

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITEEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, the May 3, 2002/Vaisakha 13, 1924 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Agriculture; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Environment and Forests;
Food Processing Industries; Human Resource Development; Ocean
Development; Railways; Science and Technology; Steel; Youth
Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions—127

Drought crisis in Gujarat

3946. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Gujarat is drought prone area; and
- (b) if so, the measures taken by Government to meet the crisis during drought period?

Committee for export of foodgrains

3947. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have set up an empowered Standing Committee in order to take expeditious decisions on matters relating to export of foodgrains so as to accelerate the export of foodgrains;
- (b) if so, who are the members of this committee;
- (c) whether the committee would hold regular meetings for interaction with exporters and their representative bodies on the 10th of every month; and
- (d) if so, to what extent setting up of this committee has been helpful in agricultural exports?

Availability and import of soft oils

3948. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the total availability of popular soya, sunflower and mustered oil has come down since the last year;
- (b) if so, whether India imported 18.40 lakh tonnes of soft oils in 2000-2001;
- (c) what were the total soft oils imported during the year 2001-2002;
- (d) what are the main reasons for increasing imports of soft oils; and
- (e) what efforts are being made to improve their production during 2002-2003?

Toning up of agricultural research

3949. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the scientists engaged in agricultural Research have alarmed Government about the production of foodgrains falling day by day;
- (b) if so, whether Government have taken any concrete steps to tone up agricultural research in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Agricultural production in UP

3950. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of centrally sponsored programmes formulated and being implemented by Government in Uttar Pradesh to increase agricultural production during the year 2001-2002;

(b) whether Government have fixed any target for increasing the agricultural production;

(c) if so, the details of achievements made in this respect; and

(d) the details of financial assistance granted to Uttar Pradesh for the purpose during this period?

Agricultural research in Andhra Pradesh

3951. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the average expenditure on agricultural research made by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether new varieties of crops were developed to increase food production in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Visit of Central team to hailstrom affected areas of M.P.

†3952. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that a Central team had visited hailstorm affected areas of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, when and who were members of the team;

(c) the areas visited by that team and its recommendations; and

(d) by when the affected farmers are going to get Central assistance?

Demand and production of wheat and rice

3953. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2772 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th April, 2002 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of wheat and rice in the country is in surplus of the demand; and

(b) if so, the production of wheat and rice during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 and the demand for the same?

Funds for Agricultural Universities and KVKs

3954. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the details of allocation of funds to various Agricultural Universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendras through various State Governments for the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002?

Researches on genetic structure in pulses

†3955. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR has demanded

additional funds from the Planning Commission for research to find out gene structure in pulses and other foodgrains and the effect of other genes in all other foodgrains; if so how much amount is required by the council for this purpose;

(b) whether the Ministry has held deliberations with the Planning Commission in this regard; and

(c) if so, the response from the Planning Commission received by the Ministry in this regard?

Central Agriculture University at Imphal

3956. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central Agriculture University has been established for the North Eastern States with principle Centre at Imphal, Manipur;

(b) if so, the progress of the university as on date; and

(c) the steps being taken for further improvement of the university?

DMS losses

3957. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that actual deficit and loss of D.M.S. is very high, if calculated on actual receipt and expenditure;

(b) if so, the details of the deficit and losses for the last two financial years, based on actual receipt and expenditure including due payments;

(c) whether it is a fact that mis-management and corruption is the main cause of losses; and

(d) if so, the details of corruption complaints and action taken thereon during the last two years?

Procurement policy for foodgrains

3958. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have once again shown inability to take the decision of putting a lid on procurement prices;

(b) whether Government have also over-ridden the recommendations of the Commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices and raised the Minimum Support Price for wheat;

(c) whether the CACP had suggested to trap the procurement price at last year's levels;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for not having fully acceptable procurement policy; and

(e) what are the main hindrances in formulating the successful procurement policy?

Drought assistance to Rajasthan

3959. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how much financial assistance has been given to Rajasthan to face drought and for drought relief work during 2000-2001;

(b) the number of Taluks in the State declared as drought affected during 2001-2002;

(c) the amount of additional grant sought for by the State Government;

(d) the reasons for not sanctioning the required amount; and

(e) whether it is a fact that Rs. 150 crore loan taken by the State Government from NABARD, is yet to be paid by it?

**Feed and fodder development in
Karnataka**

3960. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) the details of implementation of
Central sector and centrally sponsored
scheme of Feed and Fodder Development
and the amount released to Karnataka so
far; and

(b) whether the State Government has
requested the Centre for more funds for
2001-2002 and 2002-2003; if so, the details
thereof?

Encouraging agricultural research

†3961. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH
'LALAN':

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE
be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a need
to encourage agricultural research and
investigation in the country;

(b) if so, the details of annual percentage
of expenditure being incurred by
Government and private sector for
agricultural research and investigation;

(c) whether this amount is sufficient for
above work; and

(d) if not, the reaction of Government
thereto?

