

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, the November 28, 2005/Agrahayana 7, 1927 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Culture; Development of North Eastern Region; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Human Resource Development; Information and Broadcasting; Law and Justice; Mines; Social Justice and Empowerment; Tribal Affairs; Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation)

Total number of questions — 20

Amendments to Wakf Act

*61. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any suggestions have been received for amendments to the Wakf Act, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken in the matter?

Merger of Mid-Day Meal programme with S.S.A.

*62. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have implemented Mid-Day Meal programme in the schools in various States; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government propose to merge Mid-Day Meal programme with Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan?

Puppet shows

*63. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had held any puppet shows for the children on the occasion of the International Puppetry Day recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount incurred; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to increase the awareness about the puppet shows among kids?

Elementary education and SSA in NE States

*64. DR. KARAN SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government have decided to strengthen the feedback gathering system on the progress of elementary education

and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in North-Eastern States;

(b) whether under the existing funding arrangement for elementary education and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the Union and State Governments, contribution ratio has been 75 and 25 per cent respectively;

(c) whether during the last two years some degree of stability was brought in NE States; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to achieve progress of elementary education and SSA in these States?

(a) whether illegal mining is being carried out in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the financial loss suffered as a result thereof during the last three years;

(d) the impact of illegal mining activities on the environment; and

(e) the steps taken/to be taken by Government to deal with such illegal activities?

Accountability of foreign channel operators

*65. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA
KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Amended Cable TV Network Rules, 1994 make foreign channel operators (Discovery, Ten Sports, Star Network and HBO) more accountable, as now they will have to register themselves by depositing Rs. 1.5 crore and also nominating an Indian for telecasting their programmes in the country;

(b) if so, whether a special mechanism has been evolved for this purpose; and

(c) if so, whether the discrepancies, if any, detected in their programmes would be taken care of?

Illegal mining

†*66. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

Abolition of quota and reservation in private institutions

*67. SHRI MANOJ
BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India has recently ruled that Government, requirement that the private institutions which do not receive any State aid, should also follow Government's policy on reservation of seats for the backward classes, is a serious encroachment on the rights and autonomy of these institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Government's reaction thereto and the steps, if any, proposed in this regard;

(d) whether Government have constituted any committee for monitoring the fee-structure in the private institutes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Nude serials on Doordarshan

*68. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rape cases take place only due to broadcast of "Nude Serials" on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details of such serials;

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to put a ban on broadcast of such serials; and

(d) by when such directions are expected to be issued?

Foreign universities and educational institutions

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

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

(a) whether Government have taken cognizance of the foreign universities and educational institutions coming to India to attract Indian students;

(b) if so, whether Government have ascertained their accreditation in the respective countries;

(c) whether Government have formulated any norms for such universities and institutions and whether their degrees are recognized in the country;

(d) whether such institutions offer fellowships and other facilities to our students; and

(e) whether Government have formulated any advisory for our students in this regard?

Punishment to rapists

*70. SHRIMATIMOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that law provides punishment for the proven guilt of rape "a minimum of 7 years imprisonment", still many courts have either awarded lesser years of imprisonment and High Courts have even reduced the sentences in such cases; and

(b) if so, whether Government would ensure that maximum punishment, as provided in the law, be awarded in proven cases to deter the prospective perpetrators of this heinous crime?

Centres for certificate authentication

*71. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the locations of the centres where authentication of certificates of educational qualifications for the persons seeking employment in Arabian countries is being done in the country;

(b) whether Government are aware of the hardships faced by the persons coming from distant places to New Delhi for this purpose; and

(c) whether Government would open more authentication centres in the country to save the job seekers from the ordeal of long travel?

Obscene programmes on foreign channels

†*72. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to lack of any effective Government's control on the foreign channels they are telecasting all types of fair, unfair as well as obscene programmes;

(b) if so, what concrete steps Government is taking in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to allow telecasting facility to the registered channels only through "Cable or Direct to Home (DTH)" service;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) the steps Government would initiate to have control on the unregistered channels?

Foreign universities

*73. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and name of the foreign universities operating in the country through centres/franchises and the courses they are offering;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government are not able to monitor functioning of the foreign universities in India and the students are largely clueless about quality of such centres and courses; and

(c) how Government plan to formalize the present informal arrangements regarding functioning of the foreign universities

indicating the details thereof and time frame therefor?

Publication of Jai Prakash Narayan's works

*74. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have scuttled publication of Jai Prakash Narayan's selected works after 1964; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

†*75. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in various States, State-wise;

(b) whether some of the States have not yet achieved the target; and

(c) if so, the names of those States and the steps being taken for proper implementation of this programme?

Amenities for the poor in NER

*76. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any programmes/schemes have been formulated by Government to provide amenities to poor living in small and big cities in the North Eastern Region, particularly in Assam, during the last two years; and

(b) the amount sanctioned district/block-wise by Government during this period and the amount spent by the State Governments in this connection?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Uday Shankar Academy in Almora

†*77. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the construction work of Uday Shankar Academy, which is under construction in Almora (Uttaranchal), is pending; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and by when this academy is likely to be constructed?

Professionalisation of management

*78. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of heavy industrial undertakings and public enterprises where professionalisation of top management has been introduced as a policy initiative, and whether the same would percolate down in the hierarchy;

(b) whether there has been any marked gain or improvement in performance as a result of this process and how long it would take to complete this process in all units of this sector;

(c) the number of the units already closed, those in operation and economic viability of the running units; and

(d) the future prospects of these units, category-wise?

Participation of children in functions

*79. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI THENNALA G.
BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that small school children are being sent to perform in high profile birthday functions of past and present leaders where they have to wait for hours;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to end this practice and direct the State Governments not to summon small children for such functions;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Gandhi Heritage Sites Project

*80. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has launched Gandhi Heritage Sites Project to map the milestones of Mahatma Gandhi's life as has been done in foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 22nd November, 2005
Agrahayana 1, 1927 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Culture	:	63, 74, 77, 80,
Development of North Eastern Region	:	—
Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	:	78,
Human Resource Development	:	62, 64, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 79,
Information and Broadcasting	:	65, 68, 72,
Law and Justice	:	70,
Mines	:	66,
Social Justice and Empowerment	:	61,
Tribal Affairs	:	—
Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation	:	76.