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RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Monday, the March 4, 2002/Phalguna 13, 1923 (Saka)

(Ministries: Development of North-Eastern Region; Disinvestment; Health and Family Welfare; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Information and Broadcasting; Law, Justice and Company Affairs; Shipping; Social Justice and Empowerment; Tribal Affairs; Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation)

Total number of questions—155

Disinvestment of fertilizer industries

- 311. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to disinvest some of the fertilizer industries:
 - (b) if so, the details of such units;
- (c) whether it will have some effect on the farmers enjoying subsidies; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Privatisation of Ashoka Beach Resort, Kovalam, Kerala

- 312. SHRI C. O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any decision has been taken towards privatisation of Ashoka Beach Resort at Kovalam, Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor:

- (c) whether it is a fact that the year 1992 has been fixed for evaluating the properties of ITDC;
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government have made any assessment of the increase in the price of real estate during 1992—2002; and
 - (f) if so, the details thereof?

PSUs under review for disinvestment

- 313. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of public sector undertakings under review for disinvestment, togetherwith details of the present status of each; and
- (b) the number of undertakings owned by different States being brought under the purview of privatisation during the next financial year?

Achievement of target of disinvestment

314. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN: SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the target fixed for disinvestment of public sector undertakings for the year 2001-2002 has been achieved;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the public sector undertakings chosen for disinvestment during the year 2002-2003 and the target fixed for each of the units and how much is expected to be generated through disinvestment?

Disinvestment of MFIL

315. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN: SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of DISINVEST-MENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to off-load the remaining 26 per cent Government stake in the Modern Foods Industries Limited (MFIL);
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the BIFR to which the company was referred last year as a sick company has not announced its verdict as yet; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons for delay?

Performance of disinvestment

316. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of DISINVEST-MENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government's record in meeting disinvestment targets has been dismal since it was launched in the year 1991-92;
- (b) if so, the target fixed every year and the actual achievement since 1991-92;
- (c) the reasons for failure to meet the targets; and
- (d) whether Government propose to review the disinvestment policy being followed so far in view of the dismal record in meeting the targets?

Exclusion of Hotel Samrat from disinvestment list

- 317. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have, of late, decided to exclude Hotel Samrat from disinvestment list;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether a part of the building would be leased to house the offices of Intelligence Bureau?

Disinvestment of VSNL

- 318. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have disinvested their shares in VSNL;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the profits after tax and dividend paid by the company during the last three years, year-wise;
- (d) the price range of VSNL shares quoted in stock market during sale;
- (e) the share prices of VSNL in February-March, 2000;

- (f) whether it is also a fact that Government decided to prepone the ending of VSNL monoply over international telephony in 2002 contrary to the agreement reached in WTO telecom services negotiations; and
- (g) if so, to what extent this affected the sale proceeds of VSNL shares?

Method of valuation of VSNL

- 319. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have disinvested their shares in VSNL:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the method of valuation adopted and the reserve price arrived at by each of these methods;
- (d) the global advisor and other expert agencies involved;
- (e) whether the successful bidder company will be given a bridge loan to finance the purchase; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which this loan will be repaid?

Restructuring in PSUs

- 320. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have exhausted all options of running the public sector undertakings efficiently and reached the conclusion that these should be sold;
- (b) if so, the options that were examined; and

(c) whether Government have examined restructuring the manpower framework in the public sector to provide greater flexibility to the management for achieving greater productivity and efficiency?

Achievement of disinvestment target

- 321. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the amount, out of the anticipated disinvestment target of Rs. 12,000 crores during 2001-2002 which has been realised during first nine months from 1st April to 31st December, 2001;
- (b) the number of disinvested PSUs contributed towards this amount and the percentage of target which has been fulfilled; and
- (c) how Government propose to achieve 100 per cent achievement till 31st March, 2002 and from how many more PSUs?

Disinvestment of PPL

- 322. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have never tried the financial restructuring of PPL or provided any financial package for the plant before disinvestment;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor:
- (c) whether it is also a fact that disinvestment of PPL to the tune of 74 per cent alongwith transfer of management control would affect adversely the employees' interest; and
- (d) if so, the details of measures taken to safeguard the employees' interest?

Disinvestment of ITDC Hotels

- 323. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have taken any step to disinvest the hotels under ITDC;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the list of hotels which are to be given to private parties and the details of the bids received, so far: and
- (d) the details of the total amount collected thorugh disinvestment of ITDC Hotels?

Participation of Companies in disinvestment Process

- †324. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that entire procedure of disinvestment is in limbo let alone the achievement of target set for disinvestment;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that foreign companies as well as other companies interested in disinvestment are trying to avoid consistently to participate in the process of disinvestment in India; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Disinvestment of MUL

- 325. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Maruti Udyog Limited (MUL) has shown a net profit of Rs. 30 crores in the first half of

- 2001-2002, despite posting losses of Rs. 269 crores in the preceding year, the first ever in 17 years; and
- (b) if so, the steps being taken to speed up the process of disinvestment of Maruti Udyog Ltd., to secure good price for the company?

Concept of 'golden share' in disinvestment programme

- 326. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is a proposal to introduce the concept of 'golden share' in a limited fashion in the disinvestment programme of having one Government director representing the board of VSNL in perpetuity post-privatisation, even if it holds one share in the company; and
- (b) if so, the details of the proposal with specific rights and advantages sought to be attached to the "one-share-one director" clause?

Bids for HTL

- 327. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have invited financial bids for the Hindustan Teleprinters Limited;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Government have also finalised the list of 13 companies which will be disinvested during the financial year;
- (c) if so, the names of these companies; and
- (d) by when they are likely to be disinvested?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Disinvestment of VSNL

- 328. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the disinvestment of VSNL is over:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof:
- (c) whether VSNL was split into two separate companies before disinvestment;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Disinvestment of HCI

329. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state the details of the status of process of disinvestment of HCI?