**Post-harvest marketing infrastructure
for agricultural products**

3962. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any
steps to develop the post-harvest marketing
infrastructure for agricultural products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would take any
steps to enhance the marketing of coconut
and coffee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Agriculture productivity in Adivasi
areas**

3963. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any
steps to raise the productivity of agriculture
in the Adivasi areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would
introduce any special 'credit scheme' for the
Adivasies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Allocation for farm research

3964. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will
the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased
to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the allocation
made for farm research is much lower in
comparison to the amount being spent in
other countries;

(b) whether the Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Agriculture had recommended
allocation of one per cent of the agriculture
gross domestic product for research and
education in the agricultural field;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the allocation being made in the field of research and education; and

(d) whether Government propose to increase the allocation during the Tenth Five Year Plan, with a view to achieve state-of-the-art technology, trained manpower, in areas like biotechnology, integrated techniques and information technology?

Subsidy on chemical fertilizers

†3965. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether Government are considering to give subsidy on chemical fertilizers, through other means in future;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any suggestion as to which type of subsidy may be given in future; and

(c) whether Government would consider the suggestions of common citizens in this regard?

Companies manufacturing chemical fertilizers and insecticide/pesticides

†3966. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the company-wise, production-wise, year-wise details of the companies manufacturing chemical fertilizers and insecticides/pesticides in the country; and

(b) whether it is a fact that our fertilizers and insecticides/pesticides have been rendered ineffective for new bio-technology being used for agriculture and seeds being provided by multinational companies?

Growth rate in pharma sector

3967. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pharma growth rate in 2001 was the lowest in a Decade;

(b) if so, whether the total retail sales increased by 9.7 per cent to Rs. 15534 crore in 2001, and the growth from calendar year 1992 onwards has always been in excess of 10 per cent;

(c) if so, what are the main reasons for the same; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to improve the Pharma growth in the year 2002?

Financial performance of fertilizer units

3968. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Group of Ministers has recommended closure of a large number of fertilizer units in the country;

(b) if so, the details of these units, the financial performance of each of them during the last three years and the number of workers employed by each of them; and

(c) whether there have been any arrears of wages and other statutory dues to the employees; if so, the details thereof?

Faulty construction at Paradeep fertilizer plant

3969. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

hundreds of workers are dying at Fertilizer Plant at Paradeep, due to faulty construction by the Oswal Company;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the Oswal Company is not following the health and safety rules, which are mandatory under the law; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure safety of workers, while working at Fertilizer Plant at Paradeep?

Distributorship of IPCL

3970. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. already had several chemical distributors in Mumbai, Delhi, Vapi and at several other places; and

(b) the reasons for offering distributorship again in those localities for Polymers, without maintaining proper procedures?

Violation of procedures in IPCL distributorships

3971. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) offered distributorship for polymers, without following prescribed procedures during the last two years; and

(b) the action proposed to enquire into the matter through the Vigilance Commissioner or the CBI?

Product patent regime for pharmaceuticals

3972. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the lobby of Indian pharmaceutical industry has sought extension of WTO deadline, to implement product patent regime in India;

(b) whether an option to extend the deadline was given at the Doha meet of the WTO to Least Developed Countries, whose health infrastructure and income could not bear the burden of expensive patented medicines; and

(c) whether India's per capita health spending is comparable with other Least Developed Countries and if so, whether Government would consider extending the WTO deadline till 2016, to implement the provisions of the TRIPS agreement?

Surplus land with Nangal Fertilizers Ltd.

†3973. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nangal Fertilizers Ltd., Nangal, District Hoshiyarpur, Punjab has still 2578 acres surplus land out of the land acquired in 1957-58, which should have been given back to the original owners thereof *i.e.*, Farmers, and

(b) if so, the progress made in this matter?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Pollution by generators in UP

† 3974. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that heavy pollution is being caused in UP by the smoke emitted by the use of generators on a large scale due to heavy load-shedding by the people ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that apprehensions of spreading of a number of deadly diseases among the people due to pollution have increased; and

(d) if so, what action Government are going to take in this regard?

Wasteland reclamation project in UP

3975. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether five wetlands in Uttar Pradesh, which are home to over 33 per cent of the endangered Sarus crane population, are being drained under a World Bank funded Wasteland Reclamation Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Worldlife Trust of India had been resisting the project; and

(d) if so, the details of the final decision taken?

Officers under Wildlife Protection Act

3976. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons that the officers of Central Excise, Customs, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Directorate General of Central Excise Intelligence are not being declared by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, as proper officers under the Wildlife Protection Act (1972), as it may greatly assist in the efforts for wildlife conservation; and

(b) whether there is any such proposal before Government at present?

