

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, the May 6, 2005/Vaisakha 16, 1927 (Saka)*

(Ministries : Agriculture; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Environment and Forests; Food Processing Industries; Health and Family Welfare; Railways; Steel)

Total number of questions —155

#### Oilseeds production programme in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh

‡4641. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are promoting the production of oilseeds in the country;

(b) if so, the special aid provided to Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh under Centrally sponsored oilseeds production programme during 2004-05 and the extent of aid likely to be provided during 2005-06; and

(c) the names of pulses, the production of which is likely to increase and the extent thereof?

#### Agricultural reforms

4642. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRI MOOLCHAND  
MEENA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a bid to push up farm output, Government have approved a slew

of proposals like agriculture reforms, a minimum buffer stock quantum, national jute policy and rubber plantation scheme;

(b) if so, whether, according to new reforms, Government hiked minimum buffer stocks for rice and wheat;

(c) whether Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs also approved a Centrally sponsored scheme, support to State Extension Reforms, at a cost of Rs. 69.28 crores for this fiscal year and Rs. 226.07 crore for the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, to what extent these schemes would improve farm output in the country?

#### Indian farmers alliance

4643. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI  
BARUPAL:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI  
REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian farmers alliance comprising representative bodies, covering virtually all agricultural commodities with

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

economic value, is expected to become a reality by the end of April, 2005;

(b) if so, whether this new apex organization would be on the lines of the CII and its headquarters in Delhi; and

(c) if so, the main functions of this new apex body and to what extent it would be helpful to the farmers?

#### **Development of milch cattle**

†4644. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR  
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the possibilities of the development of milch cattle in the country;

(b) if so, the annual turnover of this industry, so far, along with the percentage of contribution of this industry towards the Gross Domestic Product of the country; and

(c) the number of part time and full time persons involved in this industry?

#### **Setting up of a manure/fertilizer factory in Khagaria**

†4645. SHRI VIDYA SAGAR NISHAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the land from East Nakabiya to Kursela in Khagaria district in Bihar is very fertile and the farmers there have to bear exorbitant prices due to dependence on other bazaars for manure/fertilizers required for fertile agriculture;

(b) if so, whether Government propose

to set up a manure fertilizer factory in Khagaria region for the benefit of farmers;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Banned pesticides**

4646. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of banned pesticides are still being used by farmers of Punjab and elsewhere in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to curb and check the marketing of such pesticides and action taken against culprits?

#### **Horticulture promotion in Orissa**

4647. DR. RADHAKANT NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the areas identified in Orissa to promote horticulture; and

(b) the details of the financial assistance provided by National Horticulture Board to develop horticulture projects in the State during the last five years?

#### **CEFS campaign for freedom from hunger**

4648. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
PROF. ALKA BALRAM  
KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre for Environment and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Food Security (CEFS) has launched a nationwide freedom from hunger campaign to mitigate suffering of 340 million people in the country, if so, whether it has been decided to observe year 2005 as a year of complete freedom from Hunger;

(b) whether outlining reasons for launching campaign, it has been pointed out that more than 24,000 people die of hunger every day and nearly 78 per cent of them are women and children;

(c) whether it is also a fact that every third hungry person in the world is an Indian; and

(d) the details of schemes that have been prepared?

#### **Stray cattle**

4649. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of stray cattle in the country is increasing day by day and they are damaging the crops;

(b) if so, the details of Government's policy to control them;

(c) whether it is also a fact that when cows go dry they are left on the roads by their owners and they not only die during accidents but also endanger the lives of human being; and

(d) if so, the action Government propose to take in this regard?

#### **Construction of rural godowns**

4650. SHRI AMAR SINGH:  
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1862 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th March, 2005 and state:

(a) the number of storage projects which have been sanctioned by NCDC and NABARD;

(b) the number of godowns which have actually been constructed alongwith the details of the subsidy given to the owners of the godowns; and

(c) the future plan of Government in this regard?

#### **Procurement of oil palm from Karnataka**

4651. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centre had procured oil palm from Karnataka during 2000-01;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that full amount for the procurement made has not been released, so far; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and by when the balance amount would be released?

