

## 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 3, 2005/Phalgun 12, 1926 (Saka)*

**Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy;  
Communications and Information Technology; External Affairs; Labour and  
Employment; Ocean Development; Overseas Indian Affairs; Personnel, Public  
Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Science and Technology; Shipping, Road  
Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries; Space; Statistics and  
Programme Implementation; Youth Affairs and Sports)**

**Total number of questions — 155**

#### **New status for KVIC**

301. SHRI SANTOSH BAG-  
RODIA:  
SHRI R.K. ANAND:  
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

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

(a) whether Government are aware of  
the fact that there is a strong need for  
granting the status of an export promotion  
council to the KVIC;

(b) if so, whether Government are taking  
any steps in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Promotion of Khadi products**

302. SHRIMATI PREMA  
CARIAPPA:  
PROF. ALKA BALRAM  
KSHATRIYA:  
SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA  
NATCHIAPPAN:

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

(a) whether any fresh initiative is being  
taken by Government to promote the use  
of Khadi products among the people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any new step is being taken  
to promote Khadi in urban areas of the  
country; and

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

#### **Promotion of rural industries**

303. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will  
the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL  
INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by  
Government for development and  
promotion of rural industries in the villages  
of the country;

(b) the plans formulated and being  
implemented in the country; and

(c) the amount sanctioned and spent  
under the scheme during the Tenth Plan  
period, so far?

### **Decline in Khadi Production**

†304. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a decline in the production of Khadi;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken to check the decline in the production of Khadi?

### **Loans given under KVIC**

†305. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount of loan given to the entrepreneurs under the Khadi and Village Industry during the last three years;
- (b) the number of women entrepreneurs out of them who have been given loans; and
- (c) whether Government propose to reserve some of the items to be manufactured by women only?

### **Secrecy in dumping of the nuclear waste**

306. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BALAPTE:  
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all the countries are maintaining secrecy in dumping the nuclear waste in their respective countries;
- (b) if so, whether India is also maintaining secrecy;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) if not, whether the waste is being dumped taking into account the safest possible location in the country?

### **Private participation in generation plants under atomic energy**

307. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:  
SHRI R.K. ANAND:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to allow private sector to put up generation plants under atomic energy; and
- (b) if not, in what manner Government propose to increase the capacity under atomic energy?

### **Power generation through atomic energy**

†308. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that atomic energy accounts for a very small part of the total power generation;
- (b) the status of India in comparison to other countries in respect of power generation utilising atomic energy; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that in our country the plants generating power utilising atomic energy are less efficient?

### **Target to achieve rural tele-density**

309. SHRI G. K. VASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether steps are being taken to achieve rural tele-density of three VPTs in all villages and to provide rural community plan by 2007; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi

**PCO connections at Panchayat level  
in Chhattisgarh**

†310. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that great difficulty is being faced in getting a PCO connection at Panchayat level in the rural areas of Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that irregularities are being committed in the quality of telephone instrument while providing a new connection; and

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

**Optic fibre link to Pakistan**

311. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend optic fibre link to Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Loss of revenue due to surrender of  
phones**

312. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR:  
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

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

(a) whether the number of surrendered and disconnected phones of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd., and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. has crossed 50 lakhs during the last two financial years;

(b) the details thereof and loss of

revenue in view of the surrender and disconnection of phones;

(c) the number of consumers who have surrendered their fixed line telephones all over the country since the inception of cellular phone services; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to improve the situation and safeguard the interest of the employees in both the organizations?

**Creation of a Knowledgeable  
Commission**

313. SHRIJESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to create a Knowledgeable Commission to strengthen the roots and sinews of our capacity and capability building so that we are better prepared for the challenges of the 21st century;

(b) if so, whether the main purpose of this commission would be a catalyst in setting ambitious knowledge targets and enabling agencies to attain these; and

(c) if so, by when the Commission is likely to function and the details of other members of the Commission ?

**Private companies using their own  
cables**

†314. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the decision awarded by TRAI in January, 2005, which would adversely affect the amount being received by BSNL and MTNL from ADC;

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government would consider on restricting the private companies from using their own cables;
- (d) if so, by when; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **P.C. penetration**

315. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the PC penetration in the country;
- (b) whether Government are satisfied with it; and
- (c) if not, the steps Government propose to take to increase the PC penetration in the country?

#### **Setting up of Common Service Centres**

316. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a framework has been formulated to set up ICT - enabled information and service kiosks, to be called 'Common Service Centres', in villages, to offer certain Government and private services on commercial basis;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of its implementation; and
- (c) the details of any specific scheme drawn up to motivate the kiosk operators to help proliferate the scheme, especially in the far-flung village clusters, etc. ?

#### **Supremacy in the market over private operators**

317. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have withstood the competition from the private mobile operators;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the efforts so far taken to ensure supremacy in the market over private operators?

#### **One time fees for cable TV**

318. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has recommended one time fees for cable TV, DTH, STD/ISD and radio through a single licence fee besides entry fees;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the recommendation has been accepted;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Illegal rerouting of international calls**

319. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether TRAI ADC Order of 6th January, 2005, argued that by reducing ILD ADC for incoming calls the issue of gray market shall be addressed;
- (b) if so, whether DoT accepts this;
- (c) what is the total loss caused thus far

from illegal rerouting of international calls;

(d) the basis thereof;

(e) whether TRAI is in a position to provide DoT total volume of incoming ILD minutes generated by Indian ILDOs with foreign carriers and their own affiliates overseas;

(f) does this amount correspond with total number of ILD minutes terminated in India for each financial year beginning 1st May, 2003; and

(g) the details thereof, year-wise?

#### **TRAI's power curtailed by TDSAT**

320. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any TDSAT judgment, which prevents TRAI from enforcing its own regulations orders and decision passed under Section 11 of the TRAI Act;

(b) whether there is any TDSAT judgment which prevents TRAI from either *suo motu* or on the basis of a complaint, instituting an investigation under Section 12 of the TRAI Act;

(c) if so, which are these judgments and what is TRAI planning to do about it; and

(d) whether TRAI's powers with regard to the above have been curtailed by the TDSAT in any way or manner?

