 to perform under a cultural exchange programme;
- (b) whether the antecedents of the members of the troupe were checked before issuing the white passports;
- (c) whether more than half of the members disappeared after a few performances and still remain untraced by German authorities; and
- (d) whether the German Government has issued a note of concern and if so, Government of India's comments thereon?

Agreement of scientific collaborations

*433. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) with how many countries the bilateral agreements of scientific collaboration and exchanges have been signed;
- (b) whether these agreements permit the scientists and academicians from these countries to take up medium or long term faculty positions and research assignments in the academic and research institutions in the country;
- (c) if so, the details of such long and medium term visitors in last three years;
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cases being handled by CBI

- *434. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTER-JEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of cases being handled by CBI as on the 30th June, 2005;
- (b) the number of cases being investigated into by CBI for more than five, ten and fifteen years;
- (c) the number of officers and staff posted in CBI; and
- (d) whether Government think that the present sanctioned strength is enough to handle the increased work-load effectively?

Scientific Citation Index

*435. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of scientific papers from the country that are included in Scientific Citation Index have gone down over the years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) what steps are being taken to improve the situation; and
- (d) the number of foreign scientific publications that have shown inclination to set up their publications in India ever since the policy to permit FDI in publishing scientific journals was enunciated?

Telephone exchanges damaged by naxalites

- *436. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government was helpless in connecting many villages across the country due to naxalite problem;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that at many places the naxalites damaged the telephone exchanges; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Scheme for people displaced by coal companies

- *437. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government have

formulated a scheme for the people displaced due to land acquisition for the 45 coal projects to be executed by the State owned coal companies; and

(b) if so, the features of the scheme for protecting interest of the people who have been displaced?

Constitution of National Commission on Enterprises

†*438. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

- (a) whether Government had constituted a National Commission on Enterprises in the unorganised and informal sector;
- (b) if so, when the said Commission was constituted and by when its report was estimated to be received;
- (c) whether the said report has been received and if so, its salient features; and
- (d) the decision taken by the Government on the basis of recommendations made in the report?

Four-laning of National Highways in Arunachal Pradesh

*439. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

New Delhi; The 16th December, 2005 Agrahayana 25, 1927 (Saka)

- (a) the names of National Highways selected for four-laning in the Noth Eastern Region, particularly in the State of Arunachal Pradesh;
- (b) the number of proposals for improving the National Highways and other roads received from the above State;
- (c) the details of funds earmarked and spent on the above works; and
- (d) by when these works would be completed?

Single lane National Highways in Rajasthan

*440. SHRI THENNALA G.
BALAKRISHNA
PILLAI:
SHRI SANTOSH
BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that still there are National Highways in Rajasthan of single lane and intermediate lane;
- (b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to make them two-lane;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the periodic renewal and maintenance funds allocated for the National Highways in Rajasthan is inadequate; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and by when balance funds would be allocated?

YOGENDRA NARAIN, Secretary-General.

INDEX

(Ministry-wise)

Prime Minister : —
Agro and Rural Industries : 426,
Atomic Energy : —

Coal : 425, 428, 437,

Communications and Information

Technology : 424, 427, 436,
External Affairs : 422, 432,
Labour and Employment : 438,
Ocean Development : —
Overseas Indian Affairs : —

Personnel, Public Grievances and

Pensions : 434,
Planning : 429,
Science and Technology : 433, 435,

Shipping, Road Transport and

Highways : 421, 423, 431, 439, 440,

Small Scale Industries : —
Space : —

Statistics and Programme

Implementation: 430.Youth Affairs and Sports: —