#### **Biotechnology in agriculture**

4652. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1046 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd July, 2004 and state the details of out come of inter-ministerial consultations in respect of the recommendations of the task force on Application of Bio-technology in Agriculture?

### **Fish production**

4653. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether fish production from marine and inland sources could not achieve the desired level of target set for 2004-05;

(b) whether, due to this, the social-economic security of the artisan fishermen will be considerably affected;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the projected fish production and the actual achievement made during the last three years?

### **Livestock in U.P.**

†4654. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether livestock census has been done recently in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the present number of livestock particularly milch animals;

(c) the status of hybrid livestock species in the State; and

(d) the steps being taken to make improvement in numbers as well as species of livestock in the State by the Central and State Governments?

### **WB's suggestion for growing vegetables and flowers**

†4655. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank in the name of free trade is insisting

that the Indian farmers should grow vegetables and flowers instead of foodgrains;

(b) whether it is also a fact that not only our eco-system is likely to be affected but also the small foodgrain dealers, farmers, women and the downtrodden classes would have to starve as a result thereof;

(c) if so, whether Government are aware that the developed countries are likely to establish their monopoly over foodgrains as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the remedial measure Government are contemplating?

### **KVKs in NER**

4656. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras set up, so far, in the North Eastern Region during the last three years;

(b) the details of target fixed for the setting up of KVKs in all the districts of NER during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by Government in this regard?

### **Garlic production**

†4657. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are importing garlic inspite of a good yield of garlic in the country;

(b) if so, the gap between production and consumption of garlic in the country; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for increasing the yield of garlic?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Involving Mark-fed as broker between farmers and CCI**

4658. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would increase minimum support price of cotton from Rs. 1760 per quintal to Rs. 2500 and groundnut from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000 to strengthen domestic industries;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would assure of paying the price for cotton growers in advance through Mark-fed, which could recover the same amount from the Cotton Corporation of India, through an agreement between farmers, Cotton Corporation of India and Mark-fed, to solve the present crisis of hardships of cotton growers in getting their price amount from Cotton Corporation of India after more than two months; which is leading to their unbearable indebtedness under exploiting private money lenders; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Foodgrain production**

4659. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foodgrain production for the year 2004-05 is estimated as 210.44 million tonnes against 213.46 million tonnes last year;

(b) if so, the reasons for the shortfall;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have assessed the rabi prospects and discussed the strategies and plans for the coming kharif season including the input situation and budget position; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Assistance to Karnataka Veterinary Animal and Fisheries Sciences University**

4660. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Karnataka Veterinary Animal and Fisheries Sciences University has been started during 2004-05 at Bidar in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, whether the Karnataka Government has sought any financial assistance for taking up research and other programmes besides providing infrastructure facilities at the new University?

**Technology mission on rice**

4661. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to launch a Technology Mission on rice/paddy so as to increase the production of rice and to improve per hectare productivity of rice;

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

(c) whether the Central Government have taken note of the very low per hectare productivity of the paddy crop when compared to countries like Japan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

**Growth of agriculture production**

4662. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the first three years of the Tenth Five Year Plan, the growth of agriculture production was below 1.5 per cent as against the target of 4.0 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons for the shortfall of agriculture production;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had decided to reverse the deceleration in the last decade; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**MSP of cotton in Maharashtra**

4663. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:  
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the minimum support price of cotton fixed by Maharashtra Government and other State Governments in this year;

(b) the details of Agriculture Price Commission's recommendation in this regard, indicating the cost of production of cotton in different areas; and

(c) how far the farmer's interests have been safeguarded thereby?

**Increasing rabi crop yield**

4664. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after kharif setback agriculture Ministry is hoping to

get heavy crop to offset the loss of production in the Rabi season; and

(b) the steps Government propose to increase the production in the rabi-crop in this season?

**Increase in agricultural production**

†4665. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agricultural production has been increasing at the average rate of 1.5 per cent per year during the last decade;

(b) if not, the rate of the said increase and whether it is also a fact that due to the rate of increase in population being more than the rate of increase in agricultural production per capita availability of coarse foodgrains, pulses, wheat and rice has reduced; and

(c) if so, the said availability of each product at the beginning and close of the last decade?

