

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Thursday, the March 2, 2006/Phalguna 11, 1927 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Coal; External Affairs; Non-Conventional Energy Sources; Ocean Development; Overseas Indian Affairs; Panchayati Raj; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Power; Science and Technology; Shipping, Road Transport and Highways; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Urban Development; Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions — 155

#### Intimation of policy decisions and programmes to PMO

1019. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the practice, convention and rules of our Cabinet system of governance imply, *inter-alia* that policy decisions and programmes, when framed by Ministries and Departments, are intimated to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) well before their introductions;

(b) whether the same is being done away with;

(c) if so, the rationale thereof; and

(d) if not the veracity of recent newspaper reports in the Press suggesting that PMO has been writing since 3rd September, 2004 repeatedly to various Ministries/Departments highlighting the growing practice of informing the PMO of policy

decisions at the last moments only before their scheduled official announcements?

#### Fire in collieries

†1020. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several collieries in the country are out of production due to constant fire raging in these collieries;

(b) if so, the locations of these collieries;

(c) the quantum of coal reserves expected to be found in these collieries; and

(d) the average quantity of coal destroyed annually due to fire in the collieries?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Commercial exploitation of coal by private parties**

1021. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to allow commercial exploitation of coal mines by private parties;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government propose to permit FDI in commercial exploitation of coal?

**Coal handling plant**

†1022. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal to instal a coal handling plant in the Northern Coalfields Limited, Singrauli with a cost of Rs. 173 crores;
- (b) whether Ranchi based Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) has shown any interest in the installation of this plant; and
- (c) if so, the details of the obstacles in entrusting the work to the HEC?

**Coal royalty to Jharkhand**

†1023. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether at a meeting with the Prime Minister, the Chief Minister of Jharkhand has sought to increase royalty on coal to the State to 20 per cent;
- (b) whether such requests have also been made by other States also; and
- (c) Government's view in this regard?

**Right of coal mining**

†1024. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are contemplating on extending the right of mining of coal from coal mines facing closure to cooperative society;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total number of coal mines facing closure at present; and
- (d) whether Government are contemplating on formulating a national policy for the employees displaced from the same in this regard?

**Coal reserves under BCCL**

†1025. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is 4.6 billion tonnes of coal reserves under the jurisdiction of Bharat Coking Coal Limited where mining work is not going on at present;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) the total area of land where these coal reserves exist;
- (d) whether Government have recently formulated any scheme for undertaking mining work with regard to these reserves; and
- (e) if so, the details of this scheme?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Passport office in Shimla**

†1026. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the States that do not have any passport office till yet;

(b) whether passport office has not been established in Shimla, the capital of Himachal Pradesh, so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when a passport office would be set up in the State capital to save the people from the difficulties of going to Chandigarh and to make passport expeditiously?

### **Russian offer in atomic energy sector**

†1027. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Russian Premier V. Putin had made an offer to Government that if India fulfils the conditions of Nuclear Supplier Group countries, its atomic energy related requirements would continue to be fulfilled;

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

(c) whether any steps have been taken by Government in the said context, so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Visa fraud racket in USA**

1028. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an NRI in

USA has been arrested for running a visa fraud racket;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any officers of passport/immigration office have been found involved in this racket;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against them; and

(e) the steps taken to plug loopholes in the system to prevent recurrence of such frauds?

### **Indian areas in Nepal map**

†1029. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maoists residing in the Nepalese territory have shown a large area of Indian land adjoining the Nepal border as a part of Nepal;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard so far?

### **Violation of international border by Pakistan**

†1030. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in violation of international border Pakistan has constructed a railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have registered its protest with Pakistan and Pakistan's reaction thereto;

(d) whether the rail-front at the border is a cover-up for Pakistani encroachment; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) if so, Government's reaction and action thereto?

#### **Inclusion of India and China in G-8 countries**

†1031. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Russia the head of group of G-8 countries are not in favour of including India and China in extended group of G-8 countries; and

(b) if so, the reasons for such protest and Government's reaction thereto?

#### **Rail link with Burma**

1032. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to approve to the proposal of Railways for setting up of a rail link with Burma, crossing through the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) by when it would be completed;

(d) whether Government have studied border security situation between North-East and Burma; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Use of chemical weapons by Pakistan**

1033. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reports of the alleged use of chemical weapons by Pakistani forces in Baluchistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures Government propose to take to counter any such use of dangerous chemical weapons against our country?

#### **Regional Passport Office at Kohima**

1034. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to set up a Regional Passport Office at Kohima;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Arrest of fishermen**

1035. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any agreement settlement or understanding for not arresting of Indian fishermen (especially from Gujarat) by Pakistan and *vice-versa*;

(b) whether in spite of that Pakistan is repeatedly arresting the Indian fishermen and their vessels and property;

(c) the number of Indian fishermen in Pakistani jails; and

(d) whether Government propose to arrive on any agreement on the lines of agreement with Sri Lanka on this issue?

#### **Troops reduction in Jammu and Kashmir**

1036. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the sidelines of the recent SAARC summit in Dhaka, Prime Minister made it clear to the Pak Foreign Minister, that there was absolutely no question of

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

any troop reduction or demilitarization in Jammu and Kashmir unless cross border terrorism and infiltration comes to a complete halt;

(b) if so, whether the precise scenario, facts and figures pertaining to continuing terrorism and infiltration across the borders and Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir were brought before the Pak Foreign Minister; and

(c) the reaction and response of the Pak Foreign Minister thereto?

#### **Nuclear Energy Agreement with USA**

1037. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether America is fulfilling the terms of Nuclear Energy Agreement made by the Prime Minister last year;

(b) whether it is a fact or any iota of doubt that America intend to have international check on our atomic fast breeder reactors;

(c) if so, the opinion of our nuclear experts and scientist in that respect; and

(d) whether Government would consider or take action according to the opinion or advice of our nuclear experts and scientist or Chairman of Nuclear Commission?