#### **Installation of BTS towers in eastern U.P.**

†321. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not achieving the desired success in the Government's efforts to provide telephone in the rural areas of eastern Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that the work relating to installation of BTS towers in the districts of Azamgarh, Mau, Sultanpur, Faizabad and Jaunpur is going on at a snail's pace and the existing exchanges are almost non operational;

(c) the details of operational BTS towers in the above districts; and the locations where towers are likely to be installed in the near future;

(d) whether Government propose to bring almost all the population of the above districts within the ambit of either mobile or landline telephones; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Corruption in distribution of SIM cards**

†322. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is large scale corruption prevailing in distribution of SIM cards in eastern U.P., where waitlisted persons are deprived of SIM cards while the same is available easily to influential persons and businessmen and it is also available in black market for rupees two or three thousand;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to inquire into such corruption; and

(c) the number of SIM cards provided to Azamgarh, Mau, Sultanpur and Jaunpur districts separately and the number of SIM cards really issued to the subscribers ?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Losses suffered by Department of Posts**

323. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of private sector in postal services are better than the services of Department of Posts;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether this has affected the services of Department of Posts and Government have suffered loss due to this; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto and the steps taken by Government to get a lead over private sector in this era of competition?

**FDI limit in telecom sector**

324. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that intelligence agencies of Government have submitted some reports in regard to the raising of FDI limit in telecom sector;

(b) if so, the issues raised in the report; and

(c) Government's response thereto?

**Installation of microwave transmitters in Assam**

325. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of telecommunication microwave transmitters set up in Assam during the last three years;

(b) the details of funds sanctioned, granted and released to the State during this period; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by Government for installation of the above transmitters during the next two years?

**Upgradation of telecommunication system in rural areas of Assam**

326. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing any scheme in the State of Assam for development, expansion and upgradation of telecommunication system in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the above schemes?

**Illegal routing of international calls**

327. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s Reliance Infocom used networks of two PSUs to route international calls as local calls;

(b) if so, how much money is due to BSNL and MTNL from M/s Reliance Infocom;

(c) whether it is also a fact that TRAI has not taken any action in this dispute; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

**FDI in telecom sector**

328. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have lately decided to enhance the FDI limits in telecom sector from 49 per cent to 74 per cent;

(b) if so, the main reasons for such an increase; and

(c) the level at which FDI stood as on date of decision and as at present indicating the sources and companies investigating additional FDI in the sector and the proposals still pending approval?

#### **Improvement of telecom services**

329. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even today BSNL is unable to reduce the waitlist for phones in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the present waiting list for phones in the country;

(c) the reasons for the slow reduction of this waiting list;

(d) whether the slow work of BSNL is chasing away customers to other telecom service providers; and

(e) the steps Government propose to improve the BSNL's record in improving telecom services?

#### **Training to youngsters in IT sector**

330. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the projected demand both for Information Technology personnel to meet domestic requirements as well as demand from other nations at present and for the next five years *vis-a-vis* present intake capacity and output; and

(b) the details of comprehensive time bound action plan formulated for training of youngsters in IT to meet domestic requirements and cater to the emerging global requirements of trained manpower by various countries?

#### **Provisioning of rural telephones by private telecom operator**

331. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of rural telephone connections in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite major advancement in telecommunication technology penetration is very low in rural areas;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether it would be made mandatory on part of the private telecom operators to set up rural telephones in their respective circles, instead of asking to park a part of their revenues in the form ADC?

#### **Connectivity speed of Dataon and Triband**

332. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BSNL and MTNL have launched its broadband services in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that both the companies have launched above services only in selected cities of the country;

(c) if so, the details of cities in which broadband services have been launched; and

(d) the connectivity speed of Dataon and Triband and how they are faster than the existing VSNL's internet services?

#### **Security allocations to IT companies**

333. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the survey conducted by NASSCOM and IT Association of America revealed that there is a need to increase the security allocations to IT companies in the country;

(b) if so, what exactly are the findings of the survey;

(c) the apprehensions that the IT companies in India have, which forces them to increase their allocations on security; and

(d) the steps Government are taking under IT Act, 2000 to protect the IT companies to make India as a leader in "Trusted Outsourcing"?

#### **Future of BPO sector**

334. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's idea of introducing job reservations in private sector can prick the offshore contracts for IT and IT enabled service (ITes) putting question mark over the future of BPO sector in India;

(b) if so, the details about the idea of reservations and its impact upon BPO sector;

(c) whether the young employee in BPO sectors are going to be jobless; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government to overcome the above crisis?

#### **Merry making in cyber cafe**

†335. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of merry making taking place on the pretext of chatting in cyber cafes throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have any plan to bring a law to prevent such crimes and to keep the cafe owners in check; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Camps to redress the complaints**

†336. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to organize camps at district and block level in every three months to redress the complaints of common subscribers related to Government and private telephones, WLL and mobile services; and

(b) if so, by when these camps would be organized?

#### **Incorrect billing of WLL telephones in Bilaspur**

†337. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(a) whether it is a fact that the common public is facing heavy difficulties due to the long waiting list for new WLL connections in rural areas of the country and also due to incorrect billing of WLL telephone service connections;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the number of such complaints is higher in Bilaspur areas of Chhattisgarh; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Increase in rural teledensity**

338. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the teledensity of Urban India as on 1st December, 2004;

(b) the teledensity of rural India as on 1st December, 2004;

(c) the reasons for not finding an increase in rural teledensity inspite of an unprecedented growth over the last three years;

(d) whether it is also a fact that still 85,228 villages do not have access to a single telephone connection in the country; and

(e) if so, the action being taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Deficiencies in I.T. Act**

339. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up a Committee of Experts to examine the deficiencies in the IT Act, 2000;

(b) if so, the terms of reference given to the Committee; and

(c) what enabling provisions the present Act contain with regard to e-governance initiatives, cyber forensics, etc. ?