Time-bound programme for disinvestment of HPCL and BPCL

- 330. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the names of the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) which are likely to be disinvested during the next one year;
- (b) the names of PSUs in whose favour the bids/expression of interest have already been received with the names of PSUs and their bidders:
- (c) whether Government have formulated any time-bound programme to disinvest Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

News-item "AIIMS lab has unfit but experienced staff"

331. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

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

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "AIIMS lab has unfit but experienced staff," which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated the 22nd January, 2002;
- (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) the measures proposed to be adopted to correct this deficiency and to address other problems mentioned in the news-item?

Criteria for appointing local chemists

332. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA: SHRI GANDHI AZAD:

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

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "CGHS Ayurvedic Store Depot-Attention Ayurvedic and Unani Chemist", which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated 14th October, 2001;
- (b) the names of Ayurvedic and Unani local Chemists who are dealing in only Ayurvedic and Unani medicines for sending their tenders for supply of medicines in Delhi/New Delhi/Gurgaon;
- (c) the criteria fixed for appointing the local chemists; and
- (d) the names of local chemists appointed for supply of medicines to the CGHS dispensaries, dispensary-wise?

Vacancy of Medical Superintendent in CGHS Ayurvedic Hospital, Aliganj

333. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA: SHRI GANDHI AZAD:

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

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Lala Ram Swaroop T. B. Hospital in OPD Block Banane ke Nirdesh", which appeared in the Nav Bharat Times, dated 17th November, 2001:
- (b) whether he visited CGHS Ayurvedic Hospital at Aliganj, New Delhi;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) since when the post of Medical Superintendent is lying vacant; and
- (e) by when Government propose to appoint a regular Medical Superintendent in the above said hospital alongwith his/her name as promised by him?

AIDS virus in Delhi

- 334. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Delhi is affected by AIDS virus;
- (b) if so, the number of affected people in Delhi;
- (c) whether Government are aware that a majority of those found having AIDS were from the elite or the affluent section and HIV prevalence rate among general population was 0.25 per cent; and
- (d) the percentage of TB prevalence among general population in Delhi and which—TB or AIDS, should get priority to control the measures?

Privatisation of Safdarjung Hospital

335. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to privatise a pioneer institution, namely Safdarjung Hospital which is the only institution for getting medical treatment for poor and depressed families;
- (b) if so, the compelling reasons for doing so;
- (c) what are Government's plans to make available treatment for the poor and depressed families in these hard days; and
- (d) the circumstances under which the monthly payment of patient care allowance in toto was denied to the employees of Safdarjung Hospital?

Tea breaks in CGHS dispensary, Janakpuri

- 336. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that both medical and para-medical staff at CGHS dispensary, B-Block, Janakpuri take at least two tea breaks of half-an-hour daily;
- (b) if so, whether such breaks cause avoidable inconvenience to the beneficiaries;
- (c) whether they are allowed for such tea breaks; and
- (d) if not, whether Government would issue necessary instructions to the CMO of the dispensary to stop such breaks?

Availability of doctors in CGHS dispensary, Janakpuri

- 337. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of doctors posted at CGHS dispensary No. 74, B-block, Janakpuri;
- (b) whether it is a fact that only two doctors are available on a day in this dispensary;
 - (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the number of doctors' as per the norm, that should be present on a day in that dispensary; and
- (e) the action Government propose to take to ensure that adequate number of doctors are present in the dispensary so that beneficiaries are not forced to wait for long period?

Guidelines for indenting of medicines

- 338. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of extant guidelines regarding indenting of medicines prescribed by specialists in CGHS dispensaries;
- (b) whether the doctors in the dispensaries can give susbtitutes of even scheduled/life saving drugs prescribed by specialists;
 - (c) if so, the details in this regard;
- (d) whether Macoxplus can be substituted with Rcinex; if so, the details of the constituents of the two medicines; and
- (e) if not, the action taken to stop this practice so that the life of beneficiaries is not jeopardised?

Achievement under Blindness Control Programme

- 339. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMA-CHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of blind persons (men, women and children) in the country as on date, State-wise:
- (b) the number of blind persons increased/decreased during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) the funds allocated by Government for Blindness Control Programme aimed at bringing the prevalence down to 0.3 per cent by 2000 AD; and
- (d) the achievement, so far, under this programme?

Demand of expertise in Indian Systems of Medicine

- 340. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received demands from other countries for the expertise in Indian Systems of Medicine:
 - (b) if so, the list of such countries;
- (c) the worth (in Rs.) of medicines exported in 2000-01;
- (d) the number of experts deputed for teaching and training; and
- (e) if any bilateral agreement/understanding exists for this purpose?

Trauma centres in Government Hospitals

- 341. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of trauma centres available in different Central Government Hospitals in the country, as on today;
- (b) whether any such facility is available at State or private hospitals and a list of such centres; and
- (c) what amount has been sanctioned to AIIMS for opening such a centre and when it is expected to be opened?

Birth and death rate in Orissa

- 342. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is fact that both the birth rate and death rate are high in Orissa in comparison to the national average;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government have taken any special measures to bring the State figure down to the national average; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Infant mortality rate in Orissa

- 343. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the infant mortality rate in Orissa is one of the highest in the world;
- (b) whether Government have studied the reasons for this sorry state of affair;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that few pockets of Orissa are high in infant mortality rate than some parts;

- (d) if so, whether Government have identified the pockets which are very high in infant mortality rate in Orissa as well as in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, districtwise?

CGHS Dispensaries/Units

- 344. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of CGHS Dispensaries/Units of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy working in the country;
- (b) the date of opening of each dispensary/unit, location-wise and system-wise; and
- (c) the sanctioned strength of medical/ para-medical staff for each of such dispensaries/units and staff actually posted?

Nursing Colleges in Rajasthan

- 345. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Nursing Colleges functioning, at present, in the State of Rajasthan, district-wise;
- (b) whether Government propose to set up any new Nursing College specially for those living in far-flung areas of the State;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Malnutrition and related diseases

346. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that malnutrition problem and related diseases are increasing in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to eradicate such problems?