#### **Visit of Japanese Foreign Minister**

1038. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japanese Foreign Minister visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed and the areas identified during the meeting; and

(c) the proposed investment in India by Japan during the coming two years and *vice-versa*?

#### **Foreign arms and training for naxalites**

1039. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Naxalites have been acquiring arms from China and Pakistan and training through LTTE in Sri Lanka for their nefarious activities in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken up the issue with foreign Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, their response and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Relaxing of visa rules for students**

1040. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US proposes to relax visa rules for students, tourists, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India also proposes to relax these rules to attract foreign students and tourists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Autonomy of Baluchistan Province**

†1041. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

taken exception to India's Comment on the explosive situation generated from the groundswell of public opinion on autonomy in Baluchistan province of Pakistan;

(b) whether it is a fact that in order to suppress the human rights voice of Baluch nationals following independence the Government of Pakistan have continued to take oppressive militancy action;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government of India have taken exception to all types of coercive action being taken by Government of Pakistan to suppress the demand of autonomy in Baluchistan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Agreement with South Korea**

1042. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the areas in which agreements of co-operation have been reached and signed with the South Korean Government;

(b) the manner in which these agreements are likely to benefit the Indian economy; and

(c) the other highlights of the visit of the Indian delegation to this country?

#### **Agreement with Philippines**

1043. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have signed any agreements with Government of Philippines;

(b) if so, the details of each of such agreements;

(c) whether Government of Philippines have agreed to provide techniques for high yield variety of rice to the Indian farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by when it would be available to them?

#### **People killed in Haj stampede**

1044. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many people were killed and injured in a stampede on 12th January, 2006 in a scramble to hurl pebbles at symbols of Satan in Mina, Saudi Arabia;

(b) if so, the details of Indians killed and injured;

(c) the amount of compensation paid by the Saudi Arabia Government and the Indian Government to the injured and the families of those killed; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that bodies of all deceased are brought and handed over to their relatives in India?

#### **Shortage of booklets in Bangalore Passport Offices**

1045. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Bangalore Passport Office is facing a shortage of booklets; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken to clear the pending of applications for passports at Bangalore Passport Office?

**Launch of transformational diplomacy**

1046. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any information that new American Consulates and posts in Hyderabad, Bangalore and addition of scores of officials to the US Diplomatic Corps in India is on the cards following the launch of transformational diplomacy aimed at shaping US posture in the 21st century;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the US decision is likely to improve Indo-US relations?

**Safety of Haj pilgrims**

1047. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that a large number of Indians died during the Haj this year;

(b) if so, the exact number thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the new steps proposed by Government for the safety of Haj pilgrims?

**Expansion of 1974 bilateral protocol**

1048. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1723 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th December, 2005 and state:

(a) whether Government of Pakistan have responded to the proposal of our Government to expand the 1974 bilateral protocol to increase the number of shrines and pilgrims in both the countries;

(b) if so, the names of the new shrines

in both the countries added to the earlier list and the other related details regarding the number of pilgrims from both the countries allowed to visit the shrines; and

(c) if not, the follow up action that is proposed to be taken in the matter?

**Promotion policy for IFS officers**

1049. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:  
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to revise the promotion policy for the officers of the Indian Foreign Services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented?

**Relationship with Nepal**

1050. SHRI MANOJ  
BHATTACHARYA:  
SHRI KARNENDU  
BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether our relationship with the Nepal have been steadily deteriorating ever since King Gyanendra had assumed direct control of the Nepalese Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the outstanding issues standing in the way of Indo-Nepalese relations and the steps proposed to solve them?

**Desalination plants in coastal areas**

†1051. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up treatment plants in coastal areas to treat the saline water to provide drinking water to the people;

(b) if so, whether the sites for the purpose have been identified and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far?

**Indian migrants in Oman's Sohar jail**

1052. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are many Indian migrants in Oman's Sohar jail for various offences related to migration;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of Indians in the above jail and the States to which they belong, category-wise, as on today;

(c) the steps taken, if any for the release of the above migrants; and

(d) the steps likely to be initiated so that Indian migrants reach the foreign sponsor only through the Indian embassy?

**Dual citizenship to NRIs**

1053. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any final decision has been taken to grant dual citizenship status to NRIs and the people of Indian origin; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

**Indians working in Gulf countries**

1054. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are many Indians from different States working in Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise, Gulf country-wise as on today;

(c) whether there are reports that Indian workers who migrate to Gulf countries are facing inhuman treatment there;

(d) the number of Indians jailed in various Gulf countries for offences related to migration, country-wise, as on today; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to chalk out a comprehensive policy on migration for the benefit of Indians working in abroad?

**Illegal recruiting agencies**

1055. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that illegal recruiting agencies create so many hardships to the Keralite job-seekers in the Gulf countries;

(b) whether Government would consider to conduct a detailed study on the sufferings of Indian job-seekers in the Gulf labour camps and redress their grievances;

(c) whether the State Government of Kerala have submitted any suggestion for the amendments of Emigration Act 1983; and

(d) whether Government would consider to introduce appropriate amendments in the Emigration Act to safeguard the interest of job seekers?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Voting rights to Indian citizens working abroad**

1056. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the question of giving voting rights to Indian citizens working abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government of Kerala has made such a request; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

**Indian citizens in foreign jails**

1057. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Indian citizens, particularly from Punjab, have been languishing in foreign jails without trial after being duped by travel agents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any initiative have been taken for conduct of screening of these detained individuals jointly with the authorities of the respective countries of their detention with a view to obtain their release from the jails and repatriation to India;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Parity of PIO card holders with NRIs**

1058. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 429 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 2005 and state:

(a) whether question of parity of Person of Indian Origin (PIO) card holders with

NRIs in aviation sector including domestic airlines has since been examined;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Prime Minister has issued dual citizenship cards to PIOs at Pravasi Bhartiya Divas in Hyderabad in January, 2006; and

(d) if so, what would be the status of PIOs in respect of 100 per cent FDI by them in aviation sector after they receive dual citizenship status?