#### **Illegal use of communication means by private companies**

†340. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private sector companies functioning in telecommunication sector and the participation of private sector in total capital investment in telecommunication sector in the country;

(b) whether some complaints regarding illegal use of communication means by certain private sector companies in telecommunication sector have come to light, if so, the names of such companies; and

(c) whether Government are going to take any action against the said companies which have violated provisions, if so, the details thereof?

#### **Expansion scenario of IT industry**

341. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per NASSCOM-McKinsey report, annual revenue projections of IT industry in 2008 would be US \$ 87 billion;

(b) if so, the details of our expansion scenario; and

(c) which are our major international markets?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

#### **Demand of telephone connections**

342. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any time-bound plan under consideration in order to provide telephone connections to unconnected villages, all tehsils and block headquarters;

(b) if so, the time-frame to meet the target;

(c) the anticipated demand of connections; and

(d) whether Government have necessary infrastructure including finance to achieve the targets?

#### **Burden on landline subscribers**

343. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Access Deficit Charges in India is the lowest in the world;

(b) on what ground the ADC is further reduced;

(c) whether this would not increase the burden on landline subscribers in the country especially in rural and backward areas; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to meet the situations?

#### **Benefits to an average MTNL subscriber**

344. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite increase in the profits of MTNL no improvement have been brought in the phone network for the benefit of average subscriber;

(b) whether it is also a fact that phone call costs, internet connectivity and durations of calls are still deterrent factors for marginal subscribers such as students, pensioners and other fixed income groups; and

(c) whether Government are considering any steps to help such subscribers and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Government's policies in respect of Nepal**

345. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, especially from our national security point of view, stability, peace and economic progress of Nepal has been significant;

(b) whether Government have been pursuing appropriate policies in respect of neighbouring countries, particularly, Nepal;

(c) the salient features thereof, including of the status of monitoring various social, economic and political developments in the neighbouring countries;

(d) whether Government had any prior feed back about development that took place in Nepal on 1st February, 2005; and

(e) if not, the reasons for this failure?

#### **Agreement between India and Malaysia**

346. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreements were signed between India and Malaysia during the recent visit of Malaysian Prime Minister; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Indians in Pakistani jails**

347. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS

KAUR:

SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indians, including those Armed Forces Personnel declared missing during Indo-Pak Wars of 1965, 1971 and the Kargil War are still in Pakistani jails;

(b) if so, the number of such Indians and the Army Personnel in Pak jails, as on January 1, 2005; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken to confirm their identity and to get them released?

#### **Election in Iraq**

†348. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA

NATCHIAPPAN:

SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how the Indo-Iraq relations would be in the new scenario of the fresh political situation arisen in Iraq after the elections;

(b) whether Government have vindicated the elections, recently held in Iraq;

(c) if so, whether Government would give recognition to the new government in Iraq in the new context and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether in the view of Government

the new election in Iraq is the first phase towards the restoration of democratic process there; and

(e) if so, the initiative taken by the Indian Government for the protection of human rights in Iraq?

#### **List of Indian prisoners released by Pakistan**

349. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan Government has recently released a list of over 180 Indians in its jails;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Indian Government to secure their release and by when they are expected to be repatriated;

(c) what according to the Indian Government's information and estimation is the number of Indians at present languishing in Pak jails; and

(d) what specific efforts are being made to secure the release of all of them?

#### **Relaxation in visa norms for Pakistani senior citizens**

350. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have relaxed visa norms for senior citizens of Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Pakistan has also reciprocated by relaxing its norms for Indian senior citizens;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons advocated for the same?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Security Council seat without VETO**

351. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has not been given UN Security Council seat with Veto powers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor despite the facts that India is the largest democracy of the world;

(c) the names of the countries supporting India's claim for UN Security Council with Veto power and those against it; and

(d) the strategy being adopted by Government to get its due position in UN Security Council?

**Joint study group between India and Malaysia**

352. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Governments of India and Malaysia have set up a Joint Study Group to study the bilateral economic affairs and signed a comprehensive economic co-operation agreement; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Improvement in relations with Pakistan**

353. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the ties with Pakistan in varied fields;

(b) whether there has been improvement in the overall relations with Pakistan for the past two years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**General amnesty to Indians overstaying in Oman**

354. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Oman declared general amnesty for overstaying people and if so, the number of such Keralites who are willing to return from that country;

(b) whether the Oman Government constituted a high power committee to look into the affairs of non-payment of wages to labourers;

(c) whether the Embassy of India has made any arrangements to bring the grievances of Indian labourers to the notice of such committee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether Government would consider to take initiative for the same?

**No-negotiation policy with kidnappers**

355. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as part of no-nonsense policy on hostage and kidnapping situations, Government had announced, long time back, that it is formulating a policy of "no negotiations" with kidnappers; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay?

**Development of road transport in Tibet by China**

356. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that China nearly doubled the length of its road transport network in Tibet to nearly 40,000 km. over the last decade;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the state of infrastructure in India along the border is awful and it is the result of Government's policy of not developing connectivity along the frontiers; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

**Visit of Chinese Vice-Foreign  
Minister to New Delhi**

357. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Wu Dawei visited New Delhi, recently for strategic talks with India;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement, if any, reached as a result of the talks; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken in pursuance thereof?

**Visit of UN Peace Keeping  
Operations' officials to New Delhi**

358. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UN Under Secretary General for Peace Keeping Operations visited New Delhi in January this year;

(b) if so, whether the UN official sought any additional deployment or augmentation of India's contribution to the existing UN Peace Keeping Force;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) Government's response thereto?

**Assistance to Iraq**

359. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received request from the Government of Iraq for assistance in its reconstruction efforts particularly in the field of construction, engineering, oil exploration, Information Technology, etc; and

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

**Issuance of passports in Andhra  
Pradesh**

360. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passports issued in the Andhra Pradesh in 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(b) what steps are being taken to issue passports with more ease in this area;

(c) whether there is any possibility of opening new passport offices in the State; and

(d) the steps proposed to expand and increase the capacity of such passport offices in the State?