Maintenance of essential equipments in RML Hospital

- 347. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether serious lapses in the maintenance of essential equipments in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital came to light in the wake of attack on Parliament on December 13, 2001;
 - (b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;
- (c) whether CT Scanner and other important machines were out of order when the victims of the terrorists attack were taken there for treatment; and
 - (d) if so, the details therefor?

Dental Colleges

348. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Dental Colleges in the country as on the 1st July, 2001; State-wise;
- (b) the number of colleges which have not been recognised by Dental Council of India, State-wise;
- (c) the names and number of Dental Colleges whose applications for recognition

are pending in the DCI from States of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh;

- (d) whether it is a fact that students of one of the Dental Colleges in Haryana have gone to the Court for recognition of their college in Rohtak; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Hierarchy of pay scales for Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists

- 349. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the hierarchy of pay scales for Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists in relation to ACP Scheme, as recommended by Fifth Central Pay Commission;
- (b) whether the same has been implemented in Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and Kalawati Saran Children's Hospital in respect of Occupational Therapists, Sr. Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists and Sr. Physiotherapists and Lecturers in Physiotherapy and Occupational therapy;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Compulsory HIV/AIDS tests before marriage

- 350. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether his Ministry is considering any proposal to make HIV/AIDS test compulsory before marriage in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Illegal foetus testing machines

- †351. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that many foetus testing machines are being operated without any licence;
- (b) if so, whether Government are considering to take any specific steps to check this; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Medical facilities for psycho-patients

- †352. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that adequate attention is not being paid towards medical facilities for psycho-patients in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government will seriously consider to provide adequate facilities to them; and
- (c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Confiscation of ultrasound machines in unlicensed clinics

- 353. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed the State Governments to confiscate ultrasound machines being used to determine the sex of foetus in clinics run without licences; and
- (b) if so, the number of such ultrasound machines seized and sealed in each State?

Kidney trade in Karnataka

- 354. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that kidney trade is still flourishing in Karnataka especially in Bangalore City, where a recipient has to pay between Rs. 90,000/- to 1 lakh for a kidney and the donor gets only Rs. 40,000/- and remaining amount is pocketed by the middlemen;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases detected last year; and
- (c) the action Government have taken to arrest the illegal trade of kidney in that State?

Increase in patients due to costly treatment

- †355. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that nowadays due to not much difference in conditions of Government Hospitals and Private Hospitals, poor people are not able to get treatment as a result of which the number of patients is increasing constantly;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that concessions being given by his Ministry have been discontinued; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Prohibition on smoking

- 356. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the last meeting held by his Ministry with regard to prohibition on smoking following the directives of the Supreme Court:
- (b) the number of persons who violated the directives of the Supreme Court;
- (c) the action taken against such persons; and
- (d) the monitoring mechanism followed by his Ministry to take stern steps for not following such directives?

Harassment by Drug Inspectors

- 357. SHRI CHO. S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that many drug and drug related importers are being harassed by Drug Inspectors posted with the customs and their imports are delayed;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that they are insisting on production of Bank Guarantee instead of Letter of Guarantee as per the provisions of the Drug and Cosmetics Act;
- (c) if so, how many imports have been delayed due to such harassment; and
- (d) the steps being taken to bring such officials to book and action initiated against them?

Irregularities in purchase of drugs

358. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem "Central Body doctored drugs purchase norm" which appeared in the 'Times of India', dated 28th January, 2002;
 - (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) the steps taken to identify the reasons for such large scale irregularities in the purchase of drugs and to fix responsibility therefor;
- (d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to punish the guilty; and
- (e) how Government propose to compensate the victims of sub-standard drugs purchased from unregistered, unqualified and black-listed firms and supplied to CGHS beneficiaries?

Credit facilities for treatment of CGHS employees in private hospitals

- 359. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have recently decided to introduce credit facilities for treatment of C.G.H.S. employees in private hospitals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and list of private hospitals included for the purpose;
- (c) whether the beneficiaries include freedom fighters, pensioners, former M.Ps., besides the in-service officers;
- (d) whether under the revised scheme, the beneficiaries will be entitled to go to the private hospitals for treatment directly without being referred by the respective dispensary which is not practicable in emergencies; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Popularization of Indian Systems of Medicine

- 360. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the steps being taken by Government for popularization of Homoeopathic, Ayurvedic and Yoga Systems of medicine in all Government hospitals and dispensaries in the country; and
 - (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

Action against sex clinic mafias

- 361. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Supreme Court has recently issued orders to State Governments to crack down on illegal ultrasound clinics/laboratories and wanted to shutdown these "Sex Clinic Mafia" making profit from illegal business;
- (b) whether it is a fact that cases of female foeticide, female infanticide, sex selective abortions and sex selection of embryos are on the rise all over the country; and
- (c) if so, what concrete steps Government propsoe to take to ensure that State Governments urgently implement the Supreme Court directive to stop these clinics openly advertising their 'specialization' of sex-determination tests in public places?

Blind persons in the country

- 362. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the estimates published in the latest issue of the National Medical Journal of India reflect that 18.7

- million blind persons in the country would double in about next 20 years;
- (b) if so, the other broad features of the said issue of the journal; and
- (c) how Government propose to eliminate avoidable blindness amongst Indians?

Recognition of courses of Pariyaram and Kochi Co-operative Medical Colleges, Kerala

- 363. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have recognized the courses conducted by the Pariyaram and Kochi Co-operative Medical Colleges in Kerala;
- (b) whether applications for recognition of courses have been pending with Government;
- (c) whether the Medical Council has taken any step for the recognition of courses; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for non-recognition thereof?

Steps to check AIDS in Delhi

- †364. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware of the news-item captioned "Rajdhani main 22 Hazar log AIDS Peedit", which appeared in 'Dainik Jagran', dated the 4th January, 2002:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) Government's reaction thereto; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to check the dreadful disease like AIDS?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Primary Health Care Centres in Andhra Pradesh

365. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Primary Health Care Centres in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the amount of aid given to these centres during the last three years; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to improve their functioning?