**Opening of Pravasi Centres in Embassies**

1059. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to ease the problems of Non-Resident Indians;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government are considering to open Pravasi Centres in embassies; and

(d) if so, the details and the objectives thereof?

**Funding to local bodies**

1060. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to give the funds directly to local bodies in the States;

(b) if so, the guidelines worked out so far in this regard;

(c) whether all the State Governments have agreed upon this proposal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Panchayat elections**

1061. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are discouraging the introduction of two-child-norm for the candidates contesting Panchayat elections;

(b) whether Government have officially advised the State Governments to this effect;

(c) the States that have introduced the provision in their Panchayat laws;

(d) the States who have deleted the provision after its introduction in their respective legislations; and

(e) whether Government propose to ban such introduction of two-child-norm by a constitutional amendment?

### **Right to Information Act**

1062. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:  
SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Right to Information Act as passed by Parliament has been fully enforced across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to remove the impediments in the effective implementation of the provision of the Act?

### **Seeking of information in file noting**

1063. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Information Commission in its recent sitting has ruled that, file notings were an integral part of a file and that a citizen has the right to seek information in file notings, save under section 8 of the law;

(b) if so, whether this ruling goes beyond the directives of the Prime Minister to release substantive file notings relating only to developmental and social issues; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

### **Awareness of new information law**

1064. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are undertaking a campaign to make the general public aware of the new information law;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Trusts and foundations by IAS officers**

1065. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether IAS, IPS and other officers are given permission by Government to start trusts and foundations directly or indirectly;

(b) if so, the details of this policy;

(c) whether Government imposes any flexible conditions to help such officers who are so keen and helpful to the common man;

(d) to what extent Government have been lax in this matter; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to review the entire matter of encouraging and giving help to such officers?

**Curriculum at the LBS Academy**

1066. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee has been appointed by Government to go into the need to change the curriculum at the Lal Bahadur Shastri Academy, Mussoorie so that future civil servants get knowledge on formation of NGOs and how to nurture them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that the probationers given a choice to pursue either their official careers or NGOs; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Sixth Pay Commission**

1067. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering setting up a Sixth Pay Commission for Central Government employees, who are paid 2.5 times more than what the private sector counterpart get according to a World Bank study;

(b) whether the Fifth Pay Commission imposed a burden of around half a percentage of GDP with cascading adverse effects on State exchequers whose employees were also clamouring for parity with the Central scales; and

(c) whether Government are considering that the impending resource crunch, would mandate the Sixth Pay Commission to examine not just pay revision but also downsizing of the workforce wherever found necessary?

**Purview of Lok Ayukta**

1068. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had widened the purview of the Lok Ayukta, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases pending with various Lok Ayuktas in each State and UT;

(d) the number of cases disposed off so far;

(e) whether there is inadequate staff in various Lok Ayuktas;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps being taken by Government to overcome such problems?

**Indefinite strike by Government employees**

†1069. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:  
SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government employees have declared to go on an indefinite strike from 1st March, 2006;

(b) if so, the demands made by them and Government's viewpoint thereon;

(c) since when these demands of Central Government employees are pending; and

(d) by when a final decision would be taken thereon?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Curtailment in reservation policy**

1070. SHRI AMAR SINGH:  
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to curtail the reservation policy upto the entry level in jobs under the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be enforced?

**Funds transferred from Lugano**

1071. SHRI AMAR SINGH:  
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the C.B.I. had sent Letters Rogatory to the Swiss authorities to trace the funds transferred from Lugano in Switzerland to the London accounts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the response so far received from the Swiss authorities in this regard?

**Withdrawal of money by Ottavio Quattrocchi**

1072. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:  
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ottavio Quattrocchi had withdrawn the entire amount totalling Rs. 26 crore on the 16th January, 2006 from his two London Bank accounts on recommendation of the Additional Solicitor General to British authorities being no evidence to link that money to the Bofors payment if so, the details;

(b) whether C.B.I. had submitted before Apex Court that trial against Quattrocchi would continue and extradition proceedings were on to produce him before CMM, Delhi; and

(c) if so, on what ground defreezing of accounts was conveyed to London Bank and the action proposed to be taken against the official concerned?

**Labour intensive industries**

†1073. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are making any effort to do away with unemployment by promoting labour based industries in the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which Government are doing this work?

**People living below poverty line**

1074. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a recent report it has been revealed that 260 million Indians are still below poverty line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the steps proposed to be taken up by Government in view of these findings?

**Separate fund for States performing well**

1075. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are setting up

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

a separate fund for the States that perform well;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are also categorizing the States based upon their performances;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the role of Planning Commission in this regard?

#### **Schemes launched by Government**

†1076. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new schemes that have been launched upto 31st January, 2006 by the United Progressive Alliance Government after assuming power, Ministry-wise;

(b) the number of schemes launched by previous Governments that have been annuled and which schemes have been revised during this duration;

(c) which of the schemes out of the new and old ones are not being taken as appropriate to the time; and

(d) the details of the schemes launched by the previous NDA Government and those found not appropriate with time, Ministry-wise?

#### **Calorie intake by rural population**

1077. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of rural population, having less than 1800 calorie food intake per day, during the period 2002—05 year-wise; and

(b) the estimated population of 'Official Poor' and 'Actual Poor' in rural India during the above period?

#### **Achievement of growth rate**

1078. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state in what manner Government propose to achieve 7 to 10 per cent growth rate in the present political scenario which in turn can alleviate poverty in the country?

#### **Development of tribal areas in Madhya Pradesh**

†1079. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes implemented for the development of tribal backward areas of Madhya Pradesh during the last five years and till December, 2005;

(b) the details of the amount provided therefor, scheme-wise;

(c) the details of the amount provided for the backward areas; and

(d) the progress of works launched in this regard?