**Candlelight Vigil by War Widows  
Association**

361. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the War Widows Association's Candlelight Vigil at India Gate on 31st January, impressing upon Government for

the release of officers and soldiers from India and Pakistan, missing in action from 1965 and 1971 wars;

(b) if so, whether Government have full information about the details of such Indian and Pakistani soldiers in each other's country who are languishing in jails or otherwise incarcerated; and

(c) whether there is any on-going detente conducive towards working out such a 'release' through effective diplomatic dialogue?

#### **Quality service to passport applicants**

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

(a) the number of people, on an average, that visit the Passport Office, Bangalore every day to make enquiries and to get passport related work done;

(b) whether Government are aware that the applicants have to wait for three to four hours in the queue even to make an enquiry or to check the status of the passport; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to provide better and quality service to the applicants at Bangalore Passport Office?

#### **Indian prisoners list**

363. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistan Interior Ministry has prepared a list of 182 Indian Prisoners in Pakistan on the basis of a survey;

(b) whether a Pakistani daily, which published the list, stated that these people are languishing in Pakistani prisons on unknown charges;

(c) if so, the details in regard thereto;

(d) whether Government have sought consular access to these prisoners and asked Pakistan to officially release this list; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Pakistani Government thereto?

#### **Maoist threat to India**

364. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether growing clout of Maoist in Nepal is a threat to India's security;

(b) whether Government hold the view that the Maoists in Nepal have links with Naxalite insurgents in many Indian States; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to protect India's interest from these insurgent movement?

#### **Dismissal of Nepalese Prime Minister**

365. SHRI AMAR SINGH:

SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the recent development in Nepal where Nepal's King Gyanendra dismissed the Prime Minister and his cabinet and also imposed a state of emergency suspending fundamental rights of its citizens;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of political leaders of Nepal have taken refuge in our country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction in this regard?

#### **Restoration of democracy in Nepal**

366. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:  
SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA  
NATCHIAPPAN:  
DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:  
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Government's position regarding the development in Nepal;
- (b) whether Government are thinking of contributing in any manner in the restoration of democracy in Nepal;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Indians affected by Tsunami in foreign countries**

367. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:  
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many Indians working in foreign countries become victims of the Tsunami of December, 2004;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise and State-wise;
- (c) if so, whether any relief has been granted to the victims/family members of these victims; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Refusal by Pakistan to play cricket at Ahmedabad**

368. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:  
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan has refused to play cricket in Ahmedabad due to political reasons; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Indo-Japanese cooperation**

369. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Japan has expressed willingness to work with India to establish a Tsunami Early Warning Mechanism in the Indian Ocean and grant concessional loan assistance, if sought, by India;
- (b) if so, Government's response thereto;
- (c) whether as a part of ongoing high level contracts, three key Japanese Ministers have visited India in January, 2005 to discuss ways to bolster bilateral ties; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Screening of containers at foreign ports**

370. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has decided to join the US-led Container Security Initiative which envisages exchange of custom personnel and technology to screen containers at foreign ports;
- (b) if so, the composition thereof including Indian participation;
- (c) whether Intelligence Agencies and the Customs Authorities have objected to allow U.S. personnel at Indian ports;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the benefits to be derived from this partnership?

#### **Introduction of Contract Labour Act**

371. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enact a Contract Labour Act;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether there is pressure on Government from World Bank and other multinational funding agencies in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is wide opposition about the proposed legislation because it would make vulnerable the workforce in the country to vagaries of market dynamics and lead to instability among them; and

(f) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

**Funds allocated for unorganised sector**

†372. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the previous Government had formulated a 'Social Security Scheme' for the labourers belonging to the unorganised sector;

(b) if so, whether that scheme has been abandoned; and

(c) if not, the amount earmarked for this scheme this year and the amount spent, so far?

**Recommendations of National Commission for Women**

373. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:  
SHRI R. K. ANAND:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tradition of *seedipratha* which implies bonded labour is prevalent in the State of Haryana;

(b) if so, the districts where this tradition

is prevalent;

(c) whether the National Commission for Women has highlighted the problem and made any recommendations to Government in this behalf; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction to the recommendations of the National Commission for Women?

**National Child Labour Project**

374. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN:  
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:  
SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP:  
SHRI R.S. GAVAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme of the National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) is a Centrally aided scheme through which child labour gets benefits of education and rehabilitation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of proposals received from various State Governments with particular reference to Maharashtra, are pending for consideration of Government;

(d) the present status thereof;

(e) whether Government have approved the continuation of this scheme of NCLPs in the existing districts and expansion to other child labour endemic districts in the Tenth Plan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

**Expenditure on Social Security Scheme**

375. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:  
SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of GDP is spent on Social Security Schemes in the country;

(b) what are the Social Security Schemes in force and the target group of beneficiaries, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government intend to increase the expenditure on Social Security Schemes and thereby benefit 90 per cent of unorganized labour forces of the country?

#### **Funds available with EPF organisation**

376. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:  
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which Government propose to meet a deficit of Rs. 927 crores, because of the increase in rate of interest from 8.5% to 9.5% on EPF;

(b) what is the total fund available with Employees Provident Fund Organisation as on 31st December, 2004 and in what sectors these funds have been invested; and

(c) what is the total revenue generated from investments made during the last three years?

#### **Availability of trained and skilled labour**

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

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of skilled and trained labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the

products of the country are costlier than that of European countries due to lack of skill and training;

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

(e) the time-bound targeted scheme of Government to enhance availability of skilled and trained labourers?

#### **Companies not contributing towards EPF**

†378. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of companies not contributing to Employees Provident Fund Organisation in the country was about 2000 as on November, 2004;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard and the extent of amount not contributed by the said date; and

(c) the number of public sectors and Non-Government sector companies separately and the steps taken by Government to recover the amount?