**Loan to agriculture sector**

†4666. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the loan given to the agriculture sector is being increased constantly during recent years;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in the loan provided to agriculture sector each

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

year respectively from the year 2001 to 2004;

(c) whether it is a fact that agricultural production has not increased on year to year basis despite increase made in availability of loan; and

(d) if so, the quantity of yearly agricultural production recorded during each of the said years?

#### **Average milk production**

†4667. DR. MURLI MANOHAR  
JOSHI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1089 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th March, 2005 and state:

(a) the per cattle average milk production in India;

(b) the per cattle milk production at international level; and

(c) the highest per cattle milk production in the world alongwith the name of the country?

#### **Modernising fishing harbours**

4668. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:  
SHRI C. RAMA-  
CHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn any plans to modernize fishing harbours in the country, after Tsunami;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government have received some proposals from States

for setting up of modern fishing harbours; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government on these proposals?

#### **Farmers living below poverty line**

4669. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:  
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been done, so far, to ascertain the number of farmers living below poverty line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government would make a survey immediately to know the plight of farmers in the country?

#### **Relief to gas victims of M.P.**

†4670. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that share of Government of India as well as the Madhya Pradesh Government has been fixed at 75 per cent and 25 per cent respectively in the schemes being run for the gas victims;

(b) whether 75 per cent amount is due to be paid by Government of India for recurring expenditure also; and

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact that funds are being provided to Madhya Pradesh Government as per the said agreement for the rehabilitation schemes being run for the gas victims?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Supply of Phosphoric Acid**

†4671. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that fertilizer plants in the country are not getting supply of phosphoric acid;

(b) if so, whether the crisis of supply of D.A.P. is likely to arise as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to tackle this crisis?

**Chinese co-operation in pharma industry**

4672. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Indian pharmaceutical companies have discussed number of issues with the representatives of Chinese companies who were accompanying the Prime Minister of China during his visit to India;

(b) if so, whether both Indian and Chinese pharmaceutical companies have reached an agreement;

(c) if so, the main points of agreement reached; and

(d) to what extent China has agreed to help Indian pharmaceutical companies and has opened their way in China, so that both countries could gain lot of experience on pharmaceutical issue?

**Sandhu Committee on drug prices**

†4673. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Sandhu Committee has submitted its recommendations for providing medicines at cheaper rates to common men in the country;

(b) if so, the details of those recommendations;

(c) whether cheaper medicines would be available after the implementation of those recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details of the scheme to implement these recommendations in the country?

**National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority**

4674. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the main functions of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority;

(b) the steps taken by this Authority to control prices of drugs;

(c) the details of cases of overcharging by drug manufacturing companies that came to light during the last three years;

(d) action taken against such companies for overcharging; and

(e) whether Government will make it mandatory for drug manufacturing companies to get prior approval for fixing Maximum Retail Price (MRP)?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Increasing commodities through FPSs**

4675. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the commodities supplied to APL and BPL families through Fair Price Shops;

(b) the prices of these commodities for both the APL and the BPL families; and

(c) whether Government propose to add more items to the programme for supplying to the BPL families through Fair Price Shops?

### **Displaying contents on cold drinks**

†4676. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:  
DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH  
LODHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hon'ble Court has issued orders to the effect that statutory warning should be printed on bottles, containing cold drinks, pertaining to the harmful ingredients present in the drinks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

### **Foodgrains perished in godowns**

†4677. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains perished in godowns in the country alongwith reasons therefor; and

(b) the view of Government with regard to the utilization of these foodgrains for the cause of helpless people?

### **Exporting old stock of wheat and rice**

†4678. DR. MURLI MANOHAR  
JOSHI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to export old wheat and rice to foreign countries;

(b) if so, how old is this foodgrain and the quantity thereof with FCI till March, 2005;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the abovesaid wheat has been exported during the earlier years, if so, the details of export of wheat with quantity thereof mentioning the export price during last three years; and

(d) the total loss incurred as a result of such export?