#### **Naming of schemes and programmes**

†1080. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of those schemes/programmes/policies announced by various Ministries which have been named after various great personalities since the U.P.A. Government has come into power; and

(b) the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Surplus amount in States' treasury**

†1081. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:  
SHRI RAM  
JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about Rs. 41,000 crore have been found to be surplus in the treasury of various States in the country in the first week of January, 2006;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard and the total amount that is actually found surplus;

(c) whether any scheme has been formulated at the national level to utilize this amount for development work; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Approach papers for Eleventh Five Year Plan**

†1082. SHRIMATI KAMLA  
MANHAR:  
SHRI DHARAM PAL  
SABHARWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that November, 2005 was fixed as target to prepare 'approach papers' for Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the present status thereof; and

(c) the details of reasons for not preparing it within the stipulated time?

**Scheme for development of backward areas**

1083. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS  
BAL APTE:  
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the scheme being run by Government for development of backward areas;

(b) the details of the backward areas developed during the last two years;

(c) whether the said scheme of Government have failed completely;

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(e) the remedial steps taken by Government in this regard?

**Increase in price of power**

†1084. SHRI RAM  
JETHMALANI:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR  
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain companies in the power sector of the country are engaged in work of power selling;

(b) if so, the names of these companies;

(c) whether any guidelines have also been issued to these companies about earning profit;

(d) if so, the details with regard to these guidelines; and

(e) the percentage of increase in price of power made by these companies selling power at present?

**New Hydro Power Projects**

1085. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:  
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NTPC is planning 5 Mega Hydro Power Projects in the country; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the States that have been identified for building Hydro Power Projects?

(b) if so, the details thereof; and  
(c) by when it would be implemented?

#### **Financial losses in State Electricity Boards**

1086. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all the State Electricity Boards are in financial losses especially the Bihar SEB;

(b) if so, the details of the losses suffered by SEBs for the last four years;

(c) the amount of financial help provided by the Central Government to the States to cope up the losses for the last four years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Central Government to reduce losses and make the State Electricity Boards self-reliant?

#### **Power plants in Bihar**

†1087. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total installed capacity of all kinds of power plants in Bihar and the total power generation therefrom at present;

(b) the time -frame fixed for attaining self-sufficiency in power generation in Bihar and the methodologies to be adopted for power generation; and

(c) the details thereof?

#### **Supply of subsidised power**

1088. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal has been mooted to supply subsidised power for below poverty line population;

#### **Electrification of villages in Rajasthan**

1089. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set a target to make electricity available in every village of the country by 2009, under 'Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Plan';

(b) the present status in the country of the total number of villages and the total number of villages electrified/not electrified;

(c) the number of such villages in Rajasthan where there is no electricity, as on date; and

(d) by when the total work of electrification in Rajasthan is expected to be carried out?

#### **Agreement under power production projects**

†1090. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would provide any special financial support for small, medium and big power production projects by the State Electricity Board of Himachal Pradesh so that, the people of the State and the Officials of the Board could get more opportunities of employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that inspite of agreement under power production projects being undertaken by NHPC or NTPC in Himachal Pradesh local people are not getting the employment; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Power shortage in Punjab**

1091. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Punjab is facing acute power shortage; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to complete on-going power projects within stipulated period?

### **Power consumers in Delhi**

1092. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on an average, 30 lakh billed power consumers in Delhi had paid about Rs. 5000/- this year for power that others have stolen;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the billed consumers had to pay for guaranteeing a 16 per cent return on any investments private distributors make; and

(c) if so, who is responsible for putting the interests of innocent consumer at the whims and wishes of private power distribution companies and what safeguards would be initiated to check it?

### **Power capacity addition**

1093. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's efforts have been dismal during 2005-06 fiscal in regard to creation of capacity addition with only 809 mw achieved against the targeted total capacity addition of 3450 mw;

(b) whether despite this dismal performance during 2005-06 Government have set a more ambitious target of power capacity addition for 2006-07 at around 13,000 mw; and

(c) whether against the States' share of power capacity addition set at 865 mw during the year 2005-06, no addition has fructified?

### **Funds for pending power projects in NER**

1094. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of new ongoing and pending power projects in the country particularly in the North-Eastern Region alongwith the target fixed for completion, project-wise;

(b) the funds allocated and expenditure incurred thereon so far, project-wise, State-wise; and

(c) the time schedule for completion of these projects?

### **Open access in power sector**

1095. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far by the Central and State Governments, including the State Electricity Boards to introduce open access in the power generation, transmission and distribution sector;

(b) the private sectors response, so far, in the transmission sector, in the power generation sector, especially the hydro-power generation; and

(c) whether it is a fact that private sector is interested particularly in the distribution sector, where they have direct inter-face with the poor consumer and collect easy money?



### **Incentives to MNC's**

1096. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in the World Economic Forum, Government have been projected as beacon of foreign investors and multinationals have shown great interest in investing in India as compared to other Asian countries; and

(b) if so, the advantages Government are giving to the multinational companies investing in India in infrastructure and power in India?

### **Subsidy to private power companies**

1097. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some private power companies have demanded subsidy and concession etc. for participating in Ultra Mega Power Projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

### **Completion of Suban City Lower and Tista-V Power projects**

†1098. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Suban City Lower project in Arunachal Pradesh and Tista-V Project in Sikkim is being constructed by the Alstom and Jaiprakash Association Companies respectively;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in the construction of said projects; and

(c) if not, the details thereof?

### **Location of ultra mega power projects in Orissa**

1099. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI :  
SHRI B.J. PANDA :  
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to set up 5 ultra mega power projects of 4,000 MW each in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the location of these plants;

(c) whether any of such plants is also proposed to be set up in the backward Orissa State to improve its economy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

### **Different rates for power**

†1100. DR. MURLI MANOHAR  
JOSHI :  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR  
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that power producers have fixed different rates for selling of power in the country;

(b) if so, what are these rates;

(c) the reasons for difference in these rates; and

(d) the average percentage of power being purchased annually by the State Electricity Boards of the country at the above mentioned different rates from these power producers?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Revised structure of APDRP**

1101. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:  
SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS  
KAUR :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to restructure the Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme (APDRP), with an outlay of Rs. 40,000 crore under the Tenth five year plan;

(b) if so, the details and main features of the APDRP;

(c) on what lines the programme was sought to be restructured, and the revised structure and other details of the restructured programme; and

(d) the objects sought to be achieved under the restructured programme?