#### **Amendments in Labour Laws**

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

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministries of Commerce and Textiles have formulated a proposal to make certain changes in the name of reforms in Labour Laws;

(b) if so, the outlines of the said proposal;

(c) whether his Ministry has considered

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

this proposal; and

(d) if so, Government's response on the implementation of this proposal?

**Investments made in Employees  
Provident Fund**

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

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND  
EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have found  
some measures to make maximum profit  
on investment of Employees Provident  
Fund;

(b) if so, the details of said possible  
measures and the investment made from  
the said fund, so far; and

(c) the percentage of profit earned from  
this?

**Social Welfare scheme for plantation  
workers**

381. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will  
the Minister of LABOUR AND  
EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working population in  
the informal sector totalling some 36 crores,  
comprises of 93% of total workforce in the  
country;

(b) if so, the reasons for a paltry  
allocation of Rs. 13 crores for the year  
2004-05 to cover the unorganised sector  
Social Security Scheme, as compared to a  
whopping Rs. 500 crores to cover  
Employees Pension Scheme for the  
organized sector; and

(c) whether this paltry allocation of  
Rs. 13 crores includes social welfare  
schemes for plantation workers in Assam?

**Amendments in the Agricultural  
Workers Bill**

382. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the  
Minister of LABOUR AND  
EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Commission for  
Women has suggested some amendments  
in the Agricultural Workers Bill;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether those amendments would  
be incorporated in the Bill;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Child Labour Scheme**

†383. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the  
Minister of LABOUR AND  
EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States as well as  
the districts of the country where National  
Child Labour Scheme is being implemented;  
and

(b) by when this scheme would be  
implemented in the whole country?

**Asian Summit in Jakarta**

384. DR. KARAN SINGH:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of OCEAN  
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indonesia had also invited  
India to attend Special Asian Summit in  
Jakarta on 6th January, 2005 to chalk out a  
strategy to deal with situation arising from  
Tsunami disaster;

(b) whether India convened a meeting  
in January, 2005 where experts from US,  
Canada, Japan, Indonesia and Sri Lanka  
discussed technical aspects of proposed  
Tsunami management system; and

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government have decided to install equipment required for predicting Tsunami which would have three components i.e. earthquake detection, Tsunami detection and warning dissemination to Government agencies and people in coastal areas?

#### **Early warning system for Tsunami**

385. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:  
SHRI NAND KISHORE  
YADAV:  
SHRI PRAMOD  
MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to establish a Tsunami early warning system in the Indian Ocean;

(b) if so, whether the system would be set up with other countries touched by the oceans;

(c) its financial implication and in what way it is going to be obtained; and

(d) by when the system is likely to be started and the time by which it would be completed?

#### **Tsunami warning sensors in Indian Ocean**

386. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to install warning sensors deep in the Indian Ocean and join the network of twenty six countries that monitors Tsunami waves;

(b) if so, the details thereof including their costs and time required for their installation; and

(c) the reasons for India not joining the network earlier?

#### **Japanese help for Tsunami warning system**

†387. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has offered to extend help in setting up Tsunami early warning system;

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

(c) the estimated cost of setting up Tsunami early warning system;

(d) whether any other country has also offered to extend help in setting up Tsunami early warning system; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and by when a decision would be taken in this regard?

#### **Website for NRIs**

388. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a website has been launched for interactive exchanges with NRIs abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum and level of response received from NRIs; and

(d) whether Government would conduct any survey of NRIs abroad to identify people who want to play a role in national development?

#### **Third Pravasi Bhartiya Sammelan**

†389. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding objectives and success achieved in the Third Pravasi Bhartiya Sammelan held in Mumbai in January, 2005;

(b) whether it is a fact that only affluent NRIs were present in the conference and there was no representation of other millions of Non-Resident Indians;

(c) if so, whether Government have put forth its view in the conference; and

(d) if so, the details of the overall consensus achieved in the conference?

#### **NRI investments**

†390. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Non-Resident Indians specially from Mauritius are of the opinion that India herself is progressing towards economic stability and attaining the category of developed countries and therefore non-residents are agreeable to invest in tourism, foreign exchange and exchange of cultural activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

#### **International Conference of NRIs**

391. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an international conference of the Non-Resident Indians was held in India during January, 2005; and

(b) if so, the details of the aims and objectives of the Conference and achievement thereof?

#### **Pay revision of CSS assistants**

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

(a) whether there is any proposal for the revision of the pay scales of the Assistants working in CSS Cadre of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Corrupt IAS, IPS officers**

393. SHRIMATI JAYABACHCHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers belonging to IAS, IPS and IRS or their allied services booked on corruption charges during the last calendar year;

(b) the impact of the arrests/booking under various laws, has created on the morale of the services;

(c) whether the corruption continues unabated in these services; and

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

#### **Administrative Reforms Commission**

394. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to set up a new Administrative Reforms Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the said Commission is likely to be set up; and

(d) what shall be the broad terms of reference of the Commission?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Lowering the eligibility criteria for civil services**

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

(a) whether Government are considering to lower the eligibility criteria for civil services from graduation to 10+2;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether with the amendment in eligibility criteria, the maximum age limit would also be reduced; and

(d) if so, what would be the age limit?

### **Annual plans for the States**

396. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:  
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of annual plans, as approved by Planning Commission for States and Union Territories for the year 2005-06;

(b) in what way the finances for the above annual plan are to be generated by States and what would be Government's share, State-wise; and

(c) the targets of rate of growth given to States for 2005-06?

### **Achievement of Tenth Plan targets**

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

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any information regarding possibilities of achieving targets fixed for the Tenth Five

Year Plan;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and if so, the sectors in which targets would be fulfilled; and

(c) the names of the sectors in which even 50 per cent of the fixed targets have not been achieved by March, 2004, and the special steps taken by Government to achieve these targets?

### **Annual plan for States**

398. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether annual plan 2005-06 for the State of Assam/Maharashtra/Madhya Pradesh has been sanctioned;

(b) if so, the total allocation demanded and sanctioned to each State, the details of the allocations made thereunder for agriculture, industrial and housing sectors, human resource development, health and social justice programme; and

(c) the targets of growth rate and development fixed thereunder in each sector/area?

