

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, the December 23, 2005/Pausa 2, 1927 (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

#### Over-bridges/under-bridges under construction in Assam

\*441. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of over-bridges/under-bridges under construction in Assam;

(b) the details of the proposals sent by the Government of Assam for construction of over-bridges/under-bridges at railway crossings; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

#### Locomotive manufacturing units

\*442. SHRI TARINI KANTAROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of locomotive manufacturing units and their production capacity;

(b) whether there are other production units outside the PSUs and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry utilizes the full capacity of the production units;

(d) whether the production in Chittaranjan Locomotive Works has decreased during the last five years; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### Damage to crops due to pests and other diseases

\*443. SHRI ANAND SHARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the large scale damage caused to various crops in major States due to pests and other diseases;

(b) if so, the steps taken to eradicate the same to protect the crops; and

(c) the coverage of various crops in the country under crop insurance scheme?

#### Forest development area projects of A. P.

\*444. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Forest

Development Area (FDA) projects of Andhra Pradesh pending with the Union Government;

(b) whether Government have drawn up any plan on these project proposals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the fund released by his Ministry for FDA projects in Andhra Pradesh during the last one and a half year?

#### **Facilities with CWC to store gold**

\*445. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) is setting up facilities to store gold at its warehouses across the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the CWC will set up vaults at their godowns where the farmers can deposit their gold; and

(c) if so, the reasons for this sudden interest?

#### **Gauge conversion of Madurai-Dindigul rail line**

\*446. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the nine on-going gauge conversion projects in the southern zone Rs. 500.00 crores were needed but the amount sanctioned was only Rs. 125.00 crores;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Madurai-Dindigul metre-gauge line has to be

converted in view of increase in traffic; and  
(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

#### **Construction of godowns**

\*447. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of godowns and their storage capacity under the control of Food Corporation of India (FCI) and Central Warehousing Corporation in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to construct more godowns in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Licences for sugar mills**

†\*448. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that in the recent years, Government have removed the necessity of taking licences for sugar mills;

(b) if so, when this decision was taken;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this was the first step in the direction of making sugar industry free from Government control; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the decision taken/likely to be taken to make sugar industry free from Government Control?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Study leave to doctors**

\*449. PROF.P. J. KURIAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Fifth Central Pay Commission had recommended three years study leave to doctors for attending P.G. courses which cover three years of duration;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) Government's reaction thereto?

### **Iron ore reserves**

\*450. SHRI DEVDAS APTE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the mineable reserve of iron ore in the country is much less than many other iron ore producing countries; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that our country was the biggest exporter of iron ore in the world during the last decade?

### **Debt-burden on farmer households in Punjab**

\*451. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the average outstanding loan per farmer household is the highest in Punjab as compared to other States, as per the survey conducted recently by the National Sample Survey Organisation; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

### **Processed milk products**

†\*452. DR. SWAMI SAKSHI JI MAHARAJ : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of milk produced in the country during the last three years, year-wise/district-wise/State-wise/Union Territory-wise and cattle-wise;

(b) the consumption of milk and milk products being produced by milk processing industry and the names of the countries to which such products were exported, the amount earned during the last three years, product-wise and year-wise;

(c) the number of milk products and products of milk processing industry imported in the country alongwith the names of such countries and the amount involved during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the action being taken by Government for processing of milk and promoting the export of milk and processed milk products?

### **Pending railway projects under Northern Railways**

\*453. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of railway projects pending under the Northern Railways as on date;
- (b) the reasons for delay in executing these projects; and
- (c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

### **Joint venture for tuna fish exploitation**

\*454. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Joint venture project of

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the Government of Andhra Pradesh for Tuna Fish exploitation is pending with Government;

(b) if so, since when;

(c) the reasons for delay in sanctioning this project; and

(d) by when it will be sanctioned?

#### **Banning genetically modified crops**

†\*455. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that reports of adverse-effects of the crops developed through gene modification on human life have come to light;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that keeping in view the results of the above experiments, many countries of the world have banned them; and

(d) if so, the names of such countries and the decision taken by Government in this direction?

#### **Milk production in rural areas**

†\*456. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that milk production can be made an important industry in rural areas;

(b) whether it is also a fact that landless and casual agricultural labourers can be engaged in the said industry;

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(d) whether several problems may arise in promoting this industry in villages such as import of milk, powder milk and competition, etc.; and

(e) the steps Government have taken to resolve these problems and the role of Government in this regard at present?

#### **Rate increase for diagnostic tests**

\*457. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:  
PROF. RAM DEO  
BHANDARY:

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

(a) whether Government are aware that the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) has increased the rates of certain tests conducted at the Institute and also the rent of ICU;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for increasing the rates of various tests and the rent for ICU;

(d) whether Government propose to ask the AIIMS to review this increase and roll back to previous position in view of resistance from the general public; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Reducing prices of foodgrains**

\*458. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the prices of foodgrains in the open market and in the fair price shops for the same quality;

(b) if so, the results thereof;

(c) whether Government are going to

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

reduce the prices of foodgrains as allotted to the BPL and APL families to make it effectively affordable; and

(d) the details of the steps in the pipeline, if any?

#### **Outbreak of Cocksackie virus**

\*459. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether at least 40 children have died and hundreds more are pouring into hospitals in Gorakhpur in an outbreak of Cocksackie, a deadly virus which leaves children with weeks of high fever, fits and diarrhoea;

(b) if so, the details of such children died so far;

(c) whether Government had appointed any committee to look into this;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the recommendations received so far; and

(f) the action taken thereon?

#### **Pakistani intruders posing as doctors**

\*460. SHRIMATI BIMBA  
RAIKAR:  
SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:

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

(a) whether many illegal immigrants from Pakistan, overstaying on their short visas, have been practising as doctors in Indore, Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the State unit of Medical Council of India (MCI) had raided them in the recent past on the charge of practising as quacks; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken by MCI on such immigrant quacks?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 17th December, 2005*  
*Agrahayana 26, 1927 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

**I N D E X**  
(Ministry-wise)

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| <b>Agriculture</b>  | : 443, 451, 454, 456, |
| <b>Chemicals and Fertilizers</b>                          | : —                   |
| <b>Consumer Affairs, Food and Public<br/>Distribution</b> | : 445, 447, 448, 458, |
| <b>Environment and Forests</b>                            | : 444, 455,           |
| <b>Food Processing Industries</b>                         | : 452,                |
| <b>Health and Family Welfare</b>                          | : 449, 457, 459, 460, |
| <b>Railways</b>   | : 441, 442, 446, 453, |
| <b>Steel</b>  | : 450.                |