**Mega investment for Assam**

1102. SHRI MANOJ  
BHATTACHARYA:  
SHRI KARNENDU  
BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister have recently announced a mega investment to the tune of Rs. 60 billion in Assam to boost the energy sectors and shore up the State's beleaguered power supply;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether similar largesse is likely to be announced for other States in Eastern and North-Eastern parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**New power plant in Jharkhand**

1103. SHRI B.J. PANDA:  
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a 500 MW power plant at Bokaro in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, what would be its source of funding;

(c) the details of the areas which would be served by this power plant;

(d) whether such a plant is also proposed to be set up in Orissa to improve its power position; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**New power projects in Uttar Pradesh**

1104. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any investment in power projects in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of such investment thereof during the last three years, State-wise/project-wise; and

(c) the share of each State Government with the Central Government in this regard?

**New name of Dabhol Power Project**

†1105. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR  
PRASAD:  
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that formerly Dabhol Power Project is being run under a

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

new name in the country at present and the generation of power is expected to be started by October, 2006;

(b) if so, the facts and the new name of this project;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the cost of generating power from this project is expected to be Rs. 12 per unit at present;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the estimated actual cost of power generation?

#### **Rural electrification programme**

†1106. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in the country deprived of the facility of electricity as on date;

(b) the number of villages targeted to be electrified under Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Plan and the quantum of target achieved so far in this regard;

(c) the number of villages targeted to be electrified during the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 by Government;

(d) the quantum of electricity likely to be reviewed for all the villages electrified under Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Plan; and

(e) the arrangements made by Government to provide electricity to the electrified villages?

#### **Monsoon forecasting agencies**

1107. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Meteorological Department and the CSIR

for Mathematical modelling and computer simulation have given two different monsoon forecasts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the gadgets used for predicting monsoon in India are primitive and require change and the reasons for which these two agencies don't share their expertise?

#### **Brain Research Centre**

1108. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a Brain Research Centre opening under CSIR in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funding given to this Centre during the last three years, respectively;

(d) the contribution of the Centre during the last three years;

(e) whether any assessment of the utility of this Centre have been done; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Agreement with Ireland**

1109. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian National Science Academy and the Science Foundation of Ireland have signed an agreement during the recent visit of the Prime Minister of Ireland; and

(b) if so, the salient features of agreement?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Research in Nanotechnology**

1110. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nanotechnology has far reaching impact on electronics and computing, data storage, materials and manufacturing, energy, environment, healthcare, medicine and transportation;

(b) whether Government propose to conduct any research and training programme in Nanotechnology and if so, the target areas of the research; and

(c) whether Government propose to formulate any policy guideline in this regard?

### **Central scheme to assist young scientists**

1111. SHRI C. PERUMAL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to liberalise the Central scheme to assist young scientists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps that have been taken to check brain drain?

### **Stem Cell Research**

1112. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of formulating a policy on Stem Cell Research;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are taking any assistance or help from the US on Stem Cell Research; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Earthquake prediction**

1113. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether French, Japanese and few other countries' scientists have been applying satellite data for earthquake prediction;

(b) if so, whether there is a need for disaster prediction, prevention and mitigation;

(c) if so, whether Government have any plan for development of warning system; and

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

### **Monsoon prediction**

1114. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact there is no improvement in the predictions of monsoon in India since early 1930s;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have studied the recurring failures in predicting droughts and floods;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Conversion of four-lane highways  
into six-lane highways in Rajasthan**

1115. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria being used to determine the four-lane highways that would be selected for six-lane conversion;

(b) whether on the basis of the criteria, NHAI intends to make some four-lane highways into six-lane highways in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time-frame therefor;

(d) whether there are any proposals from the Government of Rajasthan, pending under consideration with the Central Government at present; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and by when they are likely to be cleared?

**Development of National Highways in  
Meghalaya**

†1116. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Planning has approved the scheme for widening of National Highway Nos. 40E, 44E, 51 and 62 passing through Meghalaya;

(b) if so, whether any amount has been allocated for construction of these Highways during the current financial year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**New major projects for Andhra  
Pradesh**

1117. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any major projects have been undertaken in Andhra Pradesh by Government during the last three years;

(b) if so, the status of such projects; and

(c) whether Government have evolved any method to reduce delay in execution of such projects?

**National Highways in North-Eastern  
Region**

1118. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 731K of National Highway Project covering National Highway Nos. 31, 31-C 36, 37 and 54 starting from West Bengal at Srirampur and joining Guwahati, Nogaon and Silchar in Assam have been taken up under East-West Corridor of N.H.D.P.;

(b) if so, whether the work has started on this project and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the funds that have been allotted for the project; and

(d) by when it is likely to be completed and made operative?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Increase in road accidents**

1119. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that road accidents in the country are on the rise during the last few years;

(b) if so, the number of drivers given training under Administering Refresher Training to heavy motor vehicle drivers in unorganized sector and setting up of Training Institute of Driving and Research to minimize road accidents in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the amount sanctioned for these two schemes since their inception, State-wise?

### **Construction of new roads and over-bridges in Kerala**

1120. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects of construction of roads and over-bridges are ongoing in Kerala and whether any proposal of the re-imbursement of the cost of construction has been pending with Government for sanction;

(b) whether any proposal seeking sanction for the construction of new roads and over-bridges in Kerala stands pending; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

### **Setting up Motels by NHAI**

1121. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Highway Authority of India is considering a proposal to set up Motels, snack bars, toilets, fuel stations and dormitories etc. on roads covered by Golden Quadrilateral Project; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any first aid units have also been included in the proposal; if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Funds for six-laning of Golden Quadrilateral**

1122. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to toll out a mega project of Rs. 1,75,000 for six-laning of the entire Golden Quadrilateral network on BoT basis very soon;

(b) if so, the details of the project; and

(c) in what manner Government propose to pool its resources to achieve the above ambitious goal?