### **Foodgrain export policy**

4679. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the new foodgrain export policy;

(b) whether the States have been consulted while framing this policy; and

(c) the steps taken to boost export of foodgrains subject to domestic demand?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Availability of wheat at ration shops**

4680. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports that goods especially wheat is not reaching properly to Governmental ration shops, which adversely affects the life of general people at large; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the steps taken by Government to maintain timely delivery; and

(c) the details of Governmental ration shops operating in the country, State-wise?

**Edible oils**

†4681. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:  
SHRI DHARAM PAL  
SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the annual consumption of the edible oils in the country alongwith the production thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a wide gap between the consumption and production; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to increase the production?

**FCI agreement with CWC of Andhra Pradesh**

4682. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has any business dealings or

agreements with the Central Warehouse Corporation (CWC) in Andhra Pradesh during the last year;

(b) the details of such an agreement or actual usage of any godown of the CWC by the FCI in the State;

(c) whether it is a fact that the FCI has refused to hire any space from the CWC during last year;

(d) whether it is a fact that the CWC could not come up to the commercial expectations of the FCI; and

(e) the details of the cause of the brakedown of the commercial relationship of FCI with CWC in 2003-04 and 2004-05?

**Computer purchases by FCI**

4683. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that FCI has purchased 5000 computers against 10,000 employees Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS);

(b) if so, the quantum of money spent on the purchase of these computers, at what price these computers have been purchased, from and of what make; and

(c) whether Government have received any complaints in the procurement of these computers and if so, the action taken thereon?

**Revision of standard of drinking water by BIS**

4684. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the drinking

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

water standards laid down by the Bureau of Indian Standards in 1983 and subsequently revised and updated in 1991 (IS10500), are presently being further revised;

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

(c) whether a fresh review has been made to include drinking water under the category of "food" so that various agencies handling drinking water supplies can be legally held accountable for the bad quality of their supplies; and

(d) if so, the results thereof and what present Government contemplate on the subject?

**Converting rotten and low cost foodgrains into alcohol**

†4685. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:  
SHRIMATI PREMA

CARIAPPA:  
SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether authorities in CSIR have proposed conversion of rotten and low cost foodgrains into alcohol;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any study regarding economic viability of such conversion; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and likely benefits from such move?

**Starvation deaths in Rajasthan**

4686. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRI R.K. ANAND:  
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in spite of the Government of India spending huge amounts on stocking surplus grain *i.e.* 48.2 million tones in 2002-03, far in excess of the buffer norm of 25 million tones, 15 starvation deaths were reported in Rajasthan;

(b) whether Government have any planning to prevent such deaths this year and what strategy have Government been considering to tackle this; and

(c) how Government propose to monitor implementation of this?

**Fire in Gir National Park**

4687. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS  
KAUR:  
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA  
RAO:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a fire broke out around March 13, 2005, in the Gir National Park and Sanctuary in Gujarat; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the extent of damage to flora and fauna in the Sanctuary caused thereby;

(c) whether any inquiry has been held into the fire;

(d) the steps taken to make good the loss and protect and preserve it against further damage; and

(e) the latest report about the presence of the Asiatic lion and other big cats in the Park and the sanctuary?

**Tribals dependent on forests**

†4688. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:  
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage and number of tribals still dependent on forests;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the steps Government are taking to promote natural production of precious forest herbs by the tribals; and

(c) the efforts Government are making to raise the forest based employment?

#### **BRT System**

4689. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Bagota' model would soon mark Delhi breathe easy by adopting the Bus Road Transport (BRT) system;

(b) whether the ministry has undertaken any study about using the BRT system in Delhi and other cities;

(c) if so, the findings of the study undertaken in this regard; and

(d) whether Government are thinking of stopping pollution in the cities like Delhi, Hyderabad by adopting BRT system?

#### **Forest land**

†4690. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) national average of forest land in the country;

(b) the percentage of geographical area of Chhattisgarh State covered with forest; and

(c) whether any proposal is under consideration of Government for compensating expenditure being incurred on maintenance of forest area of the State having more forest area than the national average?

#### **Amendment of Forest Conservation Act, 1980**

4691. SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have formulated any scheme to amend the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 to settle/allot post 1978 non-tribal of 4000 forest encroachers families in the reserved forest area in Andaman District;

(b) if so, when this would be implemented; and

(c) if not, Government's decision about these families?