Functioning of Rural Health Care Centres

366. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Rural Health Care Centres are not functioning upto the satisfaction:
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) how Government propose to improve their functioning?

Incentives to States achieving the targets under Population Control Programme

- †367. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the States which are achieving targets set under Population Control Programme sponsored by Government;
- (b) whether any assistance or incentive is extended to these States for achieving the targets; and
 - (c) if so, the details of the assistance

extended to these States during the last three years?

Increase in AIDS patients

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

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to continuously increasing number of patients suffering from AIDS in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of patients suffering from AIDS in each State of the country;
 - (c) the reaction of Government thereto;
- (d) whether the number of patients suffering from AIDS increased in the country during last three years; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government to check the increasing number of AIDS patients?

Leakage of medical papers of MD/MS

- †369. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of incidents with regard to leakage of question papers of MD/MS during the last year;
- (b) the details of persons apprehended in each case along with punishment awarded to the guilty persons; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to avoid the recurrence of leakage of question papers in future?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Anti-anthrax vaccine

- 370. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a Biotechnology Scientist in Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi has developed an anti-anthrax vaccine with much less toxic effects than the one developed lately by the Pasteur Institute;
- (b) if so, whether the vaccine has been finally tested for its efficacy, toxicity and side-effects; and
 - (c) if so, the details in this regard?

Success achieved under various health programmes

- 371. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have reviewed the success achieved in various programmes launched by Government to bring down infant mortality rate, birth-rate, death-rate and increase the life expectancy during the Ninth Plan:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the above programmes have not achieved the targets fixed;
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the remedial measures being taken in this regard; and
- (f) the details of the projection made thereon for Tenth Plan?

Facilities in Dr. RML Hospital

372. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital where the victims of the terrorists attack on Parliament were taken was found to be ill-equipped to tackle such a situation;
- (b) if so, whether any inquiry has been made by Government to identify the various departments of the hospital lacking the facilities when faced with such crisis;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Report of Select Committee of House of Lords on Ayurveda

- 373. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Select Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Lords in its 6th Report dismissed Ayurveda as unscientific;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that it has placed Ayurveda in a group of alternative therapies;
 - (c) if so, the details of the report; and
- (d) what action Government contemplate on this?

Trade of human embryos

- 374. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the trade in human embryos and other precious human parts in on the rise;

- (b) if so, the number of cases registered during the last three years, State-wise; and
 - (c) the steps taken against the culprits?

Losses of public enterprises

- 375. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:
- (a) the total projected loss of public enterprises in the year 2002-2003;
- (b) why are these huge losses suffered by our Public Enterprises;
- (c) whether it is because of the out-dated technology or lack of exit policy in the country; and
- (d) the steps Government propose to take to make public enterprises to generate wealth for the nation?

Setting up of Press Information Bureau at Jabalpur

- †376. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have taken a decision to set up a Press Information Bureau at Jabalpur; and
- (b) if so, by when this Bureau would be set-up by Government?

Foreign equity in print media

- 377. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any proposal to review the policy to disallow foreign equity in print media; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

Autonomy to electronic media

- 378. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are considering to give autonomy to electronic media under Prasar Bharati with the States having a say in the running of the system; and
 - (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

Republication of magazine by NFDC

- 379. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the National Film Development Corporation has relaunched its magazine 'Cinema in India' after a gap of thirteen years;
- (b) if so, whether Government propose to restart the publications of the magazines like 'Akashvani' and others which are stopped for some years;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Report of Task force on Cable TV Sector

- 380. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1444 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd December, 2001 and state:
- (a) whether the Task Force on issues pertaining to transparency, conditional access and addressibility in the Cable TV Sector has submitted its report;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the main recommendations of the Task Force:
- (c) the reaction of Government thereto; and
- (d) by when Government propose to implement the said recommendations?

DD loss on private telecasting programmes

- 381. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan lost about Rs. 10 crore to a private telecasting firm for its two programmes "Aankhon Dekhi" and "Dopahar Aankhon Dekhi" due to undue benefit extended to the firm as brought out in a recent report of the Comptroller and Auditor General;
- (b) if so, the details of the contract and the event leading to the loss to Doordarshan:
- (c) whether it is also a fact that until recently no investigation has been made into the deal; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and steps proposed to be taken to recover the rightful dues?

Uniform guidelines for operation of foreign pay channels

- 382. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to formulate uniform guidelines for governance, entry, existence and operation of all the foreign pay TV channels;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to probe the legal existence of these foreign pay TV channels *vis-a-vis* the prevailing laws of the land?

National and international coverage of AIR/DD

- 383. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) the present national and international coverage of Akashvani and Doordarshan;
 - (b) the targets for the year 2002-2003;
- (c) the steps underway to achieve them; and
- (d) the funds, technology or physical provisions that stand in the way?

Cases registered against officials of Prasar Bharati

- 384. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a case of cheating and criminal breach of trust has been registered against some officials of Prasar Bharati Corporation and others for causing a loss of Rs. 13.79 crore to the Corporation;
 - (b) if so, the officials held responsible;
 - (c) the fraud unearthed;
 - (d) the action taken against them; and
- (e) the steps being taken to check such frauds in future?

Closure of media units

385. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether her Ministry is in favour of closure of several media units including the DAVP, Directorate of Film Festivals, Films Division, Directorate of Field Publicity and Song and Drama Division, as suggested by Expenditure Reforms Commission;
- (b) whether Government are aware that if the suggestions of the ERC for introduction of VRS is implemented, it would result in the total staff strength of the Ministry and Organisations under it, including Prasar Bharati, being reduced from 7,779 posts to 2,176 posts; and
- (c) if so, the reasons for downsizing the Ministry and the amount of payment of VRS to employees involved thereby?