### **Delhi Kolkata Highway**

†1123. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that construction of highway between Delhi and Kolkata under Golden Quadrilateral Highway Scheme is moving very slowly in Bihar region;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that capital cities, commercial and historical cities in the States located near Golden Quadrilateral

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

highway are proposed to be connected with the said highways; and

(c) if so, the details of the action taken to connect Dobhi with Gaya, Bodhgaya and Patna in Bihar under Golden Quadrilateral Scheme?

**Construction of highways in backward areas**

1124. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to speed up construction of highways in backward regions of the country by increasing the viability gap funding from 40% to 60% in respect of the projects which are part of the third phase of the National Highways Development Programme; and

(b) if so, the backward regions of the country which are likely to be benefited by the above decision with details thereof?

**Surfacing of roads**

1125. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:  
Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering surfacing of roads by concrete instead of Bitumen;

(b) whether Government are aware that concrete roads last longer, save fuel, with stand extremes of weather and are pollution free;

(c) if so, whether there is any plan to concretise 6,500 km. of National Highways by using unutilised 20 per cent production capacity of cement of the country;

(d) whether Government are also aware that fuel saving would amount to Rs. 14,500 crores a year if entire National Highways are concretised; and

(e) the road length of National Highways State-wise, giving details of 4 lane and 6 lane roads passing through these States?

**Intermediate ports functioning in the country**

1126. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:  
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of big ports and intermediate ports functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) the Cargo handled by those ports during 2001-02 to 2004-05;

(c) the increase rate in cargo traffic handled by 12 big ports of the country, port-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether it is a fact that Mumbai port has been put on backburner among the big ports during the last five years; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Automatic tolling on National Highways**

1127. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all National Highway stretches in the country would have automatic tolling by 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the commuters are proposed to be issued prepaid smart cards

from which an amount would be deducted and this new system would help to gear up collection of money; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Neglected highway projects in Andhra Pradesh**

1128. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of each highway project especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the funds utilized for each project;

(c) whether some projects have been neglected due to lack of funds;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons therefor?

**Action taken against the Civil Engineer**

1129. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Civil Engineer has been held for cheating National Highways Authority of India of Rs. 64 crores;

(b) if so, whether Government have initiated any enquiry about the matter; and

(c) the number of officials of the NHAI that have been found involved in the matter and action taken against them and further action Government propose to take to prevent occurrence of similar offences?

**Indo-US cooperation in space technology**

1130. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any discussion on Indo-US co-operation in space technology and commerce under the Next Steps in Strategic Partnership (NSSP);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the above discussions;

(c) if so, whether there are any proposals for Launch Service Agreement (LSA) and Technology Safeguards Agreement (TSA) in the above discussions;

(d) if so, the status of the above proposals as on date; and

(e) if so, whether there is a drift in Indo-US space co-operation as on date?

**Amount earned by ISRO**

1131. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts Government are making to capture 10 per cent share in the global market for launch vehicles and related services;

(b) the details of services being provided;

(c) the amount that has been earned by ISRO during 2004-05 with regard to launch vehicle and related services; and

(d) the details of countries which have



evinced interest in using services on CARTOSAT?

**Technology transfer technique**

1132. SHRIMATI MOHSINA  
KIDWAI:  
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO has designed and developed a Supersonic Combustion Ramjet—a positive step forward in its research for reduced launch costs, if so, the perspective planning for flight test on integrated SCRAMJET propulsion system;

(b) what is the financial outlay for this project for the years 2006 and 2007; and

(c) whether the technology utilized is "all-indigenously developed" or it has been adopted through the technology transfer technique?

**Change in base year to calculate GDP**

1133. SHRI C. PERUMAL : Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to alter the change in base year in calculating the GDP after a gap of ten years to a gap of six years to project an impressive GDP growth rate; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Yamuna Slum cluster**

1134. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has directed that Jhuggies/Jhopries cluster be removed from the Bank of Yamuna river and those located in Bhati Mines area of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the decision;

(c) the areas where residents of these jhuggies are to be rehabilitated;

(d) whether the basic amenities have been provided in the area of rehabilitation; and

(e) if not, by when these amenities are likely to be provided?

**Committee for illegal structures**

†1135. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR  
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to constitute a Committee to make conditions proper arising out of the High Court's Order regarding demolition of illegal structures in Delhi State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have issued any set of responsibilities and guidelines for this Committee;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) by when this Committee would be constituted; and

(f) by when it is expected to submit its report to Government?

**Second phase of DMRP**

1136. SHRIMATI KAMLA  
MANHAR:  
SHRI DHARAM PAL  
SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the second phase of Delhi Metro Rail Project (DMRP) which would connect South Delhi with existing metro corridors;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the complete details of project with area proposed to be covered in South Delhi;

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

(d) whether shopping areas of Yusuf Sarai and Safdarjung Airport would be affected with the proposed projects, and if so, the details in this regard?

#### **Water management system**

1137. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give top priority to the improvement of water management system in urban areas besides sanitation and development of slums;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to implement the progress of water management system in urban areas?

#### **Metro link to Gurgaon**

1138. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NCR Metro Link to Gurgaon has been put on hold, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation proposed phase-II link will end upto IIT only;

(b) if so, the main reasons for cutting short the phase II link; and

(c) whether the under-ground link by the World Heritage Site, or a by pass keeping it away from the Heritage site for the phase II link have not been considered viable or cost effective, if so, the details in this regard?