#### **Sewrei Nhava Trans Harbour Link**

4692. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: SHRI B.J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have cleared the Sewrei Nhava Trans Harbour Link proposed to be established at an estimated cost of Rs.2,600 crore in Mumbai;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Bombay Natural History Society has expressed concern and stated that it threatens the flamingos-one of the most primitive species; and

(c) if so, how far the project would affect the flamingos and other migrant wanderers & birds?

#### **Mangroves of Bhitarkanika**

4693. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the fact that the proposed industrialization along the Brahmani river in Orissa is likely to spell doom for the rich mangrove vegetation in Bhitarkanika National Park;

(b) whether it is a fact that it is feared that if the water of the Brahmani river is diverted for industrial use, the mangrove forest straddling coastal Kendrapara and Bhadrak district might disappear by 2010; and

(c) if so, whether Government have assessed the situation so as to ensure the health of mangroves of Bhitarkanika?

#### **Coastal eco system**

4694. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether work relating to identification mapping and digitization of the coastal ecosystem for the purpose of sustainable management has been taken up; and

(b) if so, the progress thereon?

#### **Violation of Environment Protection Act, 1986**

4695. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted laying of Railway lines and drawing of high tension electric cables etc. to pass through forest areas and wildlife sanctuary as in case of the Kodagu district of Karnataka implying cutting of thousands of trees to create a 100 meter wide corridor for cables;

(b) whether such acts of omission and commission by Government tantamount to weakening and violation of Environment Protection Act, 1986; and

(c) whether such acts open up thick virgin forest areas to human intrusion for the first time leading to illegal poaching, logging and other environmentally destructive activities?

#### **New emission norms in Delhi**

4696. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are working out new emission norms in the capital city Delhi;

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

(c) the time-frame within which the new emission norms would be implemented in the capital city Delhi?

#### **Task Force on the status of tigers in wildlife parks**

4697. SHRI R.P. GOENKA:  
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:  
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that on the initiative of Hon'ble Prime Minister, CBI has been asked to probe missing tigers from Sariska Tiger Reserve and other sanctuaries;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a special task force has been formed to look into the management of tiger reserves;

(d) have CBI and the task force submitted their reports; and

(e) if so, details thereof and action taken thereon?

### **National Wild Life Crime Bureau**

†4698. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:  
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT  
AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering  
to set up a National Wild Life Crime  
Bureau;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Census of tigers**

4699. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS  
KAUR:  
DR. AKHILESH DAS:  
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

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

(a) whether Panna (Madhya Pradesh)  
once hailed as the best success story of  
Project Tiger, has lost 35 to 40 tigers during  
the past two years;

(b) whether at least 6 tigers were also  
reported killed in Baudharvagarh (M.P.)  
recently;

(c) whether any census of tiger  
population has lately been caused or is being  
caused; if so, the comparative population  
of tigers in different sanctuaries and  
reserves as per last two censuses; and

(d) the steps taken and being taken to  
protect and promote tiger population?

### **Tiny elephants**

†4700. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the  
Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND  
FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the species  
of tiny elephants have been found in the  
forests of Kerala;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this was

known at the time when the four such  
elephants have already been killed; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by  
Government for the conservation of the  
species of tiny elephants?

### **Protection of the interests of Adivasis (tribals) living in the forests**

†4701. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:  
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT  
AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by  
Government for protecting the interests of  
Adivasis (tribals) living in forests;

(b) the complete details thereof; and

(c) the view of Government in respect  
of introducing Forest Rights Act in the  
Parliament for tribals?

### **Number of elephants in the country**

†4702. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:  
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT  
AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of elephants is  
declining rapidly in the country;

(b) if so, the figures of number of  
elephants during the last five years;

(c) the major steps taken by  
Government in this regard keeping in view  
the decreasing of elephants; and

(d) the details thereof?

### **Factories polluting the rivers in Kerala**

4703. SHRI N.K. PREMA-  
CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

any public or private sector factories which pollute the rivers in Kerala and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any provision exists to make good the compensation from the concerned factories and if so, whether such provisions are implemented effectively and the amount of compensation realised from Kerala based factories so far, with details; and

(c) whether Government consider to initiate action against those factories which purposely violate the provisions of river pollution and create severe environmental problems; if so, the details thereof?

