

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 28, 2005/Sravana 6, 1927 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy; Coal; Communications and Information Technology; External Affairs; Labour and Employment; Ocean Development; Overseas Indian Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Science and Technology; Shipping, Road Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions —20

Doha Summit

*61. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNALAFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a South Summit meeting was held at Doha in June, 2005;

(b) whether it is a fact that neither the Prime Minister nor the Minister of External Affairs attended this Summit meeting; and

(c) whether as a result thereof India missed a great opportunity to promote its case for a permanent seat in the UNSC with the members of G-77?

Research team to Antarctica

†*62. PROF R. B. S. VARMA:
SHRI PYARELAL
KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a team of Indian Scientists is being sent by Government to Antarctica for research work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the subject on which the Indian Scientists would undertake research at Antarctica; and

(d) by when, the task would be completed?

Vehicles running on LPG

†*63. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vehicles running on authorized L.P.G. in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of L.P.G. filling stations in the country, State-wise, to meet the requirement of such vehicles;

(c) whether the number of vehicles authorised to run on LPG is on the high side in comparison to the available facility of LPG supply;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) the corrective step proposed by his Ministry in this regard?

Corruption in SAI

*64. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI R. K. ANAND:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Auditors of Sports Authority of India have written to Government alleging corruption in SAI;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

Installation of STD/ISD/PCO booths

*65. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of STD/ISD/PCOs running in the various districts of Uttar Pradesh at present, district-wise;

(b) the number of such booths proposed to be set up in the State during the current year, district-wise;

(c) the details of amount spent, so far on the installation of booths in the State; and

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

Corruption in administration

†*66. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR
PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the general public of the country has to spend

Rs. 21,068 crores annually in the form of bribe to solve their general problems;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government have reformed the administrative functioning to remove corruption from the administration during the past years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Target of Golden Quadrilateral

*67. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of achievement of targets by end of the year 2005 of first phase (NHDP) of road development plan—Golden Quadrilateral, involving four or six laning of 5,846 KM of National Highways between Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata;

(b) the percentage of work that remains to be done and its location; and

(c) the steps Government are adopting to achieve completion by the target date?

Indo-China border talks

*68. SHRI MOOLCHAND
MEENA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has expressed its readiness to solve boundary issue with India on the basis of equality and with mutual understanding and concessions;

(b) whether this was expressed by Chinese Chief of Army who had

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

discussions with National Security Advisor, recently in India;

(c) if so, whether both India and China have now agreed to mutually settle this issue;

(d) if so, the latest progress in solving the issue and whether Governments of India and China have agreed to have settlement on this border issue; and

(e) by when the final agreement in this regard is likely to be reached?

Charges for money orders

*69. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the charges for sending money orders are exorbitantly high;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to rationalize these charges; and

(c) whether Government would examine the feasibility of finding out cost-effective ways of sending money orders or its substitutes?

Commercial launching by ISRO

*70. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for commercial launching by ISRO;

(b) by when the said commercial launch is likely to commence; and

(c) whether there would be any tie-up with other countries in such commercial launching?

Discussion on Global Warming in G-8 Summit

*71. SHRI R. S. GAVAI:
SHRI MANOJ
BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a conference of industrial nations of the world was held recently in Scotland;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the discussion held with regard to global warming;

(d) what steps would be taken to check this problem;

(e) whether the developed countries agreed to reduce the increasing Green House emissions; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Debt burden of Orissa

*72. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN
PANY:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Orissa State has an accumulated debt burden of Rs. 31,636 crores as on 31st March, 2005;

(b) whether Government are also aware of progress made by Orissa State in reining in its deficits through tough and difficult steps;

(c) whether the cash-strapped State has requested the Centre to grant them monthly allocation of its plan assistance and share of Central taxes, as the State has no resources to meet its part of obligation for development works; and

(d) if so, the action plan of the Centre to help the State to overcome the current financial condition?

Provision of low cost personal computers

*73. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to provide low cost personal computers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that for the below Rs. 10,000 computers, Government desires financing packages as well as suitable policies to ensure their mass production; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Diversion of funds

*74. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total corpus in the Employees Provident Fund at present;

(b) whether Government are investing certain portion of the fund in stocks and shares;

(c) if so, the details, of stocks and shares in which the funds are invested;

(d) whether Government are considering to divert a portion of the funds for granting pension to the contributors and for undertaking certain social welfare activities, like setting up of technical institutions, hospitals, labour intensive commercial activities, etc.;

(e) if so, the details in this regard; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Telephone booths at ration shops

*75. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish telephone booths at public distribution shops (ration shops);

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been accepted by the State Governments;

(c) if so, the details including the number of such booths proposed to be set up, State-wise and category-wise as on today; and

(d) if so, the State Governments which have accepted the above proposal as on date?

Plans to meet future coal demand

*76. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has not formulated any plan to meet future coal demand;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure availability of adequate quantity of coal to core sectors like power generation, steel, aluminium and infrastructure?

Hurriyat leaders' Pakistan visit without passport

*77. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hurriyat delegation which crossed the Line of

Control by Muzaffarabad bus was allowed to go to Islamabad without passport and visa;

(b) whether it is not a violation of the Indo-Pak agreement;

(c) what protests Government have made with the Government of Pakistan;

(d) what steps are being taken to see that this does not become a precedence; and

(e) whether Government was fully aware of the invitation of the Government of Pakistan to the Hurriyat leaders to visit Pakistan and still allowed them to travel to Pakistan through Muzaffarabad without passports and visas?

Local dialling within States

*78. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in certain States like Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, etc. telephone subscribers do not have to dial '0' to access mobile phones in another circle within the State from both mobile phones and landline phones;

(b) whether this facility is likely to be extended from landline to landline phones also;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Regulator for coal pricing

*79. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA
RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to establish a regulator for coal pricing;

(b) what impact it would have on the cost of generation of power in the country;

(c) whether the proposal has been scrutinised by the Tariff Commission; and

(d) if so, what are the recommendations of the Tariff Commission on the proposed framework on coal pricing?

Chinese support to India's claim for UNSC seat

*80. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has secured support from many nations for its candidacy to a permanent seat in UN Security Council under the G-4 Umbrella;

(b) whether during his recent visit to India, the Chinese Premier had expressed support for India's bid for a Security Council seat; and

(c) if so, whether the reported Chinese support comes with a rider that India should abandon the company of other G-4 member, Japan, whose relations with China is at its lowest ebb?

NEW DELHI;
The 22nd July, 2005
Asadha 31, 1927 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Prime Minister	: —
Agro and Rural Industries	: —
Atomic Energy	: —
Coal	: 76, 79,
Communications and Information Technology	: 65, 69, 73, 75, 78,
External Affairs	: 61, 68, 71, 77, 80,
Labour and Employment	: 74,
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