Menace of Video piracy

- 386. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Committee for Development of the Entertainment Sector, Chaired by her, has considered the menance of Video piracy in the country, which is silently killing the film industry;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken on the deliberations?

Anti-India propaganda by Pak TV

- 387. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that Pakistani TV are openly indulging in anti-India propaganda after attack on Indian Parliament by terrorists;
- (b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to counter such propaganda by Pak TV;
- (c) whether Government propose to ban telecast of Pak TV programmes in the country; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Pak propaganda on Kashmir issue

- 388. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have made any analysis of the success or otherwise of the AIR and Doordarshan in Jammu and Kashmir to counter the Pak propaganda and the negative publicity on Kashmir issue.
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Downsizing of the Ministry

- 389. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether her Ministry is going through any downsizing plan; and

(b) if so, the names of the offices of the Ministry and the number of staff going to get VRS?

Introduction of DD Bharati Channel

390. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have approved programmes for the newly introduced DD Bharati Channel which will be aired during the next financial year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and efforts made to invite sponsors for these programmes and the response received, so far; and
- (c) whether it is mandatory to beam the DD Bharati Channel by the cable operators?

Family courts

- 391. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of family courts set up by the States and the Union Territories as on 28th February, 2002, under the Family Courts Act, 1984;
- (b) the total number of cases pending before family courts in the country, State-wise; and
- (c) how his Ministry is persuading the State Governments to establish more and more family courts to resolve the family disputes?

Amendment to Representation of People Act

392. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: SHRI SOLIPETA RAMA-CHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to bring forward legislation to amend the Representation of the People Act to provide for proxy voting for armed forces personnel serving in far-flung areas of the country; and
 - (b) the other details in this regard?

Pending cases in Supreme Court and High Courts

393. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that very large number of cases are pending in the Supreme Court and High Courts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details of pending cases as on 31st December, 2001;
- (c) whether Government have decided to release the details about the status of pending cases on Internet to provide the litigants and lawyers updated information of the same; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Voters Identity Cards

- 394. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMA-CHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there has been any progress in providing Voters Identity Cards by the Election Commission;
- (b) if so, the percentage of electorate provided Identity Cards by the Election Commission, so far, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;
 - (c) the total expenditure incurred thereon;
- (d) by when all the voters are expected to be provided with such cards and its use made mandatory for casting vote in election; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to remove the discrepancies noticed, so far, for preparation of the Identity Cards?

Shortage of Judges

- 395. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the shortage of Judges in various courts in the country; State-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra has shortfall of 60 Judges; and
- (c) whether Government are going to fill-up these posts?

Collection of fees

- 396. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the total amount of fees collected under the Companies Act, 1956 during the financial years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

- (b) the total expenditure incurred during the said period for the administration of the Companies Act, 1956;
- (c) whether there is any relation between services rendered and fees collected by the Department; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Increase in working days in courts

- 397. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have asked the High Courts and the State Governments to re-examine the annual vacations and working days in High Courts to expedite disposal of large number of cases; and
- (b) if so, the response of the State Governments, in this regard?

Legal sanctity to live-in relationship

- 398. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Allahabad High Court recently, delivered a judgement giving legal sanctity for live-in relationship;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government on this judgement;
- (c) whether it is not going to affect our institution of marriage and the emotional bond linked to it; and
- (d) if so, what his Ministry is contemplating in this regard to save the institution of marriage in the country?

Setting up of Sub-Bench of High Court Bench at Rajkot

- 399. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV-SHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received any request from Government of Gujarat to set up a Sub-Bench of High Court Bench at Rajkot, Gujarat; and
- (b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

Functioning of Fast Track Courts

- 400. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Fast Track Courts set up in the country as on 31st December, 2001, State-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Fast Track Courts that have been established are not running to the satisfaction of the people and Government;
 - (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken by Government to improve the functioning of the Fast Track Courts; and
- (e) the number of cases pending before the Fast Track Courts, State-wise?

Complaints received by Investors' Protection Cell

- 401. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of complaints received by the Investors' Protection Cell from Investors during the last one year;

- (b) the number of complaints settled during the said period, alongwith the number of pending complaints; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken/proposed to be taken for early amicable solution of the pending complaints?

Powers to Lok Adalats

- 402. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have decided to give more powers to Lok Adalats in view of their better performance in the past;
- (b) if so, whether Government are proposing to introduce a Bill to enlarge the Lok Adalats;
 - (c) if so, the details of the same;
- (d) the total number of Lok Adalats to be set up in each State;
- (e) the powers to be provided to them; and
- (f) to what extent it will reduce the cases pending with the various courts in the country?

Mahila Courts

- 403. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether justice still eludes women who are victims of atrocities like dowry harassment, molestation and rape;
- (b) if so, whether Government had set up "Mahila Courts" to specially deal with such cases:
- (c) whether the conviction rate is very poor and the number of atrocity cases being registered are spiralling every year;

- (d) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the number of cases pending as on 31st January, 2002, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps Government propose to take to expedite the disposal of cases of atrocities against women?

Fast Track Courts in Karnataka

- 404. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Fast Track Courts, so far, set up in the country;
- (b) the number of such courts earmarked for Karnataka:
- (c) the number of such courts, so far, set up in Bangalore and other parts of Karnataka:
- (d) the amount of grant released to Karnataka for this purpose;
- (e) the number of civil cases disposed of by these courts in Karnataka; and
- (f) the places where these courts are proposed to be set up in Karnataka during 2002-03?

New subsidy scheme for Inland Water Transport Sector

- 405. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVU-KKARASU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have formulated new subsidy scheme for Inland Water Transport Sector;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government propose to provide infrastructural facilities in three national waterways;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the fund allocated by IWAI in this regard?

Night navigation in National Waterways-1

- 406. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the stretch of waterways between Haldia and Allahabad has been designated as the National Waterways-1;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to facilitate night navigation in this regard?

