## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Thursday, the August 4, 2005/Sravana 13, 1927 (Saka)

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

### Total number of questions — 155

## Financial assistance to craftsmen and weavers

- †1109. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the target has been fixed by Government to give financial assistance to craftsmen and weavers under the Self Employment Credit Card Scheme; and
- (b) if so, the number of craftsmen and weavers who have been benefited, so far under this scheme, year-wise and State-wise?

### ARIs under REGP in NER

- 1110. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTA-CHARJEE: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have established agro and rural industries in North-Eastern Region with special

reference to Assam under the Rural Employment Generation Programme during the last three years;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the funds allocated for this purpose and the steps taken for the implementation of this programme?

#### Livelihood from ARIs

- 1111. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) the percentage of population earning livelihood from Agriculture and Agro Industries in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether Government are making additional efforts to promote agro based industries; and
  - (c) if so, the details thereof?

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

## Enriched uranium from non-NSG countries

- 1112. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are in pursuit for enriched uranium and transfer of dual use technologies for nuclear programme;
- (b) whether this would require a considerable period of time because of the existing agreement among the Nuclear Suppliers Group and the existing legislation of some of the member countries;
- (c) if so, whether country is looking for enriched uranium from non-NSG countries; and
- (d) whether mandatory inspection by IAEA suppliers of technologies of fissile material insist on the basis of extant agreements and legislations which would adversely affect our fast breeder reactor project which is a top priority in terms of autonomy in development?

## Rehabilitation of displaced persons

- 1113. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of memoranda regarding rehabilitation submitted by Project Affected Families (PAF) of Pofran and Akkarpatti villages, situated at coastal side of Palaghar Tehsil of Thane district in Maharashtra, after their evacuation by Tarapur Nuclear Power Station authorities;
- (b) whether Mumbai High Court in an interim order dated 1st October, 2004 (Writ Petition No. 5663 of 2004) had directed specific reliefs and rehabilitation measures for the PAF;

- (c) if so, the status of implementation of directives from the Court; and
- (d) measures taken to address the issues raised in the Petition?

## US officials visit to the nuclear installations in India

- 1114. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a visit of Members of Atomic Power Regulatory Authority of the US to the nuclear installations in India was organized in February, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details and purpose of the said visit;
- (c) whether besides the US officials, of which other countries were accorded the privilege of visiting our nuclear installations in the past alongwith the details of each visit:
- (d) whether such visits are organized on reciprocal basis; and
- (e) if so, the details of visits by the officials of the Indian nuclear establishments to the nuclear installations in the US and in other countries?

## Coal production from private sector coal blocks

### †1115. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has to allot 168 coal blocks to private sector out of which 75 blocks have been allotted but only 11 of them have started production:
  - (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

these private entrepreneurs who had taken the said blocks for establishing industry, have not established the same, so far, and the coal is being sold directly in markets as a result of which it is causing losses to Government worth hundreds of crores of rupees; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to avoid the said situation?

### Coal blocks allotted to NTPC

## 1116. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the name of the blocks alongwith location, sought for captive mining by NTPC;
- (b) the blocks released to NTPC, so far; and
- (c) the reasons for delay in non allotment of blocks, if any?

## Global tenders for allotment of coal blocks

- †1117. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have decided to carry out the mining of coal from coal blocks in the country by private or foreign institutions through global tenders;
- (b) if so, whether it would reduce the employment opportunities to the local citizens and would encourage contract system and exploitation of the workers; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to safeguard the interests of the workers and to provide employment opportunities to the local citizens and to discourage the contract system?

## Coal blocks allotted to private parties

- †1118. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of the coal blocks in the country handed over to private sector by Government for exploration under captive mining and when they were handed over to private sector;
- (b) the number, out of those coal blocks where the production has started indicating the quantity thereof being produced;
- (c) whether Government are also importing coal;
- (d) if so, the quantity of coal imported during each of the last two years;
- (e) the efforts Government have made to increase exploration of coal in the country it self rather than to import the same; and
  - (f) the outcome thereof?

## Adoption of latest technology for coal exploration

- 1119. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that our exploration of coal technique and strategy differs from the larger coal producing countries;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what steps have been taken to adopt the latest technology in the field of coal?

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### Private funding in coal sector

- 1120. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Coal had asked the Cabinet Secretariat to constitute a Group of Ministers to recommend private funding in coal sector; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

# Sale of high grade coal at less price

- †1121. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware of the fact that in connivance with some officers, high grade coal is being sold from the coal mines of NCL, Singrauli by paying the price of low grade coal which cause losses of crores of rupees every year;
- (b) whether Government would send a team soon to look into the matter in order to prevent illegal selling of coal worth Rs. 1800/- per ton for just Rs. 800/- per ton; and
- (c) if so, by when this team would be sent to Singrauli for secret investigation?

## **Expansion projects of CIL**

- 1122. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that in order to augment coal supplies in the country Coal India Ltd. is thinking of investing Rs. 3000 crores in coal expansion projects;

- (b) if so, the details of coal projects in which CIL is going to invest as a part of its expansion plans;
- (c) whether any proposal to this effect has been forwarded to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs; and
- (d) in what way CIL would raise funds for this purpose?

### Royalty on coal and lignite

- 1123. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of royalty given for coal and lignite mining for the respective State Governments;
- (b) the royalty due to be paid to various States, as on date;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to increase the royalty given for lignite mining;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

# Ex-servicemen's companies involved in coal transportation

- †1124. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the names of the ex-servicemen's companies involved in the trasportation and loading works in Orissa based MCL coal subsidiary;
- (b) the places where headquarters of these companies are situated along with the names of their Directors and Auditors; and
- (c) the payment made to these companies in transport/loading account during the last three years?

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

## Lignite reserve at Neyveli

1125. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated quantity of lignite available at Neyveli and its surrounding areas of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the quantity of lignite exploited, so far;
- (c) whether any expansion plans of Neyveli Lignite Corporation is proposed to be taken up;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and time schedule for such expansion;
- (e) the thermal power being produced by using Neyveli Lignite and its percentage of distribution to Tamil nadu;
- (f) whether it is proposed to provide more power to Tamil Nadu from Neyveli;and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Irregularities in coal mines

- †1126. SHRI. P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a large scale of bullying and irregularities take place in the contract to be given in the coal mines of Jharkhand;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the companies who have been given the contract of coal during last three years?