Non-wood forest produce in Gujarat

3977. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state whether Government have received any proposal from the Gujarat Government regarding a project for sustainable management of non-wood forest produce?

Protection of wild life

3978. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have dissolved a high powered Committee which had been set up last year to suggest ways to preserve and promote wildlife health in the country;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the necessary steps to protect the life of wild animals, tigers in particular, from being poached or illegally hunted, have been found to be inadequate; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the steps formulated to implement various recommendations on protection of wild animals?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Trade of animal skins

3979. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):
DR. KARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report appearing in the Times of India dated the 19th March, 2002, captioned "E-auction of tiger skin raises a stink";

(b) if so, whether Government have inquired into the illegal trade in tiger and other animal skins; and

(c) if so, the details of the findings of the inquiries and investigations?

Monkeys in AIIMS compound

3980. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether monkeys have left their natural habitat due to massive depletion of green cover in South Delhi;

(b) whether trees in the AIIMS compound now give them a cover and there is always a danger of costly equipments getting damaged, with spreading fast infectious disease;

(c) whether the Ministry have received a detailed plan from some environmentalists early this year, to deal with the situation in a holistic manner; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to solve the problem on permanent footing?

Environmental health surveillance

3981. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Ninth Five Year Plan Sub Group had made a number of recommendations, aimed at effecting improvement in protection and promotion of environmental health, viz. creating and strengthening environmental health surveillance and support services in the Ministry of Health, compulsory introduction of environmental education and upgrading several public awareness programmes, which have remained almost unattended, so far; and

(b) if so, what were the detailed recommendations made in this regard and the steps taken on implementation of those recommendations?

Integrated afforestation in A.P.

3982. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central funds are being provided to Andhra Pradesh for integrated afforestation and eco development projects of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise and project-wise;

(c) whether these projects are providing the desired results; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

World Bank assisted forestry projects

†3983. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2015, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th December, 2001 and state:

(a) the district-wise details of 1217 Village Forest Committees constituted under World Bank aided forestry projects;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the number of training camps organised so far and at which places; and

(c) whether these Forest Committees have shared the benefit of funds received for protecting forests against fire and have been made to participate in such activities; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

(d) the amount spent by the Karnataka Government as its share, so far;

(e) which projects are proposed to be taken up during 2002-2003; and

(f) when the above project would come to an end?

NGOs in wildlife conservation in Rajasthan

3984. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Non-Governmental Organizations working in Rajasthan in the field of wildlife and nature conservation;

(b) whether the Rajasthan Government award any such organization every year; and

(c) whether any plan exists to guide such organizations, so that best results can be achieved in the field of wildlife conservation in the country?

Indo-Norwegian Environment Programme in Karnataka

3985. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) when the Indo-Norwegian Environment Programme in Karnataka was commenced;

(b) the details of the pilot projects in the environment field, taken up under the above programme;

(c) the amount of financial assistance received so far from Norwegian Government;

Forest cover in States

3986. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of forest cover in the country, State-wise;

(b) the total amount spent on afforestation by each State during the last three years;

(c) what is the actual revenue earned from the forest cover during the said period;

(d) whether Government have noticed any depletion of forest land due to encroachments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Pollution of water bodies

3987. SHRI B. S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 83 per cent of water bodies in our country are polluted;

(b) if so, the steps taken to rectify the abysmal state of water bodies;

(c) the details of water pollution prevention projects being undertaken with respect to Tamil Nadu; and

(d) the details of funds allocated to various projects with respect to Tamil Nadu?

Majuli Island as world heritage

3988. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the world heritage proposal of Majuli Island under cultural landscape category has been taken up with the Ministry of Tourism and Culture to complete the dossier preparation, well in time;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating dates of joint meetings held strategy and work schedule finalized, local co-ordinating agency entrusted, list of experts enlisted, field work done and achievement made, till date; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the details of action plan finalized to fulfil the requirement of UNESCO?

Conversion of saline wasteland in Etawah and Mainpuri

3989. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total project outlay for conversion of Saline Wasteland to agricultural land in Etawah and Mainpuri of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the source of projects fueling;

(c) whether it is a fact that the project, as per bird express would affect the habitat of Saras Cranes;

(d) the population of Saras Cranes and its percentage to World population; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is reviewing this project in view of a threat referred to in part (a) above?

Financial assistance for FPI

3990. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have provided any financial assistance for setting up of food processing industries in Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and North-Eastern States, during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the details of funds utilised on the setting up of food processing industries in those States during the small period; and

(d) what steps are being taken or are proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

Joining of duty by transferred teachers

†3991. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether inter-divisional transfer of suspended Kendriya Vidyalaya teachers can be made that too in public interest;

(b) if so, whether such a provision exists in this regard in the transfer guidelines;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any change in ongoing inquiry against any teacher are effected in such a situation; and

(e) whether such teachers have not so far been made to join their duties at new places, if so, the reasons therefor?