Strike against privatisation of SCI

- 407. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Forward Seamens Union of India had given a call for one day strike on 22nd February to Indian and foreign going ships of Shipping Corporation of India against privatisation;
- (b) whether Government have taken any steps to avert the strike;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Surplus money with major port trusts

- 408. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) the surplus money available with major port trusts;
- (b) whether it is a fact that they don't pay any taxes;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) what Government intend to do with the surplus money available with the port trusts?

Shipyards in the country

- 409. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of shipyards in the country and how many of them are in public sector:
- (b) in how many shipyards, the ship repair activity is concentrated;
- (c) the names of the public sector shipyards and the value of the product carrier mix in the last year;
- (d) the total turnover from ship repair activities; and
- (e) whether Government are planning to improve the shipyards?

Cargo handling capacity of major ports

410. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the present cargo handling capacity of major ports;
- (b) the steps taken to augment the capacity and productivity of these ports; and
- (c) the strategy proposed for improvement of operations at major ports during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

Shifting of office of Tariff Authority for Major Ports

- 411. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any proposal before his Ministry to shift the office of the Tariff Authority for Major Ports (TAMP) from Delhi to a marine city;

- (b) if so, the reasons for shifting the office from the Capital of the country; and
- (c) the practical difficulties that the Ministry might face in the event of its shift from Delhi to marine city?

Permission for crude import for Essar Refinery

- 412. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV-SHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government of Gujarat had de-notified port limit of Salaya Minor Port and transferred the same to Kandla Port only for import of crude oil for IOC refineries;
- (b) if so, the reasons for granting permission by the Kandla Port Trust to put up a SBM in Kandla Port limit (in Vadinar area) for crude import for Essar Refinery;
- (c) whether Government are considering to transfer revenue likely to be generated through SBM for Essar Refinery to the Government of Gujarat;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Improvement in productivity of major ports

- 413. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) the present status of augmentation of capacity and improvement in productivity of major ports;
- (b) the efforts being made in this direction during the Ninth Five Year Plan;
- (c) the strategy proposed to be adopted during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and
 - (d) whether these efforts will improve

the operations at major ports?

Reduction of time and cost in shipment

- 414. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether delays in shipments and additional costs make our exports uncompetitive; and
- (b) the steps taken/reforms introduced to improve the situation resulting in lower costs and reduction of time in shipment?

New Inland Vessel Building Subsidy Scheme

- 415. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have introduced a new Inland Vessel Building Subsidy Scheme (IVBSS);
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when the scheme will come into effect?

Development of Consortium of Ports

- 416. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a proposal has been received from the Kolkata Port Trust for development of a "Consortium of Ports" in South Asia under the auspices of Bangladesh, India, Thailand, Myanmar, Sri Lanka—Economic Co-operation (BITMS-EC) to facilitate trade activities between these member countries;

- (b) if so, the details of the various proposals received and the action taken thereon; and
- (c) the fresh initiatives taken to enhance trade volumes between the BITMS-EC countries after their recently concluded fourth Ministerial meeting at Rangoon (Myanmar)?

Patronage of SCI in crude import

- 417. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India desires to have the patronage of public sector oil companies for carrying their crude imports;
- (b) if so, the response of Government to this;
- (c) whether the oil companies will not be denied advantage of competitive bidding if Government agree to it; and
- (d) if so, the extent of loss of oil companies?

Rehabilitation of handicapped in Gujarat earthquake

- 418. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people were rendered handicapped as a result of Gujarat earthquake, as reported in the news-item appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated the 26th January, 2002; and
- (b) if so, the efforts made by Government to rehabilitate those handicapped by providing additional financial/material assistance?

Drug addiction among students

419. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR:

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that drug addiction among students in schools and colleges and youth is growing;
- (b) if so, the effective steps Government have taken or propose to take to control drug addiction;
- (c) whether any guidelines have been issued to State Governments; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Curb on child beggars

420. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Enterprising beggars both annoying and risky", which appeared in the Times of India, (New Delhi), dated the 28th January, 2002; and
- (b) if so, the concrete steps Government propose to take to curb child vendors and beggars at various intersections of roads posing a danger to drivers and others?

Scheme to promote voluntary action for persons with disabilities

- 421. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of NGO's working to promote voluntary action for persons with disabilities in the country, particularly in Maharashtra;
- (b) the financial assistance extended to such organisations since operation of the scheme; and
 - (c) the extent of progress made, till date?

Raising of ceiling of income for defining the creamy layer in OBC

- 422. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that U.P. Government has recently raised ceiling of income from Rs. one lakh to three lakh for the purpose of creamy layer of OBC;
- (b) if so, what is Government's reaction in regard thereto especially when the Government have still kept Rs. one lakh ceiling:
- (c) whether Government propose to raise the ceiling limit at par with the State Government of U.P.; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Proper use of funds

†423. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

allocated for upliftment of socially, culturally backward people are being misused by some institutions:

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government will formulate any concrete policy for proper use of the funds to ensure that it reaches the people/ indentified for the purpose; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Under-utilization of funds

- 424. SHRI C. RAMACHAND-RAIAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2476 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th March, 2001 and state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the utilization of funds in his Ministry for current financial year was very low; and
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

NGOs receiving grants in Gujarat

- 425. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV-SHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWER-MENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the particulars of voluntary organisations in Gujarat receiving grants from Government;
- (b) the progress of work done by them; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken to encourage the Non-Governmental Organisations in the State?

Expansion of network of schools for blind and handicapped

426. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps being taken by Government to expand the network of schools for the blind and handicapped in the country;
- (b) the details of financial grants given to these schools during the last three years, State-wise: and
- (c) the steps taken for utilization of this fund?

Welfare schemes for Senior Citizens

- 427. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of welfare schemes being implemented for the benefit of senior citizens;
- (b) whether any amount has been earmarked in the budget for the welfare of senior citizens:
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Guidelines for adoption of children

428. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state the new guidelines to safeguard the interest of adopted children especially by foreigners in view of protests seen at several places against adoption racket going on?