## Coal and lignite reserves in the country

- 1127. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the estimated reserves of coal and lignite in the country at present;
- (b) the requirement of coal and lignite annually;
- (c) whether, aiming for a gross domestic product growth of seven-eight per cent, Coal India Ltd. and Neyveli Lignite Corporation propose to increase their production;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government are keen on investing in frontier technologies such as exploration of coal bed methane and underground coal gasification; and
  - (f) if so, the details thereof?

# Jobs in SECL in lieu of land acquisition

- †1128.SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of people provided with jobs in SECL, Chhattisgarh in lieu of the land acquired from them;
- (b) the Khasra number, the name of village, Tehsil and District of the land in lieu of which jobs have been provided to the said people; and
  - (c) the details thereof, project-wise?

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

## Coal deposits in the country

### †1129. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have made any assessment of coal-deposits of the country with regard to the number of years by which they would be sufficient and mining work could by carried out as per the requirements of the country;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the comparative demand and supply position thereof in the country every year;
- (d) if supply is less, whether Government have taken any steps to increase the same; and
  - (e) if so, the outcome thereof?

#### **Procurement norms**

1130. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to make it mandatory for State owned public Sector Undertaking under its control to procure equipments from only those manufacturers based in the country;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
  - (c) the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether BSNL and other PSUs under its control have raised certain objections in view of the high competitive market; and

(e) if so, the parity sought by BSNL/MTNL in procurement norms?

#### Pricing trends in BPO sector

1131. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether software and service exports from India has registered a 3.5 per cent growth during the last fiscal;
- (b) whether this is the highest growth since 2001 to touch \$ 17.2 billion;
- (c) whether total software and service revenues grew 32 per cent to \$ 22 billion in 2004-05;
- (d) whether according to a survey, the total value of outsourcing to India (\$ 17.2 billion in 2004-05) is estimated to be 44 per cent worldwide total;
- (e) whether the survey also pointed out that pricing trends in BPO are likely to be susceptible to downward pressure; and
- (f) if so, to what extent software exports will give further rise during 2005-06?

## Provision of telephone and internet connections to the villages

1132. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has prepared a plan to connect all 6,00,000 plus villages by telephone within two years;
- (b) if so, whether it will boost 250 million lines;

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) if so, the total amount involved in achieving this objective;
- (d) whether in addition some 180-200 million of phones would be mobiles;
- (e) whether number of internet communication is also expected to be more than triple to 18 million from 5.45 million over the same period; and
- (f) the efforts being made to complete work on this project and whether Government are planning to monitor work so that the target is achieved by 2007?

### Spectrum distribution

### 1133. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on spectrum distribution specially 3G: and
- (b) Government's response to each of TRAI's recommendations?

## Losses suffered by Postal Department

- 1134. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Postal Department has suffered a huge loss of Rs. 1475 crores during the year 2004-05 which is 8 per cent more than in the previous year;
- (b) the reasons for its poor performance during the last few years;

- (c) what steps are proposed to be initiated to improve its performance and revenue generation;
- (d) whether there is any plan to improve its efficiency and better utilization of the existing large work force; and
  - (e) if so, the details thereof?

## Rural savings through POSB scheme

- 1135. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware of the number of POSBs (Post Office Saving Banks) now functioning in rural areas;
- (b) whether the above number is higher than the number of POSBs in urban areas;
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the share of POSBs in overall rural savings:
- (e) in what manner Government would encourage rural savings through these POSBs; and
- (f) whether Government are planning to introduce any new scheme under RPLI?

### Navaratna status to VSNL

- †1136. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether VSNL has demanded the status of Navaratna from Government; and
  - (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

#### **Modernization of BSNL**

- †1137. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are considering to provide the cheapest cellular services in comparison to private cellular services;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government are considering to modernize the BSNL for this purpose; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

### Single calling rates

- 1138. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering adoption of a single calling rate, irrespective of distance called, within the country;
- (b) if so, the status of the implementation of the above proposal and the proposed time-frame for the launch of the same;
- (c) whether all stake-holders, including telecom companies have agreed to the proposal; and
- (d) if not, the details of their grievances and the steps being taken to address them?

## **Agreement with Intel**

- 1139. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
  - (a) whether it is a fact that a joint

- statement have been signed regarding development of computing platform adaptable to local infrastructure condition between the chip maker Intel and Government recently;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the statement;
- (c) whether it was in the interest of the country; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Telecom Policy**

- 1140. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the draft Telecom Policy has been finalized;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) if not, by when it would be finalized?

## Setting up of Vigilance Telecom Monitoring Cell

- †1141. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to set up the centres for Vigilance Telecom Monitoring Cell all over the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details of such centres;
- (c) the amount likely to be spent by Government for setting up of these centres;and
- (d) by when all the centres for Vigilance Monitoring Cell would be opened all over the country?

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

# Expansion plan of mobile service in Chhattisgarh

- †1142. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of BSNL mobile connections in Chhattisgarh as on 30th June, 2005:
- (b) whether this mobile service has been introduced in all the districts and tehsilheadquarters of Chhattisgarh;
- (c) the expansion plan of this mobile service in Chhattisgarh;
- (d) whether mobile connection of BSNL is available on demand in Chhattisgarh; and
- (e) if not, by when such situation would prevail?

### Microwave repeater stations

- 1143. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that BSNL has around 4000 microwave repeater stations all over the country, particularly in far flung areas;
- (b) whether it is a fact that these assets became unproductive due to obsolescence technology;
- (c) if so, whether these assets can be reactivated for providing umbrella coverage of upto 50 kms. for microwave and 30 kms. for cellular; and
- (d) if so, the concrete steps taken to reproductivise these assets?

#### Control of internet

- 1144. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that currently the power to govern the internet rests with the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), based in California;
- (b) whether Government are contemplating to wrest control of internet on expiry of MoU in September, 2006 between ICANN and the Department of Commerce of the USA; and
  - (c) if so, the details in this regard?