Education Bill

3992. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the article titled "Between the Lines : writes and wrongs in Education Bill", published in the Times of India dated 28th November, 2001;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) whether Government would make constitutional provisions to make it obligatory for Union Government for education of all the children in the age group of 0—18 years;
- (d) if so, the time-frame thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Computers compatible Sanskrit

3993. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to initiate new steps to make Sanskrit computer-compatible; and
- (b) if so, the details of steps proposed to be taken?

Schemes for betterment of women

† 3994. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that various schemes for betterment of women, being run by Government, have been confined only to the Ministry and on papers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details regarding the number of women benefited so far throughout the country from those schemes, State-wise and year-wise?

Ban on guide-books

† 3995. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to burden of education on students a psychic-like disease is spreading;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to radical increase in guide-books and guess question papers, students are lagging behind in getting knowledge; and

(c) if so, what measures Government are taking to ban such books and to attract students towards getting the complete knowledge?

Zero Development Science Authority

† 3996. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish a Zero Development Science Authority, as the right of using zero-based calculation method without using zero have been provided under the Copyright Act, 1999 through the Letter No. L-18402/99 dated the 24th June, 1999, so that world's precious heritage could be preserved; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to include astrology and information technology under it?

Relaxation of rules for transfer of KV teachers

3997. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the preceding three academic sessions, a good number of transfers of teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas had been ordered in relaxation/ violation of transfer guidelines by the Commissioner, with prior approval/ clearance of KVS Chairman;

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of vidyalayas, teacher-category and transfer guidelines clause relaxed/violated; and

(c) what has been the 'compassion' in each of the cases ordered thus?

Tagore's works as world heritage

3998. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that copyright on the works of Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore, India's famous Noble Laureate, which was vested in the Viswa Bharati University, expired on 31st December, 2001;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in order to prevent cheap commercialisation, plagiarism and distortion of Tagore's works, the Bengal Intelligentsia had appealed to the Union Government to ask the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to declare Tagore's works as world heritage; and

(c) the action, if any, taken in this regard?

Applications-based and vocational courses

3999. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UGC is encouraging applications-based courses and introducing some vocational courses from the ensuing sessions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far the courses would be helpful to solve the unemployment problem of the educated youths?

Malpractices by KV Principals of Jaipur and Kolkata Divisions

†4000. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN:
SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan/the Ministry has received complaints of malpractices against Principals of its Jaipur and Kolkata Divisions from MPs and local representatives of the people, during the last two years;

(b) if so, the vidyalaya-wise, Principal-wise and division-wise details thereof, including Naseerabad;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Assistant Commissioner, instead of punishing such Principals, shielded them and did not transfer them and the teachers, against whom these Principals, accused of committing malpractices, have made baseless complaints, have been transferred; and

(d) if so, the justification thereof?

Grants to Andhra Pradesh for Science education

4001. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided grants to Andhra Pradesh for improvement of Science education in schools of the State, during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;

(c) the number of schools covered; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Monitoring mechanism for deemed universities

4002. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of deemed universities in Tamil Nadu and other parts of the country, as on date;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of deemed universities has increased tremendously, during the recent years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the monitoring mechanism in terms of performance etc., followed by Government?

Appointment of retired officers as Inquiry Officers in KVS

4003. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether retired officers of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and other instrumentalities of Government Departments etc., can be appointed as Inquiry Officers in departmental enquiries initiated against KVS employees under CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965;

(b) if so, the details of such provisions/rules/instructions, etc.; and

(c) if not, the validity of enquiry-reports/enquiries conducted by such officers?

Physical Education Teachers in KVS

4004. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the norms for determining the number of Physical Education Teachers and Socially Useful Productive Work

(SUPW) teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas have recently been modified;

(b) if so, the details of the modification made; and

(c) the number of posts of Physical Education Teachers and Socially Useful Productive Work teachers of Bhopal Region retired in the Kendriya Vidyalayas of the region where they were declared surplus prior to these modifications, vidyalaya-wise?

Children and women under ICDS

4005. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of children and women below poverty line that are being covered under the ICDS;

(b) the number of children that were given nutritional food during the year 2001-2002;

(c) how many additional children would be given nutritional food during the year 2002-2003;

(d) how much additional funds would be spent to feed these children; and

(e) when would all the children of below poverty line families be given nutritional food?

De-jure recognition to KVS associations

4006. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of service associations of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, teaching and non-teaching employees, which had

been accorded *de-jure* recognition under CCS (Recognition of Service Association) Rules, 1994-95 or so;

(b) the details of membership-strength, alongwith percentage of each of these associations;

(c) whether any of these associations have since been derecognised; and

(d) if so, the details of each of such associations, alongwith the justification, if any, for such action?