New guidelines to safeguard the interests of adopted children

- 429. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a demand has been made that Government should stop inter-country adoption of children till new guidelines are

formulated to safeguard the interests of adopted children;

- (b) whether certain cases have come to light where prospective adoptive parents are having dubious record, all sorts of physical ailments, two or more children, and are divorce lesbian and overaged; and
- (c) the steps Government propose to take to ensure to that interests of children are protected?

Simplyfying of procedure for adoption of Children from orphanages

430. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether embassies of several countries are requesting to take steps to speed up the process for finalising the cases of inter-country adoption of Children;
- (b) if so, the reasons for delay in such cases; and
- (c) the action proposed to simplify the procedure for adoption of Children from orphanages?

Funds for educational and cultural upliftment of SCs/STs

- 431. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of schemes alongwith the funds allocated to each State by Government for the educational and cultural upliftment of SCs/STs in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (b) the development, so far, noticed in the tribal areas of the country?

Assistance for providing land to the tribals in Kerala

- 432. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Kerala Government has submitted any proposal for Central assistance for providing land to the tribals;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) the action taken in this regard?

Pending projects of Karnataka

- 433. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that many proposals recommended by Government of Karnataka are pending in his Ministry for approval; and
 - (b) if so, the number of such projects?

Welfare schemes for tribals

- 434. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the welfare schemes for tribals in different parts of the country;
- (b) whether the concerned States have spent the allocated amount for the past five years;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the percentage of Central participation in the implementation of the schemes?

Tribal development in North-Eastern Region

- 435. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of schemes formulated and implemented by Government for tribal development in the North-Eastern Region;
- (b) the details of funds allocated for NER for the same during the last three years; and
- (c) the necessary steps taken by Government in this regard?

Funds for development of tribals in Kerala

- 436. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the total amount set apart in the current year's budget for various grant-in-aid schemes for the development of tribals;
- (b) the amount set apart for Kerala under these schemes and the amount released, so far, and the schemes for which the funds were released and the progress of developmental works of such schemes;
- (c) whether diversion of funds, if any, noticed in Kerala; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Allocation under TSP to Gujarat, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh

- 437. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the financial allocation made under the head Tribal Sub-Plan during the last three years to the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh;

- (b) whether the above amount has been utilised for other purposes;
- (c) if so, the details of mis-utilization by the respective State Governments; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken to remedy the situation?

Novel project for irrigating parks

- 438. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a novel project of pumping out 200 litre per minute waste water in Vasant Vihar in South Delhi, which can easily irrigate many parks, has recently been completed with a cost of hardly rupees 1.4 lakh:
- (b) whether some financial assistance was also provided from the corporate sector to make it a success; and
- (c) if so, the steps Government would take to popularise such projects for irrigating the parks specially in most colonies of Delhi where there is an acute shortage of water?

Discontinuation of SFS of DDA

439. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has discontinued the Self-Financing Housing Schemes; and
- (b) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons for discontinuation of the schemes, indicating the number of SFS

Units available for allotment and in the process of construction at different stages, category-wise?

Urban poor in Andhra Pradesh

- 440. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the number and percentage of urban poor in Andhra Pradesh as on date;
- (b) the latest definition of urban poor and economic criteria therefor;
- (c) whether the number of urban poor in Andhra Pradesh increased/decreased during the last three years alongwith the details thereof, year-wise;
- (d) the steps taken by Government during the Ninth Plan period to eradicate the urban poverty in the State and progress achieved; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken to eradicate urban poverty in Andhra Pradesh during the Tenth Plan period?

Development of urbanised villages of Delhi

- †441. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have issued any instructions to Delhi Development Authority for the development of urbanised villages of Delhi;
- (b) if so, whether Delhi Development Authority has taken any steps, so far, in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Special scheme to deal with increasing slums in cities

- †442. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of Jhuggies are continuously increasing in different cities of the country, including Delhi:
- (b) if so, whether Government are considering to formulate any special scheme to solve this problem; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, how Government would solve this problem?

Rehabilitation of Jhuggi dwellers

- †443. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is fact that Government are considering to expedite rehabilitation of jhuggi dwellers;
- (b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps in this regard, so far; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Confirmation of JEs in CPWD

- 444. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of pending cases of confirmation of Junior Engineers who joined CPWD as Junior Engineer during the period 1980 to 1985;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) the reasons for not issuing order of confirmation for these Junior Engineers even after successfully completing the probation period; and
- (c) the action Government propose to take for confirmation of the Junior Engineers without further delay?

Upgradation of Beldars in CPWD under ACP Scheme

- 445. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is compulsory to pass the trade test for getting financial upgradation under ACP Scheme in case of Beldars of CPWD:
- (b) if so, the action Government propose to take to conduct trade test for the Beldars at a regular interval;
- (c) whether Beldars of CPWD who retired during the year 2001 after completing more than 30 years service without passing trade test are entitled to get financial upgradation as per the ACP Scheme;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Development works in unauthorized colonies in Delhi

- 446. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have taken any decision to regularize unauthorized colonies in Delhi:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be announced and development works like, drinking water and sewage are likely to be taken up?

Expenditure control by DDA

447. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 885 given in the Rajya Sabha on 26th November, 2001 and state the total expenditure curtailed by the DDA under different heads of account including lump-sum amount paid for arduous nature of duties during the last three years?

News-item "Zero tolerance corruption reduced to zero action"

- 448. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Zero tolerance corruption reduced to zero action", which appeared in the Statesman, dated the 24th November, 2001;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the DDA for constituting three-men team for DDA alongwith its composition etc.; and
- (c) the short and long-term measures proposed towards zero tolerance corruption in DDA?

Unattended complaints in Vasant Vihar

- 449. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
 - (a) the number of complaints received in

the Service Centre of CPWD at Central Government Housing Complex, Vasant Vihar during the last two years and the time taken to dispose of each of these complaints alongwith number of complaints which remained unattended for more than seven to fifteen days;

- (b) whether some complaints of damaged doors of 67 Block still remain unattended even after a lapse of one year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the action taken against the careless officials?

