

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Tuesday, the April 23, 2002/Vaisakha 3, 1924 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Civil Aviation; Commerce and Industry; Finance; Petroleum and
Natural Gas; Tourism and Culture; Water Resources)

Total Number of questions—20

Decline in industrial growth

*421. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the
reasons for decline in industrial growth is
diversion of a considerable part of
budgetary resources from investment to
consumption; and

(b) in what manner industrial growth
can be achieved this year *viz-a-viz* last
year?

Ban on import of coconut

*422. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large scale
import of coconut and its products has
caused price crash in Karnataka and other
States; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the State Government of
Karnataka has requested Government to
ban the import of coconut and its products;
and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken
so far in this regard?

Service tax regime

*423. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of
FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the service
tax regime is set to go on-line;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it has
been introduced on an experimental basis
in Mumbai;

(c) whether any study has been carried
out in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Clearance to pending projects

*424. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESH-
WARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL
AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of projects
pending with the Central Government for
clearance, State-wise;

(b) what is the duration of their
pendency, project-wise; and

(c) what are the reasons therefor?

**Funds for development of tourism in
Uttar Pradesh**

†*425. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN:
Will the Minister of TOURISM AND
CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any
proposal for allocation of more funds for
development of tourist places/places of
pilgrimage of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Diamond export

†*426. SHRI RAMACHANDRA
KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed
target of 60 per cent share in the world
diamond market by 2005;

(b) if so, the strategy adopted to
achieve this target; and

(c) the new facilities proposed to be
provided to the exporters in order to boost
the export of diamonds and jewels?

**Interest rates on deposits in
Urban Co-operative Banks**

*427. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT
RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India
has issued a directive to the Urban Co-
operative banks to slash the interest rates
on deposits to the level offered by the
commercial banks;

(b) if so, the rate of interest Urban Co-
operative banks were paying before the
directive of the RBI; and

(c) what is the rate of interest of
commercial banks at present?

**Import duty exemption on appliances
for disabled**

*428. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased
to state:

(a) whether a delegation of disabled
persons recently met him seeking
exemption of import duty and taxes on
appliances meant for them;

(b) whether it is a fact that these
specific budgetary demands are being
made by them for the last several years;
and

(c) if so, the details of demand made
togetherwith the action taken on each of
them?

Production cost of crude oil

†*429. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN
SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM
AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed
the production cost of crude oil being
produced in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, what was the average
production cost of crude oil produced in
various parts of the country during
1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;
and

(c) the year-wise landed cost of
imported crude oil in India during the
above period?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Duty and tax relief on petroleum products

*430. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM
MANHAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil companies in India will find it difficult to retain prices of petroleum products at current level in case the increase in crude prices is not offset by duty and tax relief by Government;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to come to the rescue of oil companies; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Profit earned by AI

*431. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has made any profit for the year 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Air India has made any profit from non-operating revenue or its unutilised bilateral rights; and

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

Export growth target

*432. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export growth target has been slashed by 12 per cent for the current fiscal year as against the previously achieved growth rate of 19.83 per cent in 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the country's targeted International share (in terms of percentage) for 2000-2001;

(d) the share (in terms of percentage) of "ores and minerals" in India's total export in 2000-2001 and the projection for the current year; and

(e) whether any study is made to qualify the improvement in export growth rate by exporting value added products of these "ores and minerals" instead of exporting them as it is?

Import and Export of petroleum products

†*433. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that imports and exports of various petroleum products have been made during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of these petroleum products togetherwith their quantities and prices at which they were imported and exported during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the international prices during abovesaid years, especially of petrol and diesel were less than their consumer prices in India; if so, the details thereof?

Withdrawal of subsidy to North-East passengers

*434. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that subsidy

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

given to passengers of North-East in air travel has been withdrawn;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the fare hike to and fro North-East destinations are much higher than any other sector now; and

(c) if so, what has forced the Ministry of Civil Aviation to do so?

Report of S.S. Kohli Committee of RBI

*435. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that S.S. Kohli Committee appointed by RBI to identify and define wilful defaulter has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government thereon?

Allotment of petrol pumps to widows of Defence Personnel and disabled soldiers

*436. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Government's scheme to allot petrol pumps to widows of Defence Personnel and disabled soldiers has failed to yield desired results due to refusal to give land and NOC, by State Governments for setting up the petrol pumps;

(b) if so, the details of such pending cases including the number of persons to whom the letter of intent has been issued by the petroleum companies and the

reasons for the refusal to allot land and issuing NOCs; and

(c) the steps being considered to assure them a dignified life by implementing the scheme properly?

Promotion for Programmer-cum-Operators in State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur

*437. SHRI SHYAM LAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total employees promoted as Programmer-cum-Operators and JMGS-I separately till date from backward staff and others by State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur during the last three years;

(b) the number of SC/ST promoted and the details of backlog available in (a) above;

(c) the number of SC/ST awaiting promotion after getting 120 hours of Computer Training;

(d) whether experience/standard has been relaxed for SC/ST on both posts; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to fill up backlog as per DOPT order dated the 21st January, 2002?

Effect of LTC ban on tourism

*438. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ban on LIC (Leave Travel Concession) to the Central Government employees and other Government Organisations has badly hit the domestic tourism industry;

(b) if so, the extent of business affected in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some State Governments including Ministry of Tourism have demanded/requested for restoration of LTC to the Central Government employees; and

(d) if so, what is the Government's response thereto?

Modifications in AI's Boeing 747-400 aircrafts

*439. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India employed a Taiwanese agency, Egat, to carry out modifications on three Boeing 747-400 aircrafts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that these modifications could have been carried out by engineers of the Air India; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not utilising the services of Air India engineers?

ADB loan for drinking water in Bihar

*440. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Asian Development Bank has given any loan or grant to Bihar during the last two years for providing drinking water in villages of all the districts of the State;

(b) if so, the villages/districts identified for the purpose;

(c) the quantum of funds allocated to each village/district; and

(d) the progress made so far, district-wise?

NEW DELHI;
The 17th April, 2002
Chaitra 27, 1924 (Saka)

R. C. TRIPATHI,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Civil Aviation	: 424, 431, 434, 439,
Commerce and Industry	: 421, 422, 426, 432,
Finance	: 423, 427, 428, 435, 437, 440,
Petroleum and Natural Gas	: 429, 430, 433, 436,
Tourism and Culture	: 425, 438.
Water Resources	: —