Working women's hostels in Rajasthan

4007. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of working women's hostels in operation in Rajasthan, district-wise;

(b) the quantum of funds issued to the State Government under that head during the last three years;

(c) whether new hostels are likely to be set up in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Sanskrit education in Uttaranchal

† 4008. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sanskrit education still ranks first in Uttaranchal, as compared to that in any other State, and thousands of students from the countries like Nepal visit Haridwar, Rishikesh Vidyapeeth (Rudra Prayag) for acquiring knowledge in Sanskrit language; and

(b) whether Government would promote Sanskrit education by recognising and developing a school located at one of those three places, as Central Sanskrit School; if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Women's welfare schemes in Rajasthan

4009. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of women's welfare schemes under implementation;

(b) the details of NGOs in Rajasthan, getting grants from Government for the welfare of women;

(c) what is the criteria for granting such grants; and

(d) what are Government's observations on the performance of NGOs in implementing welfare schemes in that State?

Kendriya Vidyalayas in Rajasthan

4010. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number and details of Kendriya Vidyalayas opened so far in Rajasthan and the locations thereof, district-wise;

(b) which districts in the State are devoid of the facility of Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(c) whether Government have any plans to open Kendriya Vidyalayas in different parts of Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Appointment of teachers in Navodaya Vidyalayas

4011. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the procedures adopted to appoint teachers in Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) whether vacancies are filled up locally in every State;

(c) the procedures to improve the infrastructure including buildings of these schools; and

(d) how many such vidyalayas are there in Assam and how many of them have satisfactory infrastructure including buildings?

Computer education in schools

†4012. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme was introduced by Government in the past for imparting computer education in Government schools;

(b) if so, when this scheme was introduced; and

(c) what is the total number of students, in whose respect arrangements have been made to impart computer education and what are the names of States and the number of students, for which this scheme is meant?

Work order to EDCIL by KVS

4013. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that EDCIL, Noida

has been given yet another work order by KVS, for recruiting teachers, despite the indictment by CVC in the earlier exercise; and

(b) if so, the reasons and justifications, if any, therefor?

Transfer of suspended KVS employees

4014. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether suspended employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan can be transferred including inter-regionally;

(b) if so, the details of such provisions in transfer guidelines;

(c) whether the ongoing departmental enquiries against such employees are also transferred to new regions of their postings; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not allowing them to join there by the Assistant Commissioner, Bhopal Region early this month?

Consultations with States for revision of curriculum

4015. SHRI N. K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any established procedure exists or is expected to be followed by NCERT before revising the curriculum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments were formally consulted before arriving at a decision;

(d) if so, whether the suggestions raised therein have been included while finalizing the new curriculum;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) whether Government sought the views of educational experts on the review of curriculum frame work; and

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

Schemes for Women and Children

4016. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names and the details of schemes being implemented for development of women and children at present;

(b) the funds allocated for the same during the last three years; and

(c) the number of women and children benefited by these schemes during this period?

Change in education system

4017. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the education system of our country needs such changes that the universities imbibe values of humanism among students;

(b) if so, the details of steps being taken in this direction; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Right to use zero based calculation method

†4018. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had issued a notification for granting the right of using zero based calculation method without using zero, under the Copyright Act *vide* No. 18402/99 dated the 24th June, 1999;

(b) if so, whether Government would place a copy of the same on the Table of the House;

(c) the countries in which the rights under the International Copy Right Order, 1999 are applicable;

(d) whether anyone can use this Indian intellectual property on the international level without permission;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, what steps Government have taken to save it protected intellectual property?

Pollution level on Indian Coasts

†4019. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pollution level at Indian Coasts is increasing and whether Government have conducted survey to check it;

(b) if so, the details and the results thereof;

(c) whether industrial waste from foreign countries is being poured into the sea near Indian Coasts; and

(d) if so, the names of the countries which have been doing so during the last three years and the preventive steps being taken by Government in this regard?

Expeditions by Ministry of Ocean Development

4020. PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has undertaken any expedition during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether it has achieved any major breakthroughs in its expeditions during that period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Rail over-bridge at Kadipikonda

4021. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA
RAO:

SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA
RAO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a demand for the last four decades for a rail over-bridge at Kadipikonda in Warangal, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether thousands of people took out a rally in February, 2002, for construction of the over-bridge;

(c) if so, the action proposed in the matter; and

(d) the allocation made therefor, during this budget?

Quantum of rail freight

†4022. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quantum of freight being carried by trains in the country is decreasing continuously;

(b) if not, the percentage of the total freight carried by the Railways in the country during 1990-1991; and

(c) the percentage thereof in the year 2000-2001 and the reasons for continuous decrease?

