

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 31, 2003/Sravana 9, 1925 (Saka)

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy; Communications and Information Technology; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Development of North Eastern Region; Disinvestment; External Affairs; Labour; Planning; Road Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation)

Total number of questions—20

Task force on employment generation

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

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has constituted another task force to identify sectors, sub-sectors and economic activities at the State level with a large potential for employment generation;

(b) if so, whether Planning Commission has asked States to bring about reforms in labour laws for optimum utilisation of the resources available in order to create employment opportunities;

(c) if so, to what extent this task force have been able to recommend the methodologies and procedures for the monitoring of employment and for gathering information; and

(d) to what extent the target set for employment in the Tenth Plan would be fully met?

Liberal credit facilities for small units

*162. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA
RAO: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether small enterprises are facing increased competition due to liberalised imports;

(b) the steps contemplated for resolving problems being faced by them including global competition and liberalised imports; and

(c) whether Government are considering grant of liberal credit facilities to small units as part of the steps proposed to be taken?

Increase in software export

*163.SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the outbreak of SARS in the recent past and the slump in economy in South East Asian Countries has resulted in increase in software export to the West;

(b) if so, by what percentage;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to help keep the upward trend in these exports; and

(d) if the answer to part (a) be in the negative, the reasons for which Indian software exporters were not able to capitalize on this opportunity?

Manual telephone exchanges of Jharkhand

†*164. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to convert the manual telephone exchanges of Jharkhand into electronic ones;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Employment to youths in Assam

*165. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed to provide employment to the unemployed youths of Assam during the Tenth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Meerut-Kotdwar-Badrinath road

†*166. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to slow pace of construction work on Meerut-Kotdwar-Badrinath road, travellers have to face lot of difficulties;

(b) if so, the reasons for the slow pace of construction;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the construction work of this road is crossing the dead line; and

(d) if so, by when the work is likely to be completed?

Amendment in the Carriers Act, 1865

*167. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to bring about an amendment to the Carriers Act, 1865 as proposed by Bombay Goods Transport Association;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken to stop the on-going harassment of the transporters?

Toll tax on four-lane roads

†*168. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of four lane roads in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether Government are considering to charge toll tax on the four lane roads in the country;

(c) if so, the States where four lane roads are already being used for charging toll tax; and

(d) whether Government are considering to contract any private company for charging toll tax on four lane roads?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Life insurance cover for artisans working for KVIC

*169. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of artisans working for the Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC); and

(b) the action proposed to provide a comprehensive group life insurance cover to them as a social security measure?

Extradition of fugitives

*170. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are facing a deadlock on extradition proceedings in many Countries due to intransigent attitude of even smaller Countries; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of fugitives wanted in India who are facing extradition proceedings abroad and how many letters rogatory are still lying unexecuted; and

(c) whether Government are still considering an amendment in the existing extradition laws, by providing for sovereign assurance on the quantum of punishment to fugitives after being extradited to India?

Development of agro and rural industries

*171. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agro and rural industries set up in the country;

(b) the schemes for setting up and development of agro and rural industries;

(c) the targets fixed for the current year; and

(d) the State-wise pace of progress in this regard?

Nominees to the Central Board of Trustees of EPF

*172. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for which Government have kept the CITU and AITUC nominees out of the Central Board of Trustees of Employees Provident Fund (EPF); and

(b) whether the trade unions would select/elect their nominees to the Board of Trustees or Government according to democratic norms?

Unemployed youths

†*173. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of people that were unemployed in the Country during the year 2002; and

(b) the number of unskilled, skilled, trained and educated (BA and above) persons out of these?

Roads in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh

†*174. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) the status of roads constructed under the Golden Quadrilateral and North-South and East-West corridors schemes;

(b) the status of roads yet to be constructed and that already constructed so far, under these schemes in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh; and

(c) by when the road construction work is likely to be completed in these States?

Optical fibre network

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

(a) whether optical fibre has been laid in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the network is being put to adequate use;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Global telephony grey market

*176. MISS MABEL REBELLO:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that global telephony grey market is a security hazard;

(b) whether the identity of the caller who makes a call through illegal channels can not be ascertained in this system being beyond the scope of interception of Government agencies;

(c) whether such calls are liable to commit crime like hawala transaction, cricket betting, satta markets and drug-trafficking, etc.; and

(d) if so, Government's proposed action plan to control the menace?

Revamping of employment exchanges

*177. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revamp the employment exchanges in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the changes proposed to be brought about in the exchanges so that they become effective for monitoring and co-ordinating various employment generation schemes?

Transit facility for Indians in enclaves surrounded by Bangladesh

*178. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian enclaves surrounded by Bangladesh territory; and

(b) what transit facilities are being provided to those Indian citizens residing in these enclaves?

Sale of bottled water in hotels

*179. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a Sub-Committee which has recommended fine on hotels and other establishments selling bottled water at a very high premium;

(b) if so, what are the recommendations of the Committee;

(c) what is the average price being charged in various star-category hotels in Delhi;

(d) whether Government have already imposed penalty on some hotels for overcharging the customers; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Procurement policy in States

*180. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government have agreed to adopt relaxation

policy in Orissa as in other States to procure paddy due to non-availability of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) paddy in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this policy is to be implemented during the procurement of Rabi Crops in the current fiscal year;

(d) whether the farmers of the State, who were forced to distress sale of paddy last, have been compensated;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

NEW DELHI;
The 25th July, 2003
Sravana 3, 1925 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

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|---|-----------------------|
| Prime Minister | : — |
| Agro and Rural Industries | : 169, 171, |
| Atomic Energy | : — |
| Communications and Information Technology | : 163, 164, 175, 176, |
| Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution | : 179, 180, |
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