#### **Sand mining in coastal areas**

4704. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the intrusion of Tsunami waves was bigger scale in the coastal areas in Alleppy district where sand mining was permitted;

(b) if so, whether Government consider appropriate measures regulating sand mining in the coastal areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Committee for Central Pollution Control guidelines**

4705. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new Committee has been formed to bring changes in CPC guidelines;

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee; and

(c) what are its recommendations and by when it would be implemented?

#### **Compensation to affected families of Bhopal Gas Tragedy**

4706. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that still there are many affected families of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy who have not been compensated adequately;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to provide relief to these families?

#### **Forecasting of pollution levels by group of consultants**

4707. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that some group of consultants specialising in forecasting pollution levels for cities across the world now want to do the same in India;

(b) if so, Government's comments thereon;

(c) the effect of such forecasting;

(d) whether Government propose to involve itself in this; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Seizure of the skins of tigers and leopards**

4708. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 40 skins

of tigers and leopards were seized in one of the biggest hauls in North Delhi on April 6, 2005;

(b) if so, the details and cost of the haul; and

(c) the findings of the investigation made into the racket particularly the *modus operandi* of the poachers/smugglers?

#### **Drying inland wetlands**

4709. SHRI ANAND SHARMA:  
PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ:  
SHRI MANOJ  
BHATTACHARYA:  
SHRIMATI VANGA  
GEETHA:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the finding of a UNDP study on the drying up of a large number of inland wetlands in the country since 1991; and

(b) if so, the causes responsible for the same and steps proposed by Government to check the process and to revive these wetlands?

#### **Euro-III**

4710. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:  
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY  
SIRIGIREDDY:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has expressed its inability to supply fuel and as a result switching over to Euro-III is delayed by one year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Reliance industries has also expressed its inability to produce Euro-III fuel till next year;

(c) if so, how the Ministry is thinking of implementing Euro-III norms in the country; and

(d) the details of cities that are now following Euro-I, II and III norms in the country, State-wise?

#### **Steps to augment forest growth in Orissa**

4711. DR. RADHAKANT NAYAK:  
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of growth targeted and achieved in generating forest resources in Orissa during the last five years; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to augment forest growth in the districts of Orissa which are predominantly tribals?

#### **Project Tiger in Karnataka**

4712. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) when the Project Tiger was launched in Karnataka;

(b) the amount, so far, spent on the above project in Karnataka;

(c) the number of tigers in Bandipur tiger sanctuary;

(d) the steps taken to keep human pressure on the forest at a low level;

(e) the number of tigers killed by poachers during 2004 in Karnataka; and

(f) the steps taken to extend the Project Tiger to other forests of Karnataka?

**Collusion of forest guards and villagers in sanctuaries of Rajasthan**

4713. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Dela Devi sanctuary in the North and Sawai Man Singh in the South of Ranthambhore are real "death traps" and whenever tigers move in those forests, their survival chances are practically nil;

(b) if so, whether any cases have come to the notice of the authorities where deaths, either due to natural causes or through poaching etc.;

(c) if so, the details thereof for the last three years; and

(d) whether it is a fact that hundreds of villagers enter the National Park at Ranthambhore to collect wood and grass with the collusion of forest guards, etc.?

**Forest security scheme**

†4714. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are running sanctioned forest security scheme under Centrally sponsored scheme in which 75 per cent of expenditure is borne by the Central Government and 25 per cent of expenditure is borne by States;

(b) whether Government have received any action plan from the State of Rajasthan during the said plan period 2004-05 for Government's approval; and

(c) whether Government propose to grant its approval to the said action plan; if so, by when; if not, the reasons therefor?

**Pending irrigation project**

†4715. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: SHRI MOTILAL VORA: SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that many irrigation projects are pending for approval with his Ministry in the name of conservation of forest laws;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of projects put up for approval during the last three years;

(c) the reasons for their not being approved so far; and

(d) by when these projects are likely to be approved?

**Setting up of FPI's in backward and tribal areas**

†4716. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up food processing industries in backward and tribal areas or provided any financial aid/subsidy;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the names of such units that have been provided assistance during that period?