#### **Housing societies**

†1139. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the pretext of inquiry about fake housing societies in Delhi, even legally constituted housing societies are not being cleared and members are deprived of allotment of flats;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of housing societies allotted with land and given possession thereof during the last year; and;

(c) by when the societies that are found to be genuine would be given right to allotment of land and flat?

#### **e-Governance in municipalities**

1140. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed National Mission Mode Project on e-Governance in Municipalities has been started;

(b) if so, the details of cities that have been covered in 2005-06 in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the criteria adopted in identifying the cities; and

(d) the services that the project is proposed to cover apart from payment of utility bills?

#### **Migrants to Delhi**

1141. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 21.7 per cent urban population lives in slums, if so, whether Delhi alone gets over 5 lakh migrants annually out of which 30 to 40 per cent

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

end up as squatters or settle in slums; and

(b) whether there is any national policy to solve the employment, housing and sanitation problems of these migrants?

#### **MRTS in other cities**

1142. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to introduce Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) like Delhi Metro in other cities;

(b) if so, whether Government are working on a policy in this behalf;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of any proposal to secure funds for development of MRTS in cities across India?

#### **Migrants to cities**

1143. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that across the country thousands of migrants throng to cities in search of a livelihood; and

(b) if so, the details of comprehensive rural upliftment programmes to stem this flow to cities?

#### **Vacation of official bungalows by VIPs**

1144. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government served notice on a number of VIPs asking them to vacate the bungalows occupied by them; if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the number of VIPs who have since vacated the Bungalows?

#### **Infrastructure projects**

1145. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of infrastructure projects which are being financed by Government in the various cities of the country, city-wise;

(b) the details of the projects and funds sanctioned by Government during the last three years; and

(c) the total investment to be made by Government in urban development of the country?

#### **Concession to women in stamp duty**

†1146. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some State Governments have decided to grant some concession in stamp duty in case of registration of the property being made in the name of women;

(b) if so, the names of those State Governments and the details of the concession granted by them;

(c) whether in these States, Presently more properties are being registered in the name of women than before; and

(d) if so, the comparative details thereof?

#### **Mass exodus from villages**

†1147. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a mass exodus from villages to the cities is taking place;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details in this regard for the last three years;

(c) whether due to this exodus, the metropolitan cities of the country are lacking in basic amenities;

(d) the steps Government have taken to provide these basic amenities; and

(e) the steps taken to provide accommodation facilities in the big metropolitan cities and the details thereof for the last two years?

#### **Bill to check illegal constructions**

†1148. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Bill drafted by Government has been sent to the Delhi State Government to check the illegal construction activities of the private builders, estate agents and it is pending with the State Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it has become more mandatory after the repealing of Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976; and

(c) if so, what are the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Protection to street vendors**

1149. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to bring an enactment to protect the interests of Street Vendors;

(b) if so, by when the relative Bill would be introduced in Parliament; and

(c) if not, what steps are going to be taken for their protection?

#### **Scarcity of drinking water**

1150. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of urban centres facing acute scarcity of drinking water; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to meet the scarcity of drinking water in those urban areas?

#### **Urban Renewal Mission**

1151. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some organizations have demanded democratization of the Urban Renewal Mission through active involvement of 60 per cent of the urban population;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there were allegations of involvement of World Bank, Asian Development Bank and Indian corporates in the functioning of the Mission; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure that the working of the Mission is transparent?

#### **Free treatment in private hospitals**

1152. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi High Court has ordered that 60 Private

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Hospitals in the city of Delhi to provide free treatment to those whose monthly income in Rs. 2000/- and below as the lands for the hospital has been allotted on subsidiary rates;

(b) whether it is a fact that while allotting the lands for these hospitals there is a condition for free treatment for the poor people for those hospitals; and

(c) if so, the reasons for which it was not monitored by the DDA?

#### **Lack of safe drinking water**

1153. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 80 per cent of all diseases and ailments occurred due to lack of safe drinking water and sanitation facilities in metropolitan cities and urban cities of our country and there is great disgrace and dis-satisfaction among the people;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken against such gloomy situation?

#### **Bangalore Metro Rail**

1154. SHRIMATI PREMA  
CARIAPPA:  
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA  
MURTHY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sanctioned certain funds for the construction of Metro Railways in Bangalore;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned and by when and in what manner the same would be utilized;

(c) by when the work is likely to be started and the areas which would be covered by the Metro Rail; and

(d) the details and status of the project?

#### **People living in unauthorised colonies**

1155. SHRI DHARAM PAL  
SABHARWAL:  
SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people are living in unauthorized colonies in the NCT of Delhi;

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

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to provide alternative arrangements to rehabilitate people living in unauthorised colonies?

#### **SSIs in residential colonies**

†1156. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Development Authority has given consent to allow 119 small scale industries to run in the residential colonies in Delhi metropolitan city;

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

(c) whether any norms have been fixed to give permission for running the said small scale industries;

(d) if so, the norms in this regard; and

(e) the reasons for designating industries without fixing the norms?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Release of water by Uttar Pradesh for Sonia Vihar Water-treatment Plant**

1157. SHRI KARNENDU  
BHATTACHARJEE:  
SHRI MANOJ  
BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the several assurances by the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, the Government of Uttar Pradesh have been persistently refusing to release water to Delhi Government for the Sonia Vihar water-treatment Plant;

(b) whether even injunctions from the High/Supreme Court has not evoked any favourable response in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps the Central Government have taken/propose to take to persuade the Uttar Pradesh Government to part with the raw water to the tune of 140 MGD which is vital for saving Delhi from water famine?

**Urban infrastructure schemes**

1158. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY  
SIRIGIREDDY:  
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA  
RAO:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently launched JNNURM and UIDSSMT schemes to provide urban infrastructure in the cities;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of the schemes;

(c) whether the above schemes have been implemented, at least, on a mission mode in any of the cities;

- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the reforms identified under the above schemes so as to release the funds;
- (f) whether the identified reforms are mandatory to carryout so as to get funds; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana**

1159. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features and the genesis of the Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana;

(b) the details of the funds allocated to Rajasthan during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government would extend this scheme to the poor families not covered under BPL by increasing the allocation of funds?