### **Scrapping of Centrally Sponsored Schemes**

399. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to scrap some Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS);

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

(c) the net savings due to scrapping of these schemes; and

(d) the manner in which the saving is likely to be utilized?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Development of infrastructure in rural areas**

‡400. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the priorities fixed by the Planning Commission for the development of infrastructure in the rural areas of the country;

(b) whether the Commission hold its control over the programmes being run for this purpose;

(c) if so, the reasons for pathetic condition of water supply, electricity, education, healthcare and roads, particularly in the rural areas despite putting all our efforts;

(d) whether the Commission has marked certain laggard areas considered a failure as per the parameters of human development; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Backward States Grant Fund**

401. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of present status of Backward States Grant Fund as proposed in the previous budget;

(b) the details of funds released, so far out of this Backward States Grants Fund, State-wise; and

(c) the details of schemes implemented so far towards the development of Backward States through these funds; State-wise?

**Backward districts in Orissa**

402. SHRI B.J. PANDA:  
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:  
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have identified 137 backward districts for development in the country and it is proposed to spend Rs. 45 crores on each of them;

(b) if so, the criteria for identification; and

(c) the details of the districts that have been identified in Orissa and the time-frame within which these would be taken up for development?

**Floating seismic monitoring vessel**

403. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government suggested Australia, USA, Japan and the UN for setting up of a floating seismic monitoring vessel;

(b) if so, the reaction from the above countries and the UN; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Australia and USA have expressed some reservation on this suggestion?

**Early warning for Tsunami waves**

‡404. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Meteorological department of India was aware of Tsunami in advance in Indian Ocean on 25-26 December, 2004;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to warn public regarding the same;

(c) whether equipments for forecasting the Tsunami have been installed in India;

---

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and  
 (e) whether Tsunami affected persons were warned again about likelihood Tsunami within a week, if so, the basis of such informations?

**Plan allocation for Scientific Department**

405. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that plan allocation for Scientific Departments have doubled during the tenth plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether new schemes have been introduced in areas of Research and Development during the tenth plan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**International Tsunami warning system**

406. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have decided to make India part of an international warning system designed to warn the coastal communities of sea floor earthquake rock disturbances such as Tsunami;
- (b) if so, the details of the project-proposal; and
- (c) the steps taken and being taken in that direction?

**Equipments to predict earthquakes**

407. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government consider to install sophisticated equipment to predict the disasters such as earthquake etc. in the sea to avoid future Tsunami disaster;

(b) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government would consider to implement integrated coastal zone management by connecting all the coastal areas in the country to avoid future disasters?

**Regional Tsunami Warning System**

408. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether UNESCO has planned to establish a regional Tsunami warning system for Indian ocean region, to be in the place by June, 2006;
- (b) whether the US, Japan, Australia and Germany are keen to utilise their technology and expertise in the Indian ocean warning system;
- (c) whether India and Thailand want to establish their own Tsunami warning systems; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken to avoid unnecessary and costly duplication of efforts by India?

**Amount spent on Scientific Departments**

†409. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Meteorological Department, Geophysics Research institute and Vadia Institute of Himalayan Technology togetherwith the

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

many universities are operating several earthquake monitoring centres all over the country;

(b) the amount being spent by Government on the said centres, per annum;

(c) the reasons for the failure of all these monitoring centres in providing prior information about the Tsunami calamity and earthquake that hit Indonesia; and

(d) whether any enquiry has been conducted by Government against failure in providing such information?

#### **Changes occurring in weather condition**

†410. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study is being carried out by Government about the inter-relation between the changes occurred in weather conditions and devastating Tsunami;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Indian scientists had warned about the dramatic changes in the weather conditions;

(d) if so, the reasons for not having any coordination between Government and scientists; and

(e) if not, the details of the efforts being made by Government in this direction?

#### **Over handling of Indian Meteorological Department**

411. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article authorised by Chairman "Inter-governmental Panel on Climate change" wherein he has pleaded for an overhaul of the Indian Meteorological Department in the wake of Tsunami disaster; and

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

#### **Advanced technology for forecasting Tsunami**

412. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details with regards to utilization of advanced Technology and Software, for correctly forecasting the Tsunami disasters, much in advance to save the affected places from disasters;

(b) the present status of action taken so far, in expediting the utilization of latest technology for forecasting Tsunami disasters; and

(c) the details of budget released, purpose-wise?

#### **Sriranga Patna-Bidar Highway**

413. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the project undertaken for upgradation from State Highways to National Highways;

(b) the period earmarked to complete Sriranga Patna-Bidar Highway in Karnataka; and

(c) the estimated cost of the project?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Flaws in Sethu Samudram  
Mega-project**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Tad Murty (NRI Scientist) has found certain flaws in the construction of Sethu Samudram Mega-project and has expressed certain apprehensions over control of Tsunami as a result;

(b) if so, the details of flaws and his apprehensions;

(c) whether he has suggested certain corrections in the model of the project to overcome the situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and how far the new model would help to save the population of our coastline?

**Construction of rubberised roads**

415. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS  
BALAPTE:  
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN  
PANY:

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

(a) whether the experiments for the construction of rubberised roads have been carried out;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount earmarked for this purpose indicating the utilization thereof, till date;

(d) whether Government propose to construct rubberised roads in Mumbai; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which construction of such roads would commence in Mumbai?

**National Highway Projects in  
Karnataka**

416. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:  
SHRI LALIT SURI:

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

(a) the number of National highway projects that were approved in the last five years by Government and the financial outlay involved;

(b) the number out of these that have been completed and which are yet to be completed;

(c) whether any time frame has been prescribed for the purpose;

(d) if so, to what extent implementation is according to the schedule;

(e) how many of these are located in Karnataka; and

(f) the investment involved, project-wise and by when they are likely to be completed?

