

## 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 24th, 2003/Sravana 2, 1925 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy;  
Communications and Information Technology; Consumer Affairs,  
Food and Public Distribution; Development of North Eastern  
Region; Disinvestment; External Affairs; Labour; Planning;  
Road Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries;  
Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation)

Total number of questions—20

#### Proposal on opening of Indo-Bangla border

\*61. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:  
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of  
Bangladesh has sent a proposal to the  
Government to open the Indo-Bangla border  
for a period of six months on an  
experimental basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof and arguments  
addressed in favour of the proposal; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

#### Collection from cess on sugar

†\*62. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller  
and Auditor General of India has in his  
recent report expressed concern over the

misutilisation of funds collected through the  
cess being charged on sugar at the rate of  
Rs. 14 per quintal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount deposited in this fund  
till March, 2003; and

(d) the Heads under which this amount  
has been distributed alongwith the amount  
distributed under each Head?

#### Visit of Prime Minister to G-8 Summit at France

\*63. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the  
Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister attended  
the G-8 Summit at France held on the  
1st June, 2003;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed thereat  
and decisions arrived;

(c) whether the Prime Minister advocated  
phasing out of trade-distorting movement  
of personnel for providing services,  
elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

to exports of developing countries and monitoring and evaluating the outcomes of the Doha round of WTO negotiations; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Summit on these issues?

#### **Movement of Indian workers to Iraq**

\*64. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH  
LIBRA:  
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether removal of restrictions on movement of Indian workers to Iraq is expected to result in a large scale migration of skilled workers as Indian workers are preferred in the Middle East; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Settlement of outstanding issues with China**

\*65. SHRI LALIT SURI:  
SHRIMATI SAVITA  
SHARDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any settlement between India and China on the outstanding issues between the two countries could be arrived at during the Prime Minister's recent visit to China;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the issues on which no agreeable solution could be achieved?

#### **Unemployed persons**

\*66. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed persons registered in the regional employment

exchanges in all States of the country upto the 30th June, 2003;

(b) the number of persons that lost jobs from 1st January, 1998 to December, 2003 on account of privatisation of Public Sector Enterprises; and

(c) Government's policy to overcome the explosive and growing unemployment problem?

#### **High technology cooperation with US**

\*67. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister during his visit to New York in last September referred to the scope in high technology cooperation; and

(b) if so, the details of fields where such cooperation has started?

#### **Roads in Tamil Nadu**

\*68. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total length of roads Government have proposed to include as National Highways in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) the particulars of such roads?

#### **Telephone facilities in the villages of Himachal Pradesh**

\*69. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Himachal Pradesh which have not been provided with telephone facilities as yet, district-wise; and

(b) by when this facility is likely to be provided?

**Loans for setting up Agro and Rural Industries**

\*70. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the difficulties being faced by the people in rural areas in obtaining loans from Nationalised Banks for setting up Agro and Rural Industries;

(b) whether Government would introduce a scheme for the disbursement of loans to the needy without procedural wrangles by the nearest Nationalised Banks; and

(c) the details of financial support provided for setting up Agro and Rural Industries at present?

**Base camps of insurgent groups in Bangladesh**

\*71. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of insurgent groups operating in different North-Eastern States are having their base camps in Bangladesh;

(b) whether Bangladesh Government has been approached not to give shelter to these insurgent outfits in Bangladesh; and

(c) if so, what has been the response from Bangladesh?

**Economic growth rate of States**

\*72. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:  
SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the economic growth rate per annum in the last one decade in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Jharkhand; and

(b) the utilisation of funds in the above States during the above mentioned period?

**Diseases due to unsafe atomic power plants**

†\*73. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the atomic plants in the country are unsafe and the workers engaged in these plants as well as the population residing around these plants is suffering from diseases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the atomic power plants continue to conceal the facts without responding to the allegations appropriately; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Operational expenses in providing Village Public Telephones**

\*74. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have, recently disbursed Rs. 250 crores from the universal services obligation to Fixed Line Service Providers for meeting the

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

operational expenses in providing Village Public Telephones in the country;

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

(c) the details of villages, covered by BSNL so far, State-wise; and

(d) the details of villages to be covered by BSNL during the year 2003-04, State-wise?

#### **Widening of NH-6**

\*75. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned funds for widening of National Highway No. 6 from Sambalpur to Bargarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Proposal to convert LoC into international border**

\*76. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US and the UK are keen that India and Pakistan agree to convert the Line of Control (LoC) into the International Border between the two countries to end the Kashmir dispute; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

#### **Construction of godowns by private parties**

\*77. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:  
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

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

(a) the guidelines for private parties to construct godowns for storage of foodgrains for Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have been paying rents for the space not availed by it in the private godowns; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### **Court cases against defaulter companies**

†\*78. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:  
SHRIMATI PREMA  
CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 5071 given in Rajya Sabha on the 8th May, 2003 and state:

(a) the authority by which the instruction for monitoring the speedy disposal of the cases of regional offices of EPF organisation were issued and on which date;

(b) the number of cases disposed off from the date of issuing the order till date and the amount of money recovered as a penalty from the defaulter companies during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) by when all the cases would be disposed off?

#### **Supply of arms to Pakistan by U.S.A.**

\*79. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:  
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that U.S.A. has resumed its supply of major arms to Pakistan following General Musharraf's recent summit meeting with President George Bush at Camp David in June, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the President of U.S.A. and if so, with what result?

**Tariff structure for lease line circuit**

\*80. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS  
AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the tariff structure finalized by the TRAI for lease line circuit;

(b) the rate structure of BSNL for providing lease line circuit, Telecom Circle-wise;

(c) the details of the discount and concessions for various circles showing justification of variation of rates, region-wise; and

(d) the detailed pattern of data rate circuit fixed for North Eastern Region compared to other parts of the country having NX 64?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 18th July, 2003*  

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*Asadha 27, 1925 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

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

<i>Prime Minister</i>	: —
<i>Agro and Rural Industries</i>	: 70,
<i>Atomic Energy</i>	: 73,
<i>Communications and Information Technology</i>	: 69, 74, 80,
<i>Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</i>	: 62, 77,
<i>Development of North Eastern Region</i>	: —
<i>Disinvestment</i>	: —
<i>External Affairs</i>	: 61, 63, 65, 67, 71, 76, 79,
<i>Labour</i>	: 64, 66, 78,
<i>Planning</i>	: 72,
<i>Road Transport and Highways</i>	: 68, 75.
<i>Small Scale Industries</i>	: —
<i>Space</i>	: —
<i>Statistics and Programme Implementation</i>	: —