Bunglings in tenders for railway works in Malaysia and Indonesia

†4023. SHRI JANESHWAR
MISHRA: Will the Minister of
RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Malaysia and Indonesia have signed agreements with the Ministry of Railways for improvement of their railway systems; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Theft of goods of rail passengers

4024. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ:
DR. DASARI NARAYANA
RAO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that loss on account of theft of goods, including luggage of passengers, is consistently increasing over Indian Railways, particularly in Southern, South-Central and South-Eastern Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise and Railway Zone-wise; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to prevent this loss?

Training of Railway officers abroad

†4025. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway officers are sent abroad for training by the Ministry;

(b) if so, whether representation of Backward Classes/Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes is kept in view, while making nominations for such training;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of officers sent for training by the Ministry, during the last five years?

Construction work at Habibganj railway station

†4026. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the construction work at Habibganj railway station of Bhopal is likely to be completed, as per the original project; and

(b) whether any time-period has been fixed for the same?

Corporatisation of Railways

4027. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rakesh Mohan Committee's recommendation to corporatise the Railways has been rejected by the Ministry of Railways;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(c) whether the expert group has suggested conversion of Indian Railways into an Indian Railway Corporation, if the Railways were to improve their financial and service performance; and

(d) if so, what other steps the Railway have taken to improve the financial and Service performance?

Plying of Bhopal-Durg Amarkantak Express

†4028. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received some representations from commuters for daily plying of Bhopal-Durg Amarkantak Express (8253/8254) *via* Jabalpur, and Rajkot-Jabalpur Express (1269/1270) trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have considered these representations;

(d) if so, by when Government have decided to run these trains everyday; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Angul-Dubri-Sukinda Road rail project in Orissa

4029. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether location survey on Angul-Dubri-Sukinda Road rail project in Orissa has been completed and survey report has been submitted; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure expeditious completion of land acquisition for the project?

Outlay for Railways

4030. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have urged the Union Government to provide a Rs. 14,000 crore outlay for the year 2002-2003;

(b) if so, what are the main projects on which the Railways are likely to utilise this amount;

(c) whether the Union Government have agreed to provide this amount; and

(d) if so, to what extent the Railways would complete the projects that are pending for long?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Safety norms for rail passengers

4031. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has issued directions to the Railways for strict implementation of safety norms for travelling passengers;

(b) if so, what is preventing the Railways to implement such norms recommended by various Railway Accident Enquiry Committees; and

(c) by when such guidelines/norms would be followed for safe travel?

Unmanned railway crossings in Orissa

4032. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of unmanned railway crossings in Orissa;

(b) the number of such unmanned railway crossings on which Government propose to construct over-bridges/sub-ways during the current financial year; and

(c) the fresh steps taken to reduce the number of accidents on unmanned railway crossings?

Railway projects in Kerala

4033. SHRI N. K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how the projects being implemented by the Railways in Kerala, for gauge conversion, doubling, multiple lines, new alignments, electrification, modernisation of Signalling, are ongoing and the details thereof;

(b) how many among those are expected to be completed during the current year; and

(c) whether the work of any ongoing projects has been discontinued or delayed due to the financial crunch?

Places without rail link

4034. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of various district headquarters and important places, still not linked with rail lines;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether Government would make such an assessment;

(c) whether Government have received any proposal in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Shyamsundar-Chanchai rail line

4035. SHRI GANDHI AZAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the final location survey work on the Shyamsundar-Chanchai new rail line as a material modification to the ongoing Bankura Damodar River Railway Gauge conversion Project has been completed;

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

(c) if not, what are the reasons for the delay; and

(d) by when the Shyamsundar-Chanchai Halt is likely to be completed?

Retail rail ticketing in A.P.

4036. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing any action plan to proliferate retail rail ticketing and for improvement in customer services at railway counters and stations in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Doubling of Ghaziabad-Moradabad rail line

†4037. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of Ghaziabad-Moradabad section of rail line, in which year the foundation stone was laid and the work started for its conversion into double line;

(b) how many kilometers of double line has been laid by December, 2001; and

(c) the time likely to be taken to lay double line in the remaining part?

Railway projects in Iraq

4038. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects which were to be executed by the Railways in Iraq in 2001-2002;

(b) the number of projects pending at the stage of negotiations with the Government of Iraq;

(c) the action being taken by the Railways for completion of projects and the details of negotiations going on;

(d) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to stop executing all the projects, till the situation in the Gulf dissipated; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Operating cost of Railways

†4039. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the operating cost of the Railways is increasing continuously for the last few years;

(b) if so, what has been the annual growth rate in the operating cost during the decade of nineties;

(c) whether there is a difference in operating cost for freight and passengers carried by the trains; and

(d) if so, what is the average difference and if not, the reasons therefor?

Development of Rail signalling system by an artisan

†4040. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Sawatantra Bharat, a news-paper of Bihar, on the 7th July, 2001, under the caption "Mamooli Karigar ne banai nai surakshit signal pranali";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to encourage such talent?

