

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on

Friday, the April 25, 2003/Vaisakha 5, 1925 (Saka)

(Ministries: Agriculture; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Environment and Forests; Food Processing Industries; Human Resource Development; Ocean Development; Railways; Science and Technology; Steel; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions—20

Delay in payment of medical and T.A. bills to KV Employees

†*501. SHRI GHANSHYAM CHANDRA KHARWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that complaints regarding inordinate delay in the payment of medical bills, T.A. bills of employees of Kendriya Vidyalayas of Rajasthan and West Bengal by raising improper objections, have been received by the concerned officers in recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) details of the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Establishing SAT-VU

*502. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics and M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation are jointly launching a Semi-Arid Tropics Virtual University, which aims at working with the existing drought action programmes;

(b) if so, whether the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh would initially be covered by SAT-VU;

(c) if so, what are the other aims of this project;

(d) whether any step, in this regard, have already been taken; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Replacement of track between Indore-Ratlam

*503. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to replace the single track between Indore-Devas, Ujjain and Ratlam rail track in view of the ensuing 'Kumbh Fair' in 2004 at Ujjain; and

(b) if so, by when the new track is likely to be commissioned?

Violation of DPCO in finished formulations

*504. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a price control on imported formulations also;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) what is Government's policy and which are the products that have been granted price approval of import of formulations;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Ely Lilly, Nicholas, Aventis have flouted the DPCO fully in case of finished formulations prices; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that these cases have been referred to CBI for further probe?

Open University

†*505. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of open universities established in India;

(b) the details of the open universities established by the Central Government as well as State Government out of the said universities;

(c) whether Government propose to establish any other open university in near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Utilisation of funds given for Yamuna Action Plan

*506. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports in the media highlighting continuous rise in the pollution level in the river Yamuna despite huge outlay of Rs. 600 crore incurred on the Yamuna Action Plan (YAP);

(b) if so, Government's comments about the veracity of the report;

(c) measures taken by Government to ensure judicious utilisation of the fund so received from the Japanese Government; and

(d) the reasons for continuous rise in pollution and non-availability of cleaner water in the river even after huge investment for this purpose?

Damaged rail lines

*507. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) total length of metre gauge rail lines in terms of route kilometers in Gujarat at present;

(b) what are the area-wise details of such lines;

(c) whether some of these lines are lying damaged for quite long;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to rebuild and restore these lines in the State?

IFFCO plants in U.P.

†*508. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the current financial position of various factories/plants of IFFCO situated in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) plant-wise number of employees retired during the last three years alongwith the number of employees appointed on various posts; and

(c) the details of expenditure on promotion, expansion and gifts during the last three years till the 31st March, 2003?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Categorisation of fertilizer units under new pricing policy

†*509. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to categorise various fertilizer producing units under the new fertilizer pricing policy;

(b) if so, the total number of categories which have been formulated and the basis of determination of each category; and

(c) the cost of production of each category of fertilizer producing units evaluated in April, 2003?

Review of laws related to women

*510. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in connection with the observance of the Women's Day in March, 2003, the implementation of the various laws governing the Rights of women, including the laws relating to marriage, divorce and dowry; laws relating to working women; Right to property and social security for destitute women, women in distress, and crime against women, were reviewed; and

(b) if so, the short comings taken note of; and the steps being taken to remove the same?

Anganwadi Centres in Rajasthan

*511. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved

the special proposal for the construction of Anganwadi Centres in the State of Rajasthan under the Integrated Child Development Service Scheme and whether any additional funds have been allocated therefor;

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

(c) by when, these Anganwadi Centres are likely to be functional?

Annual General Meeting of NCERT

*512. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether two Annual General Meeting of NCERT were held during the year 2002;

(b) whether a number of Education Ministers walked out or withdrew from this meeting; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to redress the grievances of these Education Ministers?

Night patrolling

*513. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified sensitive areas in Railways requiring night patrolling in view of derailment of Bangalore Express due to sabotage;

(b) if so, the details of such areas; and

(c) the steps taken to modernise the signal system to eliminate human failure?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Gauge conversion of
Rangia-Murkongchelek**

*514. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a declaration was made at Dibrugarh, Assam to take up the gauge conversion of Rangia-Murkongchelek section of NF Railways along with Bogibeel Bridge construction; and

(b) if so, implementation status thereof showing total outlay, date of sanction, source of funds and target set?

Assistance to drought hit States

*515. DR. A. R. KIDWAI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have declared on 23rd March, 2003 a financial assistance of Rs. 1,648.77 crores to drought affected States;

(b) if so, the names of the State which will be provided this aid;

(c) what is the amount to be provided to each of the States;

(d) whether this will be in addition to grants already provided to meet the drought situation;

(e) if so, whether the Centre has been able to receive the reports of these States about the grant utilisation; and

(f) how many of these States have, so far, provided the report of utilisation?

Losses of cotton farmers in Orissa

*516. SHRI B. J. PANDA:
SHRI RAMACHANDRA
KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) total amount of loss suffered by cotton growing farmers during the last drought in Orissa;

(b) whether affected farmers have been compensated out of Central grants; if so, the yardsticks fixed for compensation; and

(c) the minimum support price fixed by Government for farmers who were not able to save their crops?

Temperate fruits in Uttaranchal

*517. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the potentiality of production of temperate fruits in the State of Uttaranchal has been assessed;

(b) if so, the quantum of such potentiality;

(c) whether any special provisions have been made in the Tenth Five Year Plan for the utilisation and development of this potentiality; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Vidyalaya Vikas Nidhi

*518. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI RAMACHANDRA
KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Vidyalaya

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Vikas Nidhi collected from students of Kendriya Vidyalayas is meant to be spent for improving physical facilities in each Vidyalaya;

(b) if so, the circumstances which prompted the Headquarters to direct all the Vidyalayas to deposit, in February, 2003, the accumulated amounts to their respective Regional Offices;

(c) whether these funds are being diverted for opening new Kendriya Vidyalayas; and

(d) if so, its justifications?

Conversion of waste plastic into fuel

*519. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Nagpur based scientist has successfully invented a unique process of converting waste plastic into fuel;

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

(c) whether the invented fuel is environment friendly?

Gauge conversion from Fakiragram to Dhubri

*520. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether conversion of Metre Gauge to Broad Gauge is already sanctioned from Fakiragram to Dhubri of Assam;

(b) if so, reasons for not executing the work; and

(c) the stipulated time, if any, to execute the same?

NEW DELHI;
The 19th April, 2003
Chaitra 29, 1925 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture	: 502, 515, 516, 517,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	: 504, 508, 509,
Environment and Forests	: 506, 519,
Food Processing Industries	: —
Human Resource Development	: 501, 505, 510, 511, 512, 518,
Ocean Development	: —
Railways	: 503, 507, 513, 514, 520.
Science and Technology	: —
Steel	: —
Youth Affairs and Sports	: —