

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 29, 2005/Vaisakha 9, 1927 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Agriculture; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Environment and Forests; Food Processing Industries; Health and Family Welfare; Railways; Steel)

Total number of questions — 20

Zonal office of Western Railway at Ajmer

†*501. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Ajmer has been considered the best suitable place for the zonal office of Western Railway as per the Beri Committee report submitted in 1992;

(b) whether Government are also aware of the fact that enough land and space is available in Ajmer for zonal office while an expenditure of about Rs. 300 crores is likely to be incurred on the development of land and construction of building in Jaipur;

(c) whether Government are reconsidering its earlier decision to avoid such extravagance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Fertilizer subsidy

†*502. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering an alternative calculation system for providing subsidy on fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) the details of the system; and

(d) from which date it has been implemented?

Sex determination clinics

*503. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are thousands of Ultrasound Clinics in the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

country for conducting prenatal sex determination test; and

(b) whether Government are monitoring those Ultrasound Clinics which are violating the guidelines issued by Government?

Horseshoe crab

*504. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any measure to resume research on 'Horseshoe crab' and to include it in Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act as the horseshoe crab could help to cure diseases like osteoporosis and cardio vascular ailments; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Opening of more international rail-routes in the neighbouring countries

*505. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to open more international railway routes especially in the neighbouring countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Reduction in fertilizer prices

†*506. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to reduce the present prices of fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering

to formulate a new fertilizers policy; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Hunger free India

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

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared an action plan for turning every village into a knowledge centre and making India hunger free by 15th August, 2007;

(b) whether the country has the necessary technical, financial, managerial and political capacity to launch an integrated nutrition-cum-livelihood security system to achieve freedom from hunger;

(c) if so, whether there is a need for paradigm shift in planning and implementation from the concept of food security; and

(d) to what extent these provisions are being worked out successfully to make India hunger free by 2007?

Diseases due to computer

†*508. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether excessive use of computer can render a person psychiatric patient;

(b) if so, the elaborate details thereof;

(c) the kind of diseases that can afflict the persons making excessive use of computers;

(d) whether Government have conducted any survey to find out this fact; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Wild buffaloes

*509. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not ordered even a single census on the presence of wild buffaloes in dedicated sanctuaries;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Government are not interested in protecting wild buffaloes in the country;

(c) the reasons for the go-slow approach of Government with regard to census and surveys of wild life in the country;

(d) what steps would be taken to create a pro-active atmosphere in all matters related to wild life; and

(e) the immediate steps proposed in this regard?

Availability of fodder

†*510. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the average fodder availability for each milch animal at National level is 5 kg. per day only;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) the number of milch cows and buffaloes separately in every State and the average fodder available for them per day;

(d) whether it is a fact that the availability of fodder per animal is less than the requirement; and

(e) if so, the requirement of fodder per animal?

Adarsh Machhuara Awas Yojana

†*511. SHRI VIDYA SAGAR NISHAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses provided to States during the Tenth Five Year Plan under the "Adarsh Machhuara Awas Yojana";

(b) the budget provision made during Tenth Five Year Plan under the said scheme, State-wise;

(c) whether State Governments provide their 50 per cent share with ease and if not, the steps Central Government are taking for the same; and

(d) the reasons for not providing 100 per cent grant by the Central Government and the details of the steps being taken by the Central Government for the same?

Improvement of track capacity and its maintenance

*512. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that most of the lines are already saturated and hence there is no track capacity to start 46 new trains announced in the Railway Budget, 2005;

(b) whether it is a fact that railways have failed to start more than half of the 32 trains promised in the last budget; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve track capacity and its maintenance?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Crime in trains

*513. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:
SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crime in trains has been on the rise during the recent past;

(b) the details of complaints registered by RPF/GRP and prosecution cases instituted based thereon, railway zone-wise during the last five years till 31st December, 2004; and

(c) whether any additional steps are being taken, particularly for identification of the vulnerable rail routes, for augmenting safety of passengers, during the last one year?

Mega Chemical Industrial Estate

*514. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Mega Chemical Industrial Estate;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Spurious seeds, pesticides, etc.

*515. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1031 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd July, 2004 and state:

(a) whether the menace of unscrupulous manufacturers dealing in spurious seeds of food grains including cotton seeds, pesticides and fertilizers have been curbed following enforcement of the Acts, Rules and Orders;

(b) if so, the details of complaints received by Government during the last five years; and

(c) in how many such cases the culprits have been punished?

World Health Report on infant and maternal mortality

*516. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR:
SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recently released World Health Report places India in the list of 51 slow progressing countries as far as infant Mortality and Maternal Mortality is concerned;

(b) whether the report has estimated 1,36,000 maternal and 1 million new-born deaths in India every year; and

(c) whether according to the report, one in every three malnourished children lives in India and about 50 per cent of all childhood deaths in India are attributable to malnutrition?

Water supplied to railway coaches

*517. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the mechanism for filling water in the coaches;

(b) whether any quality check is done on water supplied to the Railways especially water supplied to the pantry cars in various trains; and

(c) what is the process and what are the results thereof?

Electrification of rail routes in Assam

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

(a) the reasons for not extending the provision of electrification of rail routes towards Assam, the gateway of North Eastern-Region;

(b) whether Government would contemplate any policy to extend electrification on any part of the rail routes in the region in the near future;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

Creation of new tiger reserves

†*519. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by Government for saving tigers which are fast disappearing from tiger reserves;

(b) whether Government are considering any proposal to create new tiger reserves; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Strike of chemists in Delhi

*520. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether chemists in Delhi who are supplying indented medicines to CGHS Delhi have again gone on strike in February last;

(b) whether Government have investigated as to why these chemists are forced to go on strike quite often causing hardship to CGHS beneficiaries, particularly to senior citizens with meager pension; and

(c) why the contract between these chemists and Government cannot be made binding on both parties by involving Law Ministry in the matter?

NEW DELHI;
The 23rd April, 2005
Vaisakha 3, 1927 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture	: 507, 510, 511, 515,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	: 502, 506, 514,
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	: —
Environment and Forests	: 504, 509, 519,
Food Processing Industries	: —
Health and Family Welfare	: 503, 508, 516, 520,
Railways	: 501, 505, 512, 513, 517, 518.
Steel	: —