**Development of cruise shipping**

417. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:  
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether Government propose to go in for cruise shipping to develop and tap its immense economic potential;

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

(c) whether a High Powered Committee has gone into this issue; and

(d) if so, its salient recommendations thereon?

#### **Accidents due to drunken driving**

‡418. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of accidents on National as well as State Highways has increased and whether most of the accidents are caused by the trucks;

(b) whether such drivers who are usually drunk and who drive trucks throughout the night are not guilty for these accidents;

(c) whether drivers commit such negligence due to lack of stringent law in this regard;

(d) whether Government propose to bring a bill for enacting a more stringent law to check such accidents; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Highways in Rajasthan**

‡419. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 23 proposals of Rajasthan Government related to Inter-State roads are pending with Government;

(b) whether four proposals of Inter-State roads are pending with Government for technical approval and financial sanction;

(c) if so, since when these proposals are pending;

(d) by when Government would accord approval to these proposals and sanction these estimates; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Golden Quadrilateral Project**

420. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that completion of the Rs. 25,000 crore Golden Quadrilateral Project linking Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata, originally targeted for June, 2003 and subsequently revised to December, 2004 has been further delayed;

(b) if so, the detailed reasons therefor and fresh time table drawn up for completion of the super highway;

(c) the likely cost escalation involved; and

(d) the details of monitoring system established to ensure timely completion of the project and also to review the quality of work progressively completed by the contractors?

#### **Upgradation of National Highways**

421. SHRITARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to upgrade the country's National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total cost which is likely to be incurred on this mega project; and

(d) the States which would be covered under this project?

#### **Improving the highways bordering Delhi**

422. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken by Government to improve the roads on the

---

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

various Highways bordering Delhi which are in a very pitiable condition;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Private Sector participation in road maintenance**

†423. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to increase the participation of private sector for the maintenance of National Highways; and

- (b) if so, the details thereof?

**Road funds for Madhya Pradesh**

†424. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated upto December, 2004 to Madhya Pradesh under road funds to upgrade Highways and main district roads of the State;

(b) the details of the allocation of funds during the last five years; and

(c) the names of the roads for which allocation was made and the progress of work on these roads?

**Road proposals from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh**

†425. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received various road projects from Uttar Pradesh/ Bihar during the last three years for consideration under Central Road Fund;

(b) the details of such projects which have been sanctioned; and

(c) the reasons for pendency of remaining projects?

**Delay in completion of Golden Quadrilateral**

426. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poor performance of some contractors have resulted in delay in the completion of Golden Quadrilateral project;

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

(c) the steps/action taken by Government against such contractors;

(d) whether Government propose to set targets for contractors before awarding contracts;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Slow traffic on National Highway No. 1**

†427. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that movement of traffic on National Highway No. 1 passing through outskirts of Ludhiana is extremely slow, practically

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

throughout the day and road users suffer inspite of paying toll tax for that stretch;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to construct a flyover on the stretch to avoid city traffic;

(c) if so, by when said work would be taken up and completed; and

(d) if not, in what way Government propose to solve the problem of slow traffic on that stretch of the Highway?

#### **Cargo handling capacity of major ports**

†428. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of existing cargo handling capacity of the major ports engaged where loading and unloading of export and import cargos are generally carried out;

(b) the details of capacity of existing road infrastructure available for accessing these ports by cargo containers, including the time taken on average for a container to return from port;

(c) whether existing infrastructure of accessing roads to ports are adequate to facilitate projected growth in export-import trade;

(d) if not, the steps contemplated to augment the same, port-wise along with time frame therefor; and

(e) the resources required for implementation?

#### **Language used on milestones on roads**

†429. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD

TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Highways Authority of India has suddenly started inscribing details of places in Hindi on milestones in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the two language policy of using only Tamil and English had been followed in inscription of details on milestones on National Highways for decades in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the reasons for deviating from the decades old practice?

#### **Decongesting of traffic in Chennai**

430. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Highways Authority of India had decided to begin work on decongesting traffic at metropolitan cities including Chennai;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had awarded contract to commence the work on the above work; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Pradhan Mantri Bharat Jodo Pariyojana**

†431. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work regarding modernizing the roads through Pradhan

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Mantri Bharat Jodo Pariyojana has been slowed down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme to speed up the modernization of the roads; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Establishment of DG of Ports and Harbours**

432. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to establish a Directorate-General of Ports and Harbours;

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

(c) whether the cost/benefits of this new office have been assessed;

(d) if so, to what extent Government would ensure that ports are not hampered by slow administrative action from Government; and

(e) the details of the steps proposed to establish the new office and a separate Directorate of Ports?

#### **Waterway proposals from Maharashtra Government**

†433. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Maharashtra have sent 13 proposals to the Inland Waterways Authority for its approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when Government would accord approval to these proposals?

#### **Infrastructural Development in Maharashtra**

434. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have requested any assistance for infrastructural development of roads;

(b) if so, the details of the request thereof;

(c) the total funding required; and

(d) Government's response in this regard?

#### **Accidents due to heavy vehicles**

435. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 70 per cent of fatal accidents in India involve a heavy vehicle and more than two-thirds of the victims are vulnerable road users like pedestrians, cyclists and two-wheeler riders;

(b) if so, whether Government are thinking of developing safe designs that are "friendly" to vulnerable groups; and

(c) whether R&D units are aware of this situation and whether Government are having periodical interaction with them towards developing such designs?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Construction of roads in 2005-06**

†436. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ambitious project of connecting the country through roads is being implemented;

(b) if so, the number of four-lane and six-lane roads to be constructed in the country during the year 2005-06;

(c) whether sufficient funds have already been raised for construction of the said roads;

(d) if so, the amount to be spent on the same; and

(e) by when the construction of these roads would be completed?

### **Bangalore-Mysore-Madikeri-Mangalore road**

437. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State of Karnataka has requested Government to reclassify the Bangalore-Mysore-Madikeri-Mangalore road as National Highways which is being improved by the State Government to the National Highway standards; and

(b) if so, the decision, if any taken in this regard?