## Cooperation with Pakistan in IT sector

- 1145. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have explored the possibility of cooperation with Pakistan in the field of Information Technology; and
  - (b) if so, the details thereof?

## Release of telephone connections in J&K

- 1146. SHRI T. S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is backlog for telephone connections under the Jammu and Kashmir Telecom Circle since the last three years;

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) the reasons for non-fulfilment of demands of these consumers in the waiting list and what policy is adopted to give telephone connections;
- (c) the number of telephone connections likely to be provided within next three years; and
- (d) whether it would be sufficient to cope with the waiting list problem?

## Reduction of monthly rent

- 1147. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of subscribers of MTNL in Delhi and Mumbai separately during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government proposes to reduce the monthly rent of telephones of MTNL in order to increase the number of subscribers:
  - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Availability of SIM Cards in Tamil Nadu

- 1148. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of SIM cards issued by BSNL in the State of Tamil Nadu, during the last one year, district-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there is scarcity in the availability of BSNL SIM cards in the State;

- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any steps are being taken by BSNL to ensure easy availability of SIM cards for mobile phones in the State; and
  - (e) if so, the details thereof?

## Cash payment of uniform to Group 'C' and 'D' employees

- †1149. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that M.T.N.L. Delhi and Mumbai have not paid cash amount for the uniform to be provided to their Group 'C' and 'D' workers for the year 2003-04 and 2004-05;
- (b) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard; and
- (c) by when Government would pay cash payment for the uniform to their Group 'C' and 'D' employees due for the past years and for the present year?

#### **Telephone courts**

- †1150. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the dates on which telephone courts were organized in each of the districts in U.P., Mumbai and Delhi during the last two years alongwith the number of cases received and disposed off by these courts during the said period, district-wise; and
- (b) the details of the relief provided to the telephone subscribers alongwith the rules for organizing such courts?

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

## Setting up of Rural Information Technology Network

- 1151. SHRI N. R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have any proposal under its consideration regarding setting up of Rural Information Technology Network; and
  - (b) if so, the details thereof?

### Facilities to cellular users

- 1152. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that consumer can retain his cellular number by selecting any other cellular operator anywhere in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government are considering to implement this facility in the country; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the obstacles therein for providing this facility to cellular users?

### Prime Minister's US visit

1153. SHRI THENNALA G.
BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:
SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:
DR. M.A.M.
RAMASWAMY:
SHRIMATI SAVITA
SHARDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agenda of the visit of the Prime Minister to USA recently;

- (b) the details of the bilateral and multilateral issues that figured in Prime Minister's talks with the US President and the other leaders and the outcome of the talks:
- (c) whether the issue of India's membership in the Security Council of the UN was also figured in the talks; if so, the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor:
- (d) whether any agreements were signed during the visit to strengthen further the bilateral ties and the scientific and economic cooperation between the two countries; and
  - (e) if so, the salient features thereof?

# Eleven point guiding principles between India and China

1154. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: DR. KARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether during Chinese Prime Minister's visit to India, both countries have taken a major step forward in agreeing a eleven point 'political parameters and guiding principles' to resolve their long standing boundary dispute between the two countries:
- (b) if so, whether this guiding principles will provide the basis for proactively addressing the issue as a 'strategic objectives';
- (c) if so, to what extent this decision has helped in reaching the panel agreement on border between India and China; and
- (d) by what time, a final agreement in this regard is likely to be reached?

## Time limit for issuance of passports

### 1155. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the minimum and maximum time limit for issuing passports;
- (b) on an average how much minimum and maximum time was taken in issuing passports by the Passport Offices in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar during the year 2004; and
- (c) what steps are being taken to further streamline the issuing of passports?

### Visit of Sri Lankan President to India

### 1156. SHRI AMAR SINGH: SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether President of Sri Lanka visited India in June last;
- (b) if so, the nature of talks held between the two Governments during her visit;
- (c) whether any agreements/treaties were signed; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### Minister's Sri Lanka visit

1157. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether he visited Sri Lanka during the month of June, 2005;
- (b) if so, whether aim was to enhance trade and economic cooperation between the two countries;
- (c) whether the two countries recently decided to conclude negotiations on a comprehensive economic partnership agreement by end of 2005 so as to give a new thrust to bilateral business activity;
- (d) if so, what was outcome of the visit;
- (e) what were the agreements reached between the two countries; and
- (f) what steps are being taken to implement them?

### Haj quota

- 1158. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether applications received to undertake Haj pilgrimage this year has exceeded the quota fixed by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the State-wise quota for this year;
- (c) whether Government have any plan to raise the quota for this year; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

## Tightening of visa norms by Pakistan

- 1159. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware of recent tightening of visa norms by Pakistan;
- (b) the total number of visa request by Pakistan nationals received by Indian High Commission in Pakistan in the previous

year, along with the total number of visas granted;

- (c) the total number of requests for visa for Pakistan, made by Indian nationals in the previous year, alongwith the total number of visas granted by Pakistan;
- (d) whether Government are planning any change in its visa policy for Pakistan nationals; and
  - (e) if so, the details thereof?

## Indo-Bangladesh Foreign Secretary level talks

- 1160. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the issues discussed and the decisions taken at the Foreign Secretary level talks between India and Bangladesh held at Delhi in June last; and
- (b) the steps taken and proposed to be taken to implement them?

### Agreements with USA during Prime Minister's visit

- †1161. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of discussions took place and agreements signed during Prime Minister's visit to America;
- (b) whether America has made a promise to recognize India as a nuclear power, to supply nuclear fuel, to support Indian claim for permanent seat in U.N. Security Council and not to interfere in Pakistan issue:
  - (c) the overall impact of the agreements

- signed during this visit on Indo-American and Indo-Pak-American relations; and
- (d) whether the President, Mr. Bush has accepted an invitation for visiting India?