Construction of additional room in Type-II Quarters in DIZ Area

†450. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all formalities/conditions have been fulfilled by Government with regard to construction of additional room in Type-II Quarters in Sector-IV, DIZ Area, Gole Market;
- (b) if so, whether Government would sanction amount for construction of the said quarters during the financial year 2001-2002; and
- (c) if so, the amount to be sanctioned for the same?

Infrastructure facilities in Najafgarh area, Delhi

451. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to impress upon the NCT of Delhi to provide basic infrastructure facilities in Najafgarh area, particularly in Jai Vihar Block-H and G and Shyam Vihar Phase-I; and
- (b) if so, the details of steps being taken to provide electricity, roads and water etc. in the said area?

Notification regarding roof top rain water harvesting

- 452. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether last year his Ministry has issued a notification regarding roof top rain water harvesting;
- (b) if so, the situation, as of now, with regard to its compliance by the concerned parties;
- (c) the details of the penalty imposed on erring owners and architects; and
- (d) the number of owners and architects on which penalties have been imposed for non-compliance of the notification?

Development of infrastructure for Dwarka sub-city

- 453. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a huge Dwarka sub-city is presently under construction in Delhi under the aegis of the Delhi Development Authority;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including its location;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) the provisions made with regard to water supply, electricity, sewerage, telecommunication, transport and marketing facilities;
- (d) the steps taken to develop the approach roads to the proposed complex including construction of fly-overs and provision of metro rail connection etc. to make the city accessible from various directions; and
- (e) by when the city is likely to be fully habitable?

Distemper in Government quarters

- †454. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that quarters of some of Government's residential areas are whitewashed with distemper while in some other areas they are just whitewashed with lime stone;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the instructions of Government in this regard;
- (d) the scheme under Government's consideration for improvement in quality of whitewash;
- (e) whether Government propose to issue orders for whitewashing all the quarters with distemper; and
 - (f) if so, by when?

Parking space for residents of Dwarka

- 455. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that DDA has not made any provision for parking space for the residents of DDA flats, pocket-13, (Manglapuri) Dwarka, New Delhi;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the terrace of these flats are without side walls and iron staircase making the terrace dangerous and accident-prone;
- (c) if so, whether Government propose to make arrangements for parking space and also construct proper concrete staircase and side walls on the terrace of the flats to make it safe and secure; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Supply of potable water in DIZ area of Gole Market

- †456. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that residents of Sector-IV of DIZ area of Gole Market have to use saline water leading to adverse effect on their health;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that an additional pipeline for supply of potable water was laid at heavy cost in all the quarters of Sector-IV two years ago;
- (c) whether Government are considering to make arrangement for supply of potable water keeping in view the potable water problem of the people of this area; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Utilization of funds for poverty alleviation in Andhra Pradesh

- 457. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether funds meant for urban poverty alleviation in Andhra Pradesh, constituting Central and State funds, are not being utilized to the desired level;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of fund utilization for the last three years, year-wise; and
- (c) the action Government have taken in this regard?

Mandatory rainwater harvesting structures for urban constructions

- 458. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to make rainwater harvesting structures mandatory for urban constructions in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Guidelines for regularization of unauthorised colonies in Delhi

- †459. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have formulated any guidelines to regularize unauthorised colonies in Delhi;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) whether Government have taken any action, till date, to regularize the colonies which came into existence before 31st, March, 1993; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Complaints of collapsing of wooden beam in Government Quarters at Dev Nagar

- †460. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that some complaints with regard to collapsing of wooden beam in some Government quarters of the officers in Block-D, Type-V, at Dev Nagar, New Delhi have been received;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the complaints received date-wise;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that a complaint with regard to collapsing of wooden beam of kitchen of Flat No. D-7 has also been lodged by the allottee and executive engineer has been requested to take immediate action;
- (d) if so, whether any action has been taken in the matter; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Regularization of Enquiry Clerks as Mates

- 461. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that persons employed as Enquiry Clerks on muster roll

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

in CPWD Enquiry Offices were regularized as Mate; and

(b) if so, the details of such persons alongwith their names and offices?

Notification regarding reclassification of work charged Beldars

- 462. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the *vide* order No. 22/9/93-ECX New Delhi, dated the 9th September, 1999 of Directorate General of Works, CPWD, the work charged Beldars having matriculation qualification performing the duty of Enquiry Clerks since long were reclassified from unskilled to semi-skilled/skilled;
 - (b) if so, the details of the order; and
- (c) how many work charged Beldars have been reclassified as per above order?

Shifting of INA Market

- †463. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that INA Market has turned into a slum market in which there is no proper arrangement for shopping and parking;
- (b) whether Government propose to construct an ultra-modern double-storeyed market on the land adjoining Super Bazar

and behind it so that shopkeepers of INA Market could be shifted in it and separate sites be fixed for general purchase, restaurants and non-veg items; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Non-payment of wages to labourers by NBCC

- †464. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards non-payment of wages to hundreds of labourers working in NBCC;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto:
- (c) the reasons for non-payment of wages to them and persons responsible for it; and
- (d) the steps Government have taken to ensure timely payment to the labourers of NBCC?

Scheme of payment under DDA's Scheme for retiring persons

- 465. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 134 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd July, 2001 and state:
 - (a) the number of applications received

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

and the number of persons who have been allotted flats, category and area-wise;

- (b) whether it is a fact that after the draw of lots of flats the scheme of payment was arbitrarily changed from hire-purchase to cash down;
 - (c) if so, the reasons for the change in

payment scheme which has spoiled the very essence of the scheme and put untimely financial burden on retiring persons; and

(d) the steps Government are taking to provide relief to retiring persons in this regard?

New Delhi; *The* 26th February, 2002 *Phalguna* 7, 1923 (Saka) R.C. TRIPATHI, Secretary-General.

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