Safe Coaches for rail passengers

†4041. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway Board has sought advice of coach building factories, companies to make coaches full of facilities and safe for the passengers;

(b) if so, whether, on this basis the railway workshops and coach manufacturing companies of all the nine Divisions have displayed their improved/ altered rail coaches, and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details of the features found appropriate and by when they are likely to be put in use?

Palace on Wheels on Nagpur-Jabalpur stretch

4042. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that South Eastern Railway proposes to introduce a luxurious train on the pattern of Palace on Wheels to traverse the Nagpur-Jabalpur stretch taking the travellers through chhindwara, Seonic, Nainpur and Manda overseeing the sylvan beauty of Satpura range; and

(b) if so, when the proposed train is like to be introduced alongwith its likely fare and the broad features for the benefit of tourists?

Contract between IRCON and Government of Malaysia

4043. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IRCON has entered into a contract with the Government of Malaysia for a project worth Rs. 5000 crores for doubling the track and electrification of a stretch in Malaysia;

(b) if so, the details of the project, the time within which it has to be completed the length of the track to be doubled and the length of the track to be electrified;

(c) whether there is enforcement clause in the contract; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Trains during summer vacations

†4044. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the number of trains or to run more trains in the country during the summer vacations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what other special arrangement for trains is being made for the convenience of passengers?

More facilities in trains

†4045. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to provide more facilities in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof and in which trains more facilities are proposed to be provided; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Construction of ROB and RUBs

4046. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of rail over-bridges (ROBs), rail under-bridges (RUBs) proposed to be constructed during this year;

(b) the number of proposals received from the Tamil Nadu Government in this regard, during the last five years; and

(c) the details of ROB and RUBs constructed and pending during the last five years?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Extension of rail line from Dhansiri to Karong

4047. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a project for extension of rail line from Dhansiri, Assam to Karong in Manipur;

(b) whether funds for the project have been reflected in the Railway Budget; and

(c) the fate of the project, as on date?

Contractors at Ambala Railway Station

4048. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names and other details of contractors of catering /vending, bookstalls, miscellaneous articles, fruit juices, etc. functioning at Ambala Cantt. Railway Station, in Northern Railway; and

(b) the platform-wise details of stalls, trollies, trays and vendors/hawkers, sanctioned to each contractor at the above station?

Compensation for rail accidents

4049. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to augment the security of passengers of Indian Railways;

(b) whether compensation to victims of rail accidents has been increased; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Land levy charges to KRC by Maharashtra

4050. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has asked the Konkan Railway Corporation to pay the levy on land under its track and use;

(b) whether KRC has been served notices by two district collectorates in the State, to pay the land levy charges, for using land for non-agricultural purposes;

(c) whether KRC has been getting tax relief from the Karnataka Government, since 1992; and

(d) if so, whether the Central Government would intervene in the matter and sort out the things amicably?

Modas-Kapadvanj rail line

†4051. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Modas - Kapadvanj rail line in Gujarat, figured in the last year's Budget, has since been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not starting rail services on that rail line, so far; and

(d) by when Government propose to start Modasa-Vadodara rail service?

Sharing the cost of railway projects

4052. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have urged the State Government to share the cost of Railway Projects in their areas to facilitate early completion;

(b) if so, the reaction of the State Governments in this regard;

(c) whether the Railways have assessed the requirement of funds for completion of various projects;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 (e) the details of other steps taken or proposed to be taken to mobilise funds for its various projects?

Pantry car for 2646 express train

4053. SHRI J.CHITHARANJAN:
 SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 2646 Nizamuddin-Ernakulam Millenium Express running once a week, does not have a pantry car and the coaches are generally in bad condition, without having proper lights in toilets;

(b) whether Government are aware of the difficulties being faced by the passengers travelling with families in this long distance train, in getting tea, snacks and food; and

(c) if so, whether Government would take immediate steps to provide pantry car and coaches of good condition to this train, especially when the summer days are ahead?

Loss from tourist trains

4054. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have suffered huge financial losses on account of its tourists trains, during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the formula adopted by the Railways on sharing ratio with State Tourism Departments has not proved profitable for them; and

(d) if so, the plans formulated to check losses in tourist trains?

Direct rail route between Gadag and Bangalore

4055. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether direct train facilities between Gadag and Bangalore are available;

(b) if not, whether Railways have received any request from the Karnataka Government to provide a direct rail route between Gadag and Bangalore; and

(c) if so, whether Government would take steps to provide the same?

Return tickets from Jaipur to Sawai Madhopur

†4056. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether it is a fact that rail tickets for Jaipur to Sawai Madhopur in Superfast trains are issued from Sawai Madhopur but the tickets for Jaipur to Sawai Madhopur are not issued; if so, the reasons therefor and by when it would started to be issued?