**BPL population**

1160. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a large proportion (26 per cent or 260 million) of Indians are still Below the Poverty Line as per India's first Social Development Report released, recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that the poverty levels have shown a decline and there is huge disparity among the social classes with the percentage of the poor among the Scheduled Tribes being 43.8 per cent, Scheduled Castes 36.2 per cent and Other Backward Classes 21 per cent; and

(c) if so, the efforts Government propose to make to harness the nation's social energy to ensure a fair and equitable process of development?

### **National Slum Development Programme**

1161. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated to the State of Uttar Pradesh under the National Slum Development Programme during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise; and

(b) the number of slum development activities undertaken in such slum areas of Uttar Pradesh during this period?

### **Poverty alleviation targets**

1162. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have achieved the target with regard to poverty alleviation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount spent during each of the last three years for this purpose, State-wise?

### **Houses under VAMBAY Scheme in A P**

1163. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government have submitted project proposals for sanction of 44,425 houses for the year 2004-05 under Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) Scheme and sought to enhance the unit cost to Rs. 75,000/-;

(b) if so, action taken in this regard;

(c) whether Central Government have been requested by Andhra Pradesh Government for releasing sanction orders for the balance of houses numbering 34,418;

(d) if so, whether Government would release sanction orders at the earliest; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Urban Reforms Initiative Fund**

1164. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States and Union Territory administrations which have so far signed Memorandums of Agreement with the Central Government under the Urban Reforms Initiative Fund (URIF) Scheme;

(b) the financial assistance so far sanctioned/given to the said States/Union Territories, year-wise ending 2005-06; and

(c) the extent to which the funds given have been spent by the States/Union Territories?

### **Unutilised funds**

1165. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about Rs. 500 crores meant for generating urban employment was unutilized last year;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a situation; and

(c) if so, the efforts that are being taken or proposed to be taken to ensure that such a situation does not arise in future?

**BPL population in Uttaranchal**

1166. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons living Below the Poverty Line with regard to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and others separately in each district of Uttaranchal; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to improve their living in each case?

**Flats to slum dwellers**

†1167. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to allot flats under public-private participation to slum dwellers in order to rehabilitate them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of cities in the country where this scheme is going to be introduced?

**Nehru Yuvak Kendras**

†1168. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the districts of the country wherein Nehru Yuvak Kendras have not been established as on date;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when these Kendras are likely to be established in these districts; and

(d) whether these Kendras were existing earlier in these districts, if so, the detailed

reasons for shifting these Kendras from there and not re-establishing them later?

**Facilities for athletes**

1169. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh initiatives have been taken to provide modern facilities for our athletes in order to improve their performance especially in view of the upcoming Commonwealth Games in 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**National Games meet 2007, Ranchi**

†1170. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the preparation going on in connection with the National Games going to be held in Ranchi in the year 2007;

(b) whether any statement has been received from State Government in this regard; and

(c) whether any request for economic help has been made to Government?

**Sports Complexes in NER**

1171. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of construction of various sports complexes in the North Eastern Region as on 31st January, 2006;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(b) the funds allocated and expenditure incurred thereon, so far; and

(c) the target fixed for completion of the said projects?

**Nehru Yuvak Kendras**

1172. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Nehru Yuvak Kendras in Bihar and Maharashtra and areas covered by these Kendras;

(b) the amount spent on these Kendras during the last three years, Kendra-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to set up new NYKs in these States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Sports Federations**

1173. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:  
SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS  
BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sports Federations have been allotted funds for improving the performance and practices of sports persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether many Sports Federations have misused the funds allocated to them during the last two years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government have taken any action against such federations for misutilisation of funds during the last three years;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

NEW DELHI;

*The 24th February, 2006*  
*Phalgun 5, 1927 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

## I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

<b>Prime Minister</b>	: 1019,
<b>Atomic Energy</b>	: —
<b>Coal</b>	: 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024, 1025,
<b>External Affairs</b>	: 1026, 1027, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034, 1035, 1036, 1037, 1038, 1039, 1040, 1041, 1042, 1043, 1044, 1045, 1046, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050,
<b>Non-Conventional Energy Sources</b>	: —
<b>Ocean Development</b>	: 1051,
<b>Overseas Indian Affairs</b>	: 1052, 1053, 1054, 1055, 1056, 1057, 1058, 1059,
<b>Panchayati Raj</b>	: 1060, 1061,
<b>Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions</b>	: 1062, 1063, 1064, 1065, 1066, 1067, 1068, 1069, 1070, 1071, 1072,
<b>Planning</b>	: 1073, 1074, 1075, 1076, 1077, 1078, 1079, 1080, 1081, 1082, 1083,
<b>Power</b>	: 1084, 1085, 1086, 1087, 1088, 1089, 1090, 1091, 1092, 1093, 1094, 1095, 1096, 1097, 1098, 1099, 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1104, 1105, 1106,
<b>Science and Technology</b>	: 1107, 1108, 1109, 1110, 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114,
<b>Shipping, Road Transport and Highways</b>	: 1115, 1116, 1117, 1118, 1119, 1120, 1121, 1122, 1123, 1124, 1125, 1126, 1127, 1128, 1129,
<b>Space</b>	: 1130, 1131, 1132,
<b>Statistics and Programme Implementation</b>	: 1133,

<b>Urban Development</b>	: 1134, 1135, 1136, 1137, 1138, 1139, 1140, 1141, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1145, 1146, 1147, 1148, 1150, 1151, 1152, 1153, 1154, 1155, 1156, 1157, 1158,
<b>Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation</b>	: 1149, 1159, 1160, 1161, 1162, 1163, 1164, 1165, 1166, 1167,
<b>Youth Affairs and Sports</b>	: 1168, 1169, 1170, 1171, 1172, 1173.