## Change in US policy towards India

- 1162. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether prior to Prime Minister's recent visit to the United States, Indian Foreign Secretary and Scientist Advisor to PM had visited the U.S. in May, 2005 for exploring prospects of reviving the Indo-U.S. atomic energy cooperation between the two countries;
- (b) if so, the details of discussions held between the leaders of two countries and outcome thereof:
- (c) whether India finds any major change in the U.S. policy of sharing with us nuclear power need, developing of new sources of energy efficiency/nuclear technology etc.; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

## Special envoy for release of Indians held in neighbouring countries

- 1163. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any demand has been made to appoint a special envoy to negotiate on behalf of Government to secure the release of Indians being held/imprisoned in our neighbouring countries;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government propose to establish/set up an office of special envoy for humanitarian issues;

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) what measures Government propose to take to secure the release of Indians being held on frivolous charges in neighbouring countries?

## Group-D temporary employees in Passport Offices

- †1164. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Group-D temporary employees in the Passport Offices in the country, as on date;
- (b) whether it is a fact that these employees are working as temporary employees for the last many years;
- (c) if so, whether Government propose to take any steps to make these employees permanent;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### Atomic fuel supply by America

- †1165.SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether America has given its nod to supply fuel for Tarapur Atomic Plant recognising India as a Nuclear Power;
- (b) if so, whether any agreements have been signed between the two countries in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the conditions and details of the agreements?

### US envoy's visit to New Delhi

1166. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a US special envoy Mr. Sherin Tahiri Kheli, tasked with developing Washington's position on UNreforms including expansion and democratization of the UN Security Council, visited New Delhi in May this year;
- (b) if so, what was the US proposal put forth and articulated by Mr. Tahiri; and
- (c) what was Government's reaction and response thereto?

#### Indo-Pak talks

- 1167. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether talks are being held with Pakistan Government at various levels;
- (b) if so, the issues discussed, particularly since June, 2004, indicating those on which it has been conclusive as well as those on which there have wide difference:
- (c) whether Pakistan was provided with details of fugitives from law in India who had been sheltered there requiring them to be handed over to India;
- (d) if so, the chronological development, if any, relating thereto in course of the ongoing talks; and
- (e) the specific steps taken, if any, by two Governments towards extradition of those fugitives?

#### **Indo-US** cooperation

- 1168. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the U.S. had agreed to co-operate with India in civilian nuclear energy and had acknowledged India as a nuclear weapons power;

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the U.S. had expressed to encourage resolution of Kashmir dispute; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

## Talks with USA on Indo-Pak relations

- †1169. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any talk was held on Indo-Pak relations during Prime Minister's recent visit to America:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government have put its stand before America regarding recent disclosure of the fact that Lashkar-e-Taiyaba was involved in recent attack on Ayodhya; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

# Use of Missions to project India's image abroad

- 1170. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a demand has been received to make use of the country's Missions abroad to market the country as an economic power and a knowledge society with a rich cultural heritage;
- (b) if so, whether any directions have been issued to Missions abroad;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the contributions, so far made by the Missions in this direction other than travel related issues?

#### Assistance to Iraq in drafting Constitution

- †1171. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have offered help in drafting Iraq's Constitution; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Iraq's Government thereto?

## Undemarcated border between India and Bangladesh

- 1172. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that 6.5 Kms. of border between India and Bangladesh has remained undemarcated till now;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor:
- (c) the hurdles in demarcation of above border; and
- (d) the steps being taken to resolve the issue?

## Children engaged in hazardous work

1173. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH:

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

- (a) whether the Supreme Court of India in the M.C. Mehta *Vs.* State of Tamil Nadu, (1997) issued some specific directives for improving the conditions of children rescued from hazardous employment;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
  - (c) whether steps have been taken to

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

implement these directives fully in letter and spirit and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

## Implementation of Labour Laws

- 1174. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Child Labour is on the rise in Mumbai and Government have taken steps to send back large number of children working in Mumbai, back to their homes; and
- (b) whether Government are taking steps to strictly implement the Labour Laws to prevent employment of children in various industries and establishment in Mumbai and other parts of the country?

### Statistics for educated unemployed

- †1175. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have worked out any statistics with regard to educated unemployed in the country;
- (b) if not, whether Government have any statistics with regard to the ratio of educated and uneducated unemployed persons in the country;
- (c) the number of years in which Government propose to provide employment to educated and uneducated unemployed persons conforming to their competency as per the schemes of Government; and
- (d) by when Government would provide employment to those adding to the above number over the period?

## Strict enforcement of Labour Laws

- 1176. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have reviewed a recent report of the International Labour Organization highlighting, *inter-alia*, that out of 12.3 million "forced labour" in the world, 9.4 million are in Asia, and 80 per cent of such bonded labour in the Asia Pacific region can be found in India's factories and fields; and
- (b) if so, the reaction thereto and the details of any fresh strategy worked out, including strict enforcement of the extant laws, to eliminate all forms of forced labour and protect the weaker and vulnerable sections of society from a life of toiling in bondage?

## Legislation for labour reforms

- 1177. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are contemplating to bring forward any suitable legislation for labour reforms so as to ensure a larger safety net for both organized and unorganized sector workers;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government have so far held any discussions in this regard with the employers, trade union representatives and other stakeholders in order to reach the consensus: and
- (d) if so, by when such a draft legislation is likely to be brought forward before the Parliament?

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

## Child labour engaged in hazardous industries in Uttar Pradesh

- †1178. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the programmes started by Government in Uttar Pradesh for rehabilitation of child labourers engaged in hazardous industries;
- (b) whether Government have approved any projects for this purpose;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the welfare measures under consideration of Government in the interests of the child labourers?

## Non-payment of PF arrears

- †1179. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that several companies are not making the payment of Provident Fund arrears to their employees inspite of the repeated reminders;
- (b) whether these companies are violating the provisions of Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1952;
- (c) whether any action has not been taken by Government against such companies and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) if not, the companies against whom action has been taken?

# Social Security Legislation for unorganised sector

- 1180. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Advisory Council has finalized the Social Security Legislation for unorganized sector workers in the country;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the proposed Legislation;
- (c) the number of workers going to be benefited from this Legislation who otherwise are not covered under any labour laws of the country;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that the proposed Legislation would be implemented through workers facilitation centres; and
  - (e) if so, the details thereof?

# Funds allocated for the welfare of child labourers

- †1181. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether projects for the welfare of child labourers are being run at present;
- (b) if so, the number of such projects and the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount allocated for implementing these projects during the last three years?