Rail routes in States

4057. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total rail route kilometer covered in different States, State-wise and gauge-wise;

(b) the names of express trains having both the points of origination and termination in the same State, State-wise; and

(c) the rail projects under consideration in Orissa and their route length?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Licence fee/royalty for railway book-stalls

4058. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of licence fee/royalty fixed per annum to be recovered from unemployed graduates category bookstall contractors on each Zonal Railway, Division-wise; and

(b) what is the amount of licence fee/royalty fixed per annum to be recovered from all other bookstall contractors, except A.H. Wheelers Company on each Zonal Railway Division?

Letters of All India association of SC/ST to the Railways

4059. SHRI GANDHI AZAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of letters sent from 16th April, 2001, till date, by the All India Association for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes & Physically Handicapped People's Upliftment (R), to the Minister of Railways/Secretary by post/registered post;

(b) the details of demands raised in these letters and the action taken by the Department;

(c) what action has been taken, thereon;

(d) the reasons for not replying till now; and

(e) by when action on demands would be taken?

Crime and robberies in Trains

4060. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crime and robberies in running trains are increasing gradually;

(b) how many such cases have been reported during the last year;

(c) the number of cases which have been solved; and

(d) what steps are being taken to tighten security in trains?

Research on flowers in Tamil Nadu

4061. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the abundant growth of Jasmine and other flowers in Madurai and Ranned districts of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, whether any bio-technological research has been conducted to improve the growth of such flowers and also by proposing to set up a research centre, at a suitable location in that State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

S&T infrastructure in Universities

4062. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched funds for improvement of science and technology infrastructure in Universities and higher educational institutions/programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such facility has been extended to universities in Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Technology parks for women

4063. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have decided to set up more technology parks for women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total number of parks proposed to be set up in the country, State-wise;
- (d) the details of technologies that are exhibited in these parks; and
- (e) the total amount sanctioned and spent for the scheme?

Centre for Research and Development of Information Products

4064. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Centre for Research and Development of Information Products, a constituent establishment of Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, is receiving data from organisations, including that of CSIR;
- (b) if so, the names and addresses of above organisations, with nature of data, for the last three years;
- (c) the amount of money paid for contributing above data to each organisations, year-wise, during the same period;
- (d) the details of information, products released by the Centre, during the same period; and
- (e) the budget allocated and the number of staff working in the Centre during the same period, year-wise, category-wise?

Advanced Study and Research Centres for Astronomy

†4065 SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Advanced Study and Research Centres for Astronomy in the country and the locations thereof;
- (b) whether any research on Supernova or Kweak is going on in any of those centres; and
- (c) if so, what sort of assistance is being provided by Government to those centres?

Researches on human cloning

†4066. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any research on human cloning is going on in the country;
- (b) if not, whether Government have received any proposal, so far, from any university or research institute, to conduct research on this subject; and
- (c) if not, whether Government propose to initiate any research project on this much-discussed scientific subject?

Losses of VSP

4067. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Vizag Steel Plant is facing the bleak prospect of being declared a sick unit;
- (b) if so, for how long this plant has been incurring losses;
- (c) whether any inquiry has been conducted into this loss;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether, according to the report, the company has started incurring profit during 2001-2002;

(e) if so, to what extent; and

(f) what steps are being taken to further improve its working and profitability?

NGOs under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

4068. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any NGOs working under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for the success of its programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the criteria for recognition of NGOs; and

(d) what are the function of such NGOs?

Revamping Arjuna Awards Scheme

4069. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI R.P. GOENKA:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2920, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th April, 2002 and state:

(a) the highlights of major changes made especially those aimed at achieving greater transparency in selection procedures, to restore credibility in the Arjuna Awards Scheme, in view of the recent controversies on reported colourable exercise of official discretion;

(b) whether the Selection Committee under this policy to choose awardees would now be headed by an eminent sports person; and

(c) how the new process of selecting awardees compares with some other well known International models on sporting awards for excellence, like the annual Laureus World Sports Awards, which recognise sporting excellence around the globe?

New Award Scheme for sports

† 4070. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to institute any award, other than the Arjuna Award, for life-long contribution in sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when such new award would be instituted?

Cricket ties with Pakistan

4071. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to revive cricket ties with Pakistan, as a first step to improve relations with that country, as suggested, of late, by Pakistan President;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any bilateral or multilateral games or matches have been planned; if so, the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Assistance to States for stadia

Head Quarters, in various States, to promote sports;

4072. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any funds have been provided
to various States for the purpose; and

(a) whether Government provide funds
for construction of sports stadia in District

(d) if so, the details thereof during the
last three years?

NEW DELHI;
The 27th April, 2002
Vaisakha 7, 1924 (Saka)

R.C. TRIPATHI,
Secretary-General.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

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