### **Modernization of SSIs**

\*438. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:  
SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS  
BALAPTE:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to support the SSI Sector, enable it to achieve technology upgradation and modernization;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the highlights of the said scheme; and

(d) the manner in which the scheme is going to help in view of Government's open import policy?

### **Comprehensive legislation of SSIs**

439. SHRI R.K. ANAND:  
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to bring a comprehensive legislation to promote and remove the bottlenecks in the growth of SSIs;

(b) if so, by when such a bill is likely to be introduced; and

(c) if not, the constraints in doing so and what other measures are being taken by Government in this regard?

### **Delay in payment to SSIs**

440. SHRI R.K. ANAND:  
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that small scale industries in the country are gravely suffering from the delay in payments held by the large organizations; and

(b) if so, the action that has been taken by Government to punish these defaulting

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

organizations along with the details for the last three years?

**Promotion and development of SSIs in rural areas**

441. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for promotion and development of small scale industries in the rural areas of the country at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for implementation of the above proposal?

**Unmanned spacecraft mission around moon**

442. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:  
SHRI LALIT SURI:  
SHRI EKANATH K.  
THAKUR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to send an unmanned spacecraft to survey the moon by 2007;

(b) whether requisite preparations for the proposed venture have been taken on hand and what is the present stage of such preparations;

(c) whether any foreign collaboration is contemplated for the purpose and the details thereof; and

(d) what are the financial implications of the proposal and the details thereof?

**Aerial surveys conducted by Space Department**

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

(a) whether any specific aerial surveys have been conducted by the Space Department or any other agency, recently in the various parts of the Maharashtra;

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

(c) the significant development inputs found by Space Department for various sectors?

**Deadline for completion of project**

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

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain projects in the country costing more than 100 crore rupees are under construction in the country for which no deadline of completion has yet been fixed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the Departments or Ministries these projects belong to; and

(c) the amount spent on these upto December, 2004 and the estimated amount required for their completion?

**Completion of central sector projects**

445. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of 267 major central sector projects selected for completion during the current financial year, 26 projects would slip beyond March, 2005 while 43 projects would be completed;

(b) if so, whether the remaining 186 projects are expected to be completed during the course of financial year;

(c) the latest position of these projects at present;

(d) how many of them are going behind schedule, sector-wise;

(e) to what extent, these projects have increased the cost; and

(f) the steps that are being taken to complete these projects immediately?

#### **Preparation for Commonwealth Games**

446. SHRI G. K. VASAN : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that preparation for hosting next Commonwealth Games are lagging behind schedule; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to speed them up?

#### **Infrastructural facilities for the development of sports**

†447. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme for the development of sports in the country; and

(b) the number and details of infrastructural facilities made available to the States so far from the amount provided by Government and the amount of assistance to be provided this year along with the number of States to whom this assistance would be provided?

#### **Funds allocated for development of sports**

†448. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) Government's plan for providing basic facilities for development of sports in the country; and

(b) the facilities provided so far in Madhya Pradesh with the help of the central assistance given by Government togetherwith the quantum of central assistance to be provided this year in the districts?

#### **Status of sports**

†449. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the adequate steps are not being taken to improve the status of the sports in the country;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the difficulties are being faced in improving the status of the sports due to constantly increasing political influence and commercialization in the field of sports; and

(d) if not, Government's reaction in this regard?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Private participation for development of sports**

450. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds earmarked for development of sports in the country is inadequate;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to enhance the funds for development of sports, especially in view of commonwealth Games in 2010; and

(c) whether Government are considering to involve private participation for creating infrastructure for sports to that of international standards and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Performance in Olympic**

†451. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the main reasons for poor and shameful performance of India in Olympic besides the partiality in selection of athletes; and

(b) the details of efforts being made by Government for better performance in Olympics?

**Standard of football**

452. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to increase the standards of

football at the college and university level in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that India has never been able to make a mark in the Olympics in football;

(c) the reasons for not even trying to encourage our youth to take up football which is a low capital intensive sport;

(d) whether any alternate football governing body will be floated to encourage youngsters to take up football; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Cricket match at Feroz Shah Kotla ground**

†453. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Board of Cricket Control of India has allotted Feroz Shah Kotla ground for one day cricket match against Pakistan;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Kotla ground is not fully fit for holding the match;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Preparation for Commonwealth Games**

454. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: SHRI R.P. GOENKA:

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

(a) whether India would be hosting the 2010 Commonwealth games;

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

(c) the details of the infrastructure that would be created for facilitating the holding of the games;

(d) the sources of the funds and the amount that would be spent for the purpose; and

(e) the details of authorities that oversee different activities connected with the hosting of the games?

**Setting up of NRI Olympic Support Committee**

455. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has decided to set up a wing as Non-resident Indian (NRI) Olympic Support Committee;

(b) if so, in what manner Government propose to involve NRIs Olympic Support Committee for the development of Indian sports; and

(c) whether there is any specific sports area where the Committee is expected to play its role?

NEW DELHI;  
The 25th February, 2005  
*Phalguna 6, 1926 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

## I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

<b>Prime Minister</b>	: --
<b>Agro and Rural Industries</b>	: 301, 302, 303, 304, 305,
<b>Atomic Energy</b>	: 306, 307, 308,
<b>Communications and Information Technology</b>	: 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344,
<b>External Affairs</b>	: 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370,
<b>Labour and Employment</b>	: 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383,
<b>Ocean Development</b>	: 384, 385, 386, 387, 403, 406, 412,
<b>Overseas Indian Affairs</b>	: 388, 389, 390, 391,
<b>Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions</b>	: 392, 393, 394, 395,
<b>Planning</b>	: 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402,
<b>Science and Technology</b>	: 404, 405, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411,
<b>Shipping, Road Transport and Highways</b>	: 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437,
<b>Small Scale Industries</b>	: 438, 439, 440, 441,
<b>Space</b>	: 442, 443,
<b>Statistics and Programme Implementation</b>	: 444, 445
<b>Youth Affairs and Sports</b>	: 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455.