#### Pending cases in Industrial Tribunalscum-Labour Courts

1182. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases pending in Central Government Industrial Tribunalscum-Labour Court as on 31st March, 2005, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;
- (b) the number of cases registered during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) the number of cases disposed of on merits during the said period by the Presiding Officers;
- (d) whether Government have taken steps for expeditious disposal of pending cases; and
  - (e) if so, the details thereof?

### Review of interest rates on Employees Provident Fund

- 1183. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the scheme of funds from Employees Provident Fund (EPF) has been reviewed to make it feasible to pay interest @ 9.5 per cent on EPF; and
- (b) if so, what has been current practice for deployment of EPF money and what steps are contemplated to assure 9.5 per cent interest on EPF?

# Skilled and unskilled labourers in the country

- 1184. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of persons who have gone abroad for job opportunities during the last three years, skilled and unskilled labour and professionals separately; and
  - (b) the details of facilities being extend

by Government for persons looking for employment abroad?

#### Pension scheme in various sectors

- 1185. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that only about 11 per cent of the total population of our country is covered by a proper pension scheme and large number of people are not covered by pensions, so far;
- (b) if so, Government's response thereto; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken for increasing coverage of pension scheme in various fields?

# Conversion of sea water into potable water

### 1186. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a new technology has been developed to convert sea water into potable water with a lesser cost;
  - (b) if so, the details of the technology;
- (c) whether any experiments have been carried out to demonstrate the new technology;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it is also a fact that with the new technology the cost of conversion of sea water into potable water comes to around 22 paise per litre; and
  - (f) if so, whether it is viable?

# Human trafficking by recruiting agencies

- 1187. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have taken any decision to check the racket of human traffickers and fake recruiting agents who recruit young women to Gulf countries for sexual activities;
- (b) the number of cases that have been detected and reported by the Indian Consulate in the Gulf countries and the actions taken thereon:
- (c) the number of cases in which erring recruiting agencies have been charged; and
- (d) whether Government have introduced any effective measures in the immigrations laws to check the above said rackets?

## Miseries of Indians abroad

- 1188. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that unscrupulous recruiting agencies were responsible for the miseries that Indians, especially the labour class had to face in many countries, including United Arab Emirates;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government had decided to issue Smart Cards to Indians seeking overseas jobs to curb exploitations; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

## Reservation for women in Government jobs

- 1189. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether reservation, with relaxation in age and educational qualification, is available for women candidates for appointment to various grades in Central Government Offices and Organisations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of women appointed to various grades of posts reserved for them in different organisations during the last three years:
- (c) if no such reservation or relaxation in age and educational qualification is available for women candidates, whether Government proposes to introduce such a system; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

## Raising the upper age limit for women

- 1190. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) what is the ratio of employment between men and women in Central Government Offices and PSUs;
- (b) the number of people recruited in these offices during the last three years, gender-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether very few women get into Government service because by the time their children are out of their care, the women are over-aged for Government service:
- (d) if so, would the upper-age limit raised for women, say up to 45-50 years, to enable more and more women to join

Government service for their economic emancipation; and

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

## Foreign training of officials

- †1191. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the tendency of higher officials of the Central and State Governments touring foreign countries in the name of training has grown in recent years;
- (b) if so, Ministry-wise (Centre) and State-wise (State) details of the officials gone abroad during the last two years;
- (c) the details of amount spent and achievements made from the said trainings/tours; and
- (d) the details of steps to be taken by Government to keep a check on such lavish expenditure in the name of said tours and rationalise them?

## Mid-term appraisal of Tenth Plan

†1192. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that according to the mid-term appraisal of Tenth Five Year Plan period, the targets fixed in the country are not going to be achieved;
  - (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the areas where target would not be achieved:

- (d) whether it is also a fact that 58 policy decisions have been taken for implementation in the remaining years of the plan period; and
  - (e) if so, the details of the said decisions?

## Mid-term review of Tenth Plan

†1193. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Planning Commission have decided to decrease capital investment in certain sectors after mid-term review of Tenth Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the names of these sectors; and
- (c) the amount decided to be decreased in each sector separately?

### **Backward region of Orissa**

1194. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the last meeting of National Development Council, the Chief Minister of Orissa has made a request for inclusion of Kandhamal and other backward districts of the State for grant of Backward Region Development Fund, to correct the regional imbalance in the State; and
  - (b) if so, the status of the proposal?

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

## Special category status to Orissa

1195. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Orissa during the 51st Meeting of the National Development Council, has made a strong case for the grant of special category status to Orissa and also put forward other alternatives to help the State to tide over the financial crisis;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action plan of the Central Government to help the State in the matter?

### Central assistance to States for Tenth Plan

1196. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Central assistance for the Tenth Plan projected with increase in each case, State-wise;
- (b) the details of assistance increased for NER States in comparison to other States under the plan; and
- (c) the details of policy formulated alongwith the details of projects for the economic development of the region?

### NDC meeting

1197. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the decisions arrived at with consensus during National Development Council Meeting held in Delhi on June 27th and 28th, 2005;
  - (b) whether any machinery has been

set up to ensure prompt and speedy implementation thereof; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

## National Development Report, 2003

- 1198. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that according to Human Development Report, 2003, India is the home to the largest number of hungry people; and
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to turn India into a hunger free country?

### Central assistance to Uttar Pradesh

- †1199. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh had made a request to the Hon'ble Prime Minister for the grant for Central assistance amounting to Rs. 18230.00 crores for the schemes of various sectors in the State through a special economic package for the development of the State;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when the Central assistance in the form of a special economic package for the development of the State is likely to be provided?

## Working of Common Minimum Programme

1200. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister in his recent

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

annual appraisal of the working of the Common Minimum Programme stressed the need for making the National Development Council more effective to build a consensus on fiscal health of the State Governments:

- (b) if so, the Prime Minister's appraisal about the effectiveness of the National Development Council; and
- (c) the steps that have since been taken to make the council more effective and with what success?

