

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, the July 23, 2004/Sravana 1, 1926 (Saka)*

**(Ministries: Agriculture; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Consumer Affairs,  
Food and Public Distribution; Environment and Forests; Food Processing  
Industries; Health and Family Welfare; Railways; Steel)**

**Total number of questions—20**

#### **AIDS bomb**

\*261. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR  
PRASAD:  
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

*Will the Minister of HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:*

*(a) whether it is a fact that the US health  
authorities and CIA have warned India that  
it is a fast ticking AIDS bomb which would  
wreak havoc and weaken the economy;*

*(b) whether India is now the most AIDS  
infected country in Asia; and*

*(c) if so, the status of this disease in our  
country and the action plan to control this  
menace?*

#### **Development of Agriculture and Allied Sector of NER**

\*262. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: *Will the  
Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased  
to state:*

*(a) whether it is a fact that the uniform  
guidelines formulated by Government for  
development of Agriculture and Allied Sector  
are not applied on ground level particularly  
in the North-Eastern Region; and*

*(b) if so, the steps taken to bring  
corrective measures?*

#### **Palm oil prices**

\*263. SHRI MANOJ BHATTA-  
CHARYA: *Will the Minister of  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND  
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to  
state:*

*(a) the costs of purchase and sale price  
of imported palm oil;*

*(b) the cost of refining imported crude  
palm oil;*

*(c) whether sale of indigenous palm oil  
is affected by indiscriminate pricing and  
customs duty; and*

*(d) if so, the steps proposed to check  
fall of indigenous refined palm oil prices  
during kharif sowing season?*

#### **Schemes for Jharkhand**

†\*264. SHRI AJAY MAROO: *Will the  
Minister of FOOD PROCESSING  
INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:*

*(a) whether Government have some  
special plan for food processing industries  
in Jharkhand;*

*(b) if so, the details thereof; and*

*(c) the funds earmarked by Government  
for this purpose for the State?*

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Use of alternative medicines**

\*265. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent warning of the World Health Organisation highlighting inter-alia increasing reports of adverse and even fatal reactions to the unregulated and often unsafe use of alternative medicines, ranging from acupuncture to herbal medicines and food supplements across the world; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken/being taken to regulate the practice of alternative systems of medicine and also for mass awareness to the dangers of over-the-counter purchase of such medicines and use of natural medicines, without consulting the physicians?

### **Prices of steel**

\*266. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that existing mechanism has not been able to check the prices of steel;

(b) whether fluctuation in steel prices has created chaos in market during the previous year;

(c) if so, the reason behind such fluctuation of steel prices; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to check the prices of steel?

### **Improving condition of shepherds**

\*267. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the Karnataka

Government for improving the condition of shepherds under a special scheme drawn up by the Karnataka Sheep and Wool Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the proposal;

(c) the details of the expansion plans, etc.; and

(d) the present status of the above proposal?

### **Condition of blood for blood**

†\*268. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of patients are dying in the country because of the condition of giving blood for blood;

(b) if so, whether Government would consider not to apply this condition of giving blood for blood in the cases of serious patients in order to save their lives; and

(c) the units of blood required every month in Delhi togetherwith the total quantum of blood collected through the blood donation camps?

### **Proposals from NGOs**

269. SHRI VEER SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of project proposals received from Non-Government Organizations by his Ministry during the last three years;

(b) the details of project proposals which have been sanctioned and thereafter found unaccountable during the said period; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the present status of pending proposals and the likely date for their clearance?

**Cobalt therapy machines for cancer control treatment**

\*270. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several NGOs are playing a useful role with Government assistance under the National Cancer Control Programme, especially in establishing cancer facilities in rural and semi-urban areas;

(b) if so, the number of Cobalt therapy machines which have been installed by them during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(c) how Government plan to support such NGOs during the Tenth Five Year Plan by providing more Cobalt therapy machines for cancer treatment?

(d) whether it is proposed to constitute a high power team to conduct thorough investigations into this matter to expose the culprits engaged in such malpractices?

**Healthcare in rural areas**

\*272. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to focus its attention more on providing healthcare in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details in this regard with allocation proposed to be made for the programme; and

(c) the areas identified for accentuated healthcare focus?

**FCI foodgrains in open market**

\*271. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:  
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that rice stocks supplied by Government and released from the FCI godowns are not utilized for the purpose for which it is intended;

(b) whether recently large quantity of rice and wheat supplied by FCI godowns was seized from the private godowns, rice mills and in some other parts of Karnataka;

(c) whether a number of junior officers of Zila Panchayat were arrested and produced before the court and FIRs have been filed; and

**Cholera and gastroenteritis diseases**

†\*273. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL:  
SHRI R.K. ANAND:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of deteriorating situation in the country particularly in Delhi due to out break of cholera and gastroenteritis recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether State Governments have sought any assistance to deal with such diseases;

(d) if so, the necessary action Government have taken in this regard; and

(e) the steps Government have taken for eradication of these diseases?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Use of Kulhars**

\*274. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:  
SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUN-  
DARAM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the cost per "Kulhar" being used in the Railways and the number of "Kulhars" required per day along with the amount spent so far;

(b) whether there are reports that these "Kulhars" are not environment friendly and will ultimately damage the soil;

(c) whether there is a saving in expenditure after the introduction of kulhars in place of plastic cups; and

(d) whether the use of paper-cups would be more cost-effective and eco-friendly in comparison to Kulhars being used?

### **Expansion of V.S.P.**

\*275. DR. T. SUBBARAMI  
REDDY:  
SHRI MANOJ  
BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vizag Steel Plant (VSP) is currently in the red and if so, its cumulative losses as on 1st April, 2004;

(b) whether the plant has started gearing up for expansion of its capacity;

(c) whether the Steel plant has changed and developed a new working system empowering work force with a lot of training programme;

(d) whether any detailed expansion programme costing nearly Rs. 3000 crores has been prepared;

(e) whether any foreign assistance will also be required; and

(f) if so, the total amount required for its expansion and by when the losses are likely to be wiped out?

### **Supply of measles vaccines in PHCs**

\*276. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA  
SEKAR REDDY:  
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on account of tender delays, supply of measles vaccines ran out of stock at Primary Health Centres in the country; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to boost its supplies to prevent measles deaths?

### **Spurious medicines**

\*277. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:  
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether spurious and counterfeit medicines are prevalent in the market in an alarming proportion;

(b) if so, the reasons for not checking entry of such medicines; and

(c) the remedial measures proposed to check the menace effectively and uniformly throughout the country?

### **Import of chemicals**

\*278. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have banned import of any chemical used in the pharmaceutical sector during the years 2002-04;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of chemicals manufactured in the country and also the chemicals imported in the country by the pharma industries; and

(d) the measures to prevent the illegal manufacture of banned chemicals in the country?

**Increasing items for distribution  
through FPSs**

\*279. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the items of commodities for distribution among the consumers through Fair Price Shops, separately for BPL and APL families;

(b) whether the number of items will be increased; and

(c) if so, the names of the new items?

**Trypanosomiasis among tigers and  
lions**

\*280. SHRI BALAWANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the parasitic disease, Trypanosomiasis, among tigers and lions in various Zoological parks/wild life sanctuaries across the country;

(b) if so, the number of tigers/lions died due to this disease during the last two years, year-wise and sanctuary-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to check the spread of this disease?

NEW DELHI;  
The 17th July, 2004  

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Asadha 26, 1926 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
Secretary-General.

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