

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Tuesday, the April 29, 2003/Vaisakha 9, 1925 (Saka)*

**(Ministries : Civil Aviation; Finance and Company Affairs; Petroleum and
Natural Gas; Tourism and Culture; Water Resources)**

Total number of questions—20

Pilferage of gas from LPG cylinders

†*541. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the increasing incidents of pilferage of gas from LPG cylinders;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any action for checking such incidents; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Water Treaty between China and India

*542. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the need for a Water Treaty between China and India on the lines of Indus Water Treaty before the Task Force starts plans for linking the Indian rivers; and

(b) if so, whether Government are seriously thinking of any such Treaty?

Inter-linking of rivers by NWDA

*543. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Water Development Agency has completed the pre-feasibility reports of the links;

(b) if so, whether the pre-feasibility reports of all the 30 possible links, 16 under the peninsular component and 14 under the Himalayan component, had been completed;

(c) by when all the detailed project reports will be prepared;

(d) at what stage the project is at present;

(e) whether the project will be completed as per schedule; and

(f) by when implementation of the project is likely to be started?

Merger of financial institutions

*544. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering merger of some leading financial institutions in the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details in this regard alongwith the financial institutions identified for the proposed merger;

(c) the scope and contours envisaged for the new entity; and

(d) the factors necessitating such a merger?

Utilization of sea water

*545. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for utilization of sea water by the process of Reverse Osmosis plant for supplying water to Kutch region in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken by Government in this regard?

Review of rate of interest by R.B.I.

*546. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India proposes to review the 4 per cent rate of interest on savings bank accounts being paid at present by the commercial banks in view of the fact that inflation rate has recently crossed the 6 per cent level; and

(b) if so, by when a decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

Impact of Iraq war on economy

*547. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2070 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11th March, 2003 and state:

(a) the achievements made during 2001-02 and 2002-03 with regard to higher private initiative and greater integration with the world economy, reducing the level of poverty and facilitating greater investment;

(b) the targets set out for 2003-04 in these sectors;

(c) whether the war in Iraq will affect the targets set out;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to reduce the adverse impact of the war in Iraq?

Installation of display panels at IGI Airport

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

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indira Gandhi International Airport has acquired six 42-inch plasma display panels, alongwith 15 colour TVs to give a face-lift to the Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any plan to extend the same to other airports in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Drying up of rivers due to inter-linking

*549. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the apprehension expressed by the Director-General, World Wide Fund (WWF) as reported in the media to the effect that the proposed inter-linking of the

country's rivers is likely to result in drying up of the rivers and turning into beds of sand; and

(b) if so, what precautions are being taken to prevent such environmental catastrophe and whether the Task Force constituted to study the proposed inter-linking of rivers has due representation of such international environmental organisations as WWF?

Studies on linking of rivers

*550. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a former Water Resources Minister, Shri K.L. Rao had got the proposal of linking of Ganga River with Southern rivers examined;

(b) if so, the details and conclusions of study undertaken at that time; and

(c) the reasons for abandoning that scheme at that time?

Inspection of companies

*551. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI MOOLCHAND
MEENA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of companies inspected by Government under Section 209 (a) of the Companies Act, 1956, during the last two years;

(b) how many companies were actually booked for violations, mismanagement, delay in payment of dividend, non-payment of deposits during that period; and

(c) whether prosecution has been launched against all such companies and if not, the reasons therefor?

Restructuring of UTI schemes

*552. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Unit Trust of India propose to restructure its 47 schemes through intra-scheme merger;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for aggressive marketing of UTI schemes in order to reduce redemption pressure on the Trust?

Merger of Kamraj Rural Bank with Jammu Rural Bank

*553. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has recently issued orders asking the merger of Kamraj Rural Bank with Jammu Rural Bank;

(b) if so, whether Jammu Rural Bank employees have threatened strike and agitation against this order as reported in media; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Pipeline project of GAIL

*554. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the rates submitted by each company for laying of 670 Km. B.J. pipeline and the names of the companies whose rates were approved by the Gas Authority of India Limited;

(b) what are the details of orders placed with each company;

(c) whether it is a fact that the tender of one company was rejected at the trial stage and if so, on what ground it was again approved; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that rules were changed to suit the selected company which has no previous experience of this nature?

Time-schedule of flights

*555. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for frequent changes in the time-schedule of the flights in the eastern region (including north-east) during the last three months when weather happened to be fair;

(b) the number of flights delayed or cancelled between Kolkata and Agartala, Agartala and Guwahati and Guwahati and Kolkata;

(c) what were the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to avoid such situations and to keep passengers free from such troubles; and

(e) the plans to improve air-journey in the NER?

Conservation of water reserves

*556. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated strategies to conserve water reserves in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether State Governments and UTs have also been asked to conserve water reserves in their respective States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Cooperative Banks without licence

*557. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Cooperative Banks operating in the country without requisite licence from Reserve Bank of India as on date;

(b) whether the matter of such unauthorised banks has been taken with concerned State Governments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Special financial aid to Uttaranchal

†*558. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial aid provided to Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh during the last year and the works on which said amount was spent by both States, separately; and

(b) whether Government are considering to provide special financial aid to newly created State, Uttaranchal and if so, the details thereof?

Science City in Punjab

*559. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of Science City in Punjab;

(b) by when the project is likely to be completed; and

(c) the funds released so far and spent on the project?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Face-lift to IGI Airport, Delhi

*560. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide a face-lift to the Indira Gandhi

International Airport to improve its aesthetics and raise the service standards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof *inter-alia* stating the security management, addition of innovative facilities, the estimated cost and the nodal agency for the upkeep of the Airport?

NEW DELHI;
The 23rd April, 2003
Vaisakha 3, 1925 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Civil Aviation	: 548, 555, 560,
Finance and Company Affairs	: 544, 546, 547, 551, 552, 553, 557, 558,
Petroleum and Natural Gas	: 541, 554,
Tourism and Culture	: 559,
Water Resources	: 542, 543, 545, 549, 550, 556.