## Two day meeting of NDC

- †1201. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of decisions taken in two days meeting of the National Development Council held in Delhi;
- (b) the details of decisions taken with consensus:
- (c) the details of issues on which consensus could not be formed; and
- (d) the details of efforts being made by Government to evolve consensus on them?

### Mid-term Appraisal of Tenth Plan

- 1202. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether as per the Mid-term Appraisal of the Tenth Plan, the plan outlays were lower by about two per cent of the GDP of both the Centre and the States:
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken to mobilise the resources required for completion of the programmes other than the borrowing; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount needed to complete the projects under the Tenth Plan?

### Rise in employment

1203. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per recently released census figures the number of employed youths has gone up considerably during the last ten years;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government have drawn up any contingent plan to create fresh employment opportunities and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

### New model for weather prediction

- 1204. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are considering a proposal to switch over to new model of weather prediction and monsoon forecasting; and
- (b) if so, the salient features of the new model and the country from which it would be acquired?

## FDI in bio-tech industry

1205. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to create US

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- \$5 million bio-technology industry by 2010, Government have decided to allow 100 per cent FDI through automatic route;
- (b) whether it means that the biotechnology industry is exempted from compulsory licensing; and
- (c) the fiscal incentives that Government are proposing to extend to bio-tech industry?

### **Earnings on a Patent**

1206. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have developed an institutional framework which would enable a Scientist to retain a percentage of the earnings on a Patent;
- (b) the details of this new system to help scientists;
- (c) in what manner Government would improve the Patent Registration system in the country;
- (d) the steps Government propose to encourage scientists to do productive research; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken in this regard?

### **Cloud Seeding**

- 1207. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that US-based Weather Modification Inc. had done the cloud seeding in the past two years in Maharashtra:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether it is effective and whether there is any Government project to develop cloud seeding in India?

### Forecasts by IMD

1208. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have recently issued a directive that no other agency than the Indian Meteorological Department can make public the annual long range monsoon forecasts;
- (b) whether the predictions of the IMD since 1988 have had high failure rate (of nearly 65%), especially the gross failure of its forecast during the 2002 drought year; and
- (c) whether IMD's imposing of its authority on similar research institutions in the country, can be extended to such institutions abroad, whose monsoon forecast are easily accessible to Indian media over websites?

## CSIR as a deemed university

- 1209. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research is proposed to be made a deemed university;
- (b) how far this would help to enhance their research work, its quality and association with the private sector in research work?

## New map policy

- 1210. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have announced a new map policy to boost the Geographical

Information System (GIS) based industry as well as help create a range of databases, which could be used in better planning and implementation of development projects;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these maps would be freely made available to the general public as it would help both the public and private sector for development works; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

### Policy on Biotechnology

- 1211. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that genetic experts and some of the members of the Expert Committee constituted to frame the policy on Biotechnology assailed the draft policy saying that it is for developing biotechnology and not using biotechnology for development;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government on this; and
- (c) the genuine efforts Government are making or have made to elicit views from public and others on this proposed policy?

## **Central Electronics Limited**

- 1212. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Central Electronics Limited is the largest manufacturer of Solar Photovotaic products, among top producers of crystalline silicon solar cells/modules;
- (b) if so, what are reasons for which it is incurring operating loss for the last three years; and
  - (c) whether it is also a fact that

indigenous manufacturer of strategic item Phased Control Module has leading position in the area of Railway Electronics and Cathodic Protection System?

### Soft loans by CSIR

- 1213. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that CSIR is providing Soft Loans for Research and Development under various Schemes; and
- (b) if so, the Schemes formulated so far?

### **Status of National Road Safety Policy**

- 1214. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the status of the National Road Safety Policy;
- (b) whether the National Road Safety Policy drafted in 1992 is still under consideration of the Ministry;
- (c) if not, the plans to formulate a new policy; and
- (d) the extent of loss of lives and economic losses as a result of road accidents in the country in last five years from 1999-2000 to 2004-05?

## Launching of Sethu Samudram Project

1215. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH:

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

- (a) whether the Prime Minister has recently launched the Sethu Samudram Project of Kodiakkarai Coast in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details of the project including its estimated cost and sources of its funding;
  - (c) the objective of the proposed project;
- (d) whether Government of Sri Lanka have expressed several reservations with regard to its project; and
- (e) if so, details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

#### **Revival of HDPEL**

### 1216. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR: SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

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

- (a) whether the revival scheme of Hooghly Dock and Port Engineering Ltd. has been examined by Board of Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE);
- (b) if so, the recommendations of the Board; and
  - (c) if not, the reason for the delay?

# Implementation of National Highway Projects

- 1217. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the poor implementation of the National Highway Projects;
  - (b) the target and implementation

- schedule for completion of the National Highway Project in the various sectors, Sector-wise:
- (c) the reasons for their dismal performance; and
- (d) whether Government would review the progress and expedite its completion and spell out a definite time-frame having regard to the importance of this infrastructure project?

### Collission of ships at Visakhapatnam Port

- 1218. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that two ships collided at Visakhapatnam Port, recently;
- (b) to what extent has lax piloting and port management been the cause of such accidents:
- (c) the number of such accidents that have taken place in the last two years at Visakhapatnam;
- (d) whether any enquiry has been done by a competent authority on this accident; and
- (e) the steps that would be taken to ensure that there are no such accidents in future?

# Damaged National Highways in Gujarat

- 1219. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a large number of National Highways, particularly in Gujarat have

been damaged due to recent torrential rains and floods:

- (b) if so, the details of National Highways damaged during the last three months; and
- (c) the steps Government propose to take to repair these highways?

## Growth in laying of National Highways

- 1220. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the growth in the laying of National Highways by the NHAI could not reach the target due to slow progress; and
- (b) the steps Government are taking to achieve the target as envisaged by the National Highways Authority of India?

## **Restoration of BOT contracts**

- 1221. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) are now resorting to Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) contracts and that too on negative grants;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of such contracts awarded so far stating the names of companies/persons to whom BOT contracts have so far been given on negative grant and the National Highways for which such contract has been given and the amount given to NHAI by each contractor;
- (d) the terms and conditions on which said contracts have been given; and

(e) the criteria for fixing the amount to be given by contractors to NHAI?

### Target fixed for road construction

- 1222. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the target fixed for the year 2004-05 for the construction work-either in the form of widening, strengthening or improving of highways and construction and rehabilitation of bridges and bypasses;
- (b) the extent to which this target was achieved;
- (c) in case the achievement has fallen short of target, the reasons therefor; and
  - (d) the reaction of Government thereto?

#### Performance of road contractors

- 1223. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there has been poor performance by certain contractors in the laying of roads by National Highways Authority of India;
- (b) if so, the action that has been taken against those contractors; and
- (c) the mechanism that has been worked out to ensure proper performance and timely completion of work by contractors?

## Funds collected for road infrastructure

1224. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that an amount of Rs. 1465 crores, out of Rs. 4526 crores, collected specifically for road infrastructure, in the form of additional excise and customs duties levied on petrol, during 2000-01 to 2004-05, lies unutilised by some of the bigger States;
- (b) if so, the details of accruals of the specific levies, the extent of utilisation and reasons for under-utilisation of these Central funds, State-wise; and
- (c) the fresh plans drawn up to speed up the pace of upgradation and/or creation of additional road infrastructure to utilise these available funds, State-wise?

## Construction of National Highways in Bihar

- †1225. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that 513 kms. of National Highways of East-West corridor under National Highway Development Project, the construction of which is yet to be taken up, is located in Bihar;
- (b) whether it is a fact that this National Highway of East-West corridor, the construction of which is being delayed unnecessarily, has importance from strategic point of view as well; and
- (c) if so, the stipulated period by when Government propose to complete its construction and the details thereof?

### NH-57 in Bihar

†1226. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Highway No. 57 in Bihar has been inducted in the National Highway Development Project and action is being taken to construct it as an East-West corridor; and
- (b) if so, its present status alongwith the details in respect of its construction?

### Progress report of NHAI

- †1227. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether National Highways Authority of India has submitted any report to Government regarding progress of Golden Quadrilateral Highway Project;
- (b) whether dissatisfaction has been expressed in the said report on the progress of the said project; and
  - (c) if so, Government's stand thereto?

#### NH from Barahi to Bahargoda

- †1228. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the present status of changing National Highway from Barahi to Baharagoda *via* Ranchi into 'four lanes';
- (b) whether requisite funds have been sanctioned by the Central Government in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

## Study of problems of taxes on Highways

†1229. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to constitute a Committee for studying the problem of different types of taxes to be levied in respect of National Highways and for suggesting the measures to solve these problems;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

# Sanction of Sethu Samudram Canal project

1230. SHRIB.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's decision to sanction the Sethu Samudram Canal project is based on the Environmental Impact Report done by NEERI;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the report has very little primary data relevant to this project and lacks in-depth assessment of microbiological character and oxygen depletion during dredging of the canal which has bearing on the marine life and the livelihood of fishermen; and
- (c) whether the Central Government would constitute an Expert Committee to assess the environmental impact of the project afresh?

#### Collection of toll tax

- 1231. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of highways on which toll tax is being collected;
- (b) the year till which the toll tax is proposed to be collected;
- (c) the details of toll tax collected during the last three years, National Highwaywise; and
- (d) the rationale on which the toll tax and the total amount to be collected has been arrived at?

### **Funds from CRF for Assam**

- 1232. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the ongoing projects funded by the Central Road Fund in the State of Assam as on 1st July, 2005;
- (b) the details of the estimated cost, funds released and utilised during the last three years, project-wise; and
- (c) the details of the target dates fixed for completion of each project?

#### **Development of roads in Assam**

- 1233. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to develop the various roads in the State of Assam as National Highways;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the necessary steps being taken by Government in this regard?

## Target for construction of roads

- 1234. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) and the Border Road Development Board (BRDB) could not meet Government's target for 2004-05 for construction of National Highways, bridges and bypasses;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government would revise its target to mitigate the shortfall?

# Connecting Eastern Coast with Western Coast

- †1235. SHRI R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to formulate a scheme for connecting Eastern Coast with Western Coast of the country;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount likely to be spent by Government for implementation of the said scheme?

## Road from Jammu to Suchetgarh

1236. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposal for the upgradation of the State Road from Jammu to Suchetgarh in Jammu and Kashmir has been submitted to his Ministry;
- (b) if so, the steps that has been taken to upgrade this road;
- (c) the amount released by Government for this purpose; and
  - (d) the details thereof?

#### Hi-tech number plates

- 1237. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government had proposed usage of hi-tech number plates for vehicles in view of large number of thefts and some of them being used for committing crimes;
- (b) if so, whether all the States have been directed to implement usage of hitech number plates for vehicles;
- (c) if so, the details of States which have started implementing the proposal;
- (d) the details of States which have opposed this move; and
  - (e) the reasons therefor?

## **Improvement along NH-5**

- 1238. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Road Safety Forum had demanded certain improvements and changes along the NH-5 in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh;

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) to what extent has the NHAI been responsive and prompt in matter of addressing such suggestions;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that there is a delayed response to public demands by NHAI; and
- (d) the steps that are proposed to promptly address and remove the pending grievances of that area raised by the Road Safety Forum?

#### **Deformities on NH-5**

- 1239. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Human Right Commission has issued a notice in 1993 to the NHAI with regard to certain construction deformities on NH-5 in Andhra Pradesh:
- (b) to what extent have the demands been met to meet the needs of local people and enhance road safety;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the NHAI had agreed to pedestrian over bridge at certain points;
- (d) if so, the criteria that would be followed in constructing such pedestrian over bridges as demanded by the petitioners;
  - (e) the details thereof?

### **Declaration of new waterways**

- 1240. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to declared three new national waterways;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) how many more kms. would be added to existing national waterways with the declaration of the new waterway;
- (d) whether Government have set any target for increasing inland water transport;and
- (e) if so, what is this target and what measures are being adopted to achieve the target?

#### **CRF** allocated to States

- 1241. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the amount of Central Road Funds allocated to States and utilised by them since 2000-01;
- (b) the reasons for under utilisation of this fund:
- (c) the length of National Highways and rural roads repaired and constructed by each State during the above period; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Losses to New Mangalore Port**

- 1242. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the new Mangalore Port would incur huge loss of revenue once the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited stops mining operations as per Supreme Court decision;
- (b) if so, the estimated loss of revenue to New Mangalore port; and

(c) the steps taken if any to make up the loss?

#### **Utilisation of CRF**

- 1243. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that all States except Assam and Mizoram have been lethargic in using the money of Central Road Fund allotted to the States;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Rs. 1,464.8 crore lies unused at a time when the Centre is pushing infrastructure development; and
- (c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to promote maximum utilisation of CRF by all States?

### Waterway transport in Lucknow

- †1244. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh have sent any proposal to the Central Government in connection with dredging, desilting and construction of ferry station to provide waterways transport in the city of Lucknow; and
- (b) if so, the action taken so far in this regard?

# Establishment of national maritime complex

1245. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to establish a national maritime complex at Semancheri, near Chennai;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the proposed maritime complex would also accommodate the regional office of the Marine Mercantile Department; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### National Highways in Chhattisgarh

- †1246. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the State Government of Chhattisgarh have forwarded proposals regarding strengthening and widening of National Highways situated in the State, if so, the numbers thereof;
- (b) whether Central Government have formulated any plan in this regard;
- (c) if so, the road map and time limit thereof; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### Regulatory framework for SSIs

†1247. DR. CHHATTRAPAL SINGH LODHA: SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

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

- (a) whether Government are considering to formulate a regulatory framework related to the Small Scale Industries so that it may grow in a competitive environment;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) whether Government are also contemplating to implement the single window clearance system to establish Small Scale Industries;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government are also contemplating to raise the financial limit of those units from Rs. 5 crore so that they may continue to be covered under the small scale?

#### SSIs in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh

- †1248. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have formulated any plan to set up the group of the Small Scale Industries in the backward areas of the Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the facilities that Government are giving and are going to give for setting up Small Scale Industries in these areas?

## Import of items included in reserved list

- †1249. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have allowed to import some items in the reserved list of Small Scale Industries;
- (b) if so, the period for which these items are being kept in the reserved list;
- (c) whether Government's policy is to allow the big foreign traders in regard to the items of reserved list of Small Scale Industries but the big Indian Industries in the same sector are kept away;

- (d) the number of sectors/industries excluded from the reserved list of Small Scale Industries during the last five years, and the proportion of each item excluded from the list;
- (e) whether any detailed policy review has been done for making such dereservation; and
  - (f) if so, the details thereof?

## Competition of SSI with foreign countries

- †1250. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Small Scale Industries of our country are not able to compete with the Small Scale Industries of other countries like China, Japan, etc.;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the effective steps being taken by Government in this regard?

## Cluster development of industries

- 1251. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a scheme called UPTECH on Technology Upgradation and Management Programme was launched in 1998 for cluster of industries etc.:
- (b) if so, the details of important work done under the scheme for cluster development and its impact on the Small Scale Industries; and
- (c) the details of ambitious projects proposed to be undertaken under the scheme during 2005-06 and 2006-07?

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### Assistance for SSIs in Tamil Nadu

- 1252. SHRI N. R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are providing assistance to various State Governments for the Small Scale Industry sector;
- (b) if so, the details of the assistance provided during the last three years, State-wise:
- (c) the quantum of assistance to various State Governments particularly Tamil Nadu during the current financial year; and
- (d) the number of workers benefited as a result thereof?

### **Increase of satellites**

- 1253. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the newly set up Master Control Facility of ISRO has become operational;
- (b) in what manner the Master Control Facility helps in increasing the number of satellites in INSAT system; and
- (c) to what extent the country has achieved self-sufficiency in rocket technology?

### Setting up of an Earth Station

- 1254. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether India and USA are holding discussions for setting up an Earth Station in India for receiving data from US-National Polar-Orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS);
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the advantages that India would benefit from this project?

#### Launching of next PSLV

- 1255. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is getting ready for next PSLV launch;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the preparation for the launch of Chandrayan were going on well; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### Divergence between poverty estimates

- 1256. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a 40 per cent divergence between the poverty estimates of the National Accounts Statistics and those of the National Sample Survey Organisations;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the 55th NSS round has changed its methodology giving rise to problems of comparability with earlier rounds; and
  - (c) if so, the details thereof?

# Construction of sports complex at Udupi

- 1257. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the proposal for construction of Sports Complex at Udupi District of Karnataka is pending with Government;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) by when the final decision would be taken?

#### **Opening of Sports Academy**

1258. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have decided to open Sports Academy for training young sports persons in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of such Sports Academy; and
- (c) the amount earmarked for development of sports related activity?

# Construction of a youth hostel in Lucknow

- †1259. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the amount provided by Government for the construction of a Youth Hostel on Barha Road, Anand Nagar, near National Park in Lucknow;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the construction of the said building has been completed;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the company constructing the said hotel has sought additional amount from Government;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that a request has been made for inspection of the said building by Central Public Works Department; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government for speedy disposal of cases?

### Sports infrastructure in UP

1260. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the cities and villages of Uttar Pradesh where sports infrastructure have been developed during the last three years, district-wise;
- (b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for development of sports infrastructure in the various districts of Uttar Pradesh during the current year;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

#### **Funds for Commonwealth Games**

1261. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are grappling with finances of the 2010 Commonwealth Games to be held in New Delhi;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the cost of hosting games is likely to increase from Rs. 634 crores to Rs. 800 crores; and
- (c) if so, the details of the spending mechanism?

### **Doping test**

1262. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is set to put the anti doping programme on fast track but the major problem in checking doping has been absence of the right personnel in Government; and

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to appoint right personnel to check doping?

# Monopolies of management in Sports

1263. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that monopolies of management have come to stay and dominate all games and sports in the country;

- (b) in what manner Government are trying to change the scenario presently prevailing in the country;
- (c) whether any term limits would be imposed on any individual or group who continue to dominate the same game or sport from any State for decades together;
- (d) whether opinion has been sought on how to combat this stagnation in sports management all across the country; and
- (e) the steps proposed to open up sports management and administration in the country?

New Delhi; *The 29th July*, 2005 *Sravana 7*, 1927 (*Saka*) YOGENDRA NARAIN, Secretary-General.

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