**Assistance to Nagaland**

4717. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds released/utilized all over the country including Nagaland

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

under various schemes implemented by the Ministry during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the details and status of current proposals, relating to NER pending in the Ministry?

#### **Paramedical courses in M.P. and Chhattisgarh**

†4718. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) list of paramedical courses in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh recognised by the Indian Medical Council;

(b) the provision mandatory for giving recognition to such courses; and

(c) the details of the courses pending for recognition in both the States alongwith their locations?

#### **Naturopathy Advisory Council**

†4719. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a State Advisory Council in the States to propagate naturopathy;

(b) if so, name of the States where such Councils have been set up;

(c) whether there is a plan for setting up hospitals for naturopathy in public sector in the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **World Bank funding for AIDS Control**

4720. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the financial assistance, showing grants and credit separately, provided by the World Bank for implementing National AIDS Control Programme during the Ninth and Tenth Five Year plans, including terms and conditions, if any, from the Bank;

(b) the details of funds actually utilized, so far;

(c) the details of items under the programme allowed to be funded, including those to receive priority focus;

(d) status of implementation thereof as on date, State-wise;

(e) the target fixed, if any, for modernization of blood banks, setting up of blood testing centers, district-wise, in particular; and

(f) the status of implementation thereof?

#### **Registration fee for patients**

4721. SHRI MANOJ BHATTA-CHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all patients who visit the OPD of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata for treatment are charged a registration fee of Rs. 10/- per patient per visit;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and since when the fee is being charged;

(c) whether Government are aware that the fee is a burden for most of the patients who are poor and can not offered to pay it;

(d) if so, whether it is proposed to withdraw the fee taking into the account that the OPD services in all major hospitals everywhere are free; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Trauma centres in the country**

†4722. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether trauma centres are available in India;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government would consider to establish trauma centres; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Toxicant in drinking water**

†4723. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per the report of World Health Organisation high contents of SANKHIYA (toxicant) beyond its limit has been found in potable water of some of the States;
- (b) whether 8 districts of the West Bengal and 200 villages of Bihar are badly affected with the same;
- (c) whether 45 lakh people of West Bengal are compelled to drink such toxicant water;
- (d) the action Government are taking in the matter of higher content of SANKHIYA (toxicant) in potable water; and
- (e) number of States where potable water doesn't comply with the health standards alongwith the district-wise details thereof?

### **Sex determining clinics**

4724. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the misuse of Ultrasound Clinics and Genetic Centres for sex-determination tests; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to check such misuse and ensure strict implementation of the law against sex selection?

### **Medical Grants Commission**

4725. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:  
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that medical education has been the same for the past 50 years;
- (b) if so, whether Government now propose to go for a complete revamp of medical education owing to rapid progress in the world of medicine;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is also proposed to set up a Medical Grants Commission on the lines of University Grants Commission for providing assistance to medical education; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

### **Sanjeevani**

†4726. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that previous Government had taken a decision to establish a mobile hospital named 'Sanjeevani' with most modern equipments; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard alongwith full details thereof?

(d) if so, the steps Government have taken to deal with the situation?

#### **NACO's working in A.P.**

4727. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds given by NACO to organizations purportedly working on AIDS related subjects in East Godavari, West Godavari and Krishna districts of Andhra Pradesh in 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(b) the exact and respective amounts given to such organizations in the last two years;

(c) the full details of the amounts given to such bodies by NACO or Government for AIDS-related work;

(d) how does Government assess the work done; and

(e) the details thereof?

#### **Revival of Malaria**

4728. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:(a) whether it is a fact that reappearance of mosquitoes throughout the country has resulted in revival of Malaria;

(b) whether Government have conducted any research on Malaria repellants like planting of Marigold flowers or other such measures; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether inadequate sewerage in cities and towns is one of the factors for reappearance of mosquitoes and revival of Malaria; and

#### **National Population Policy**

4729. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed National Population Policy, 2000;

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

(c) whether Government are aware of a United Nations Report that India's population may cross China's population by 2050; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to tackle the situation?

#### **Task Group-3 recommendations**

4730. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Task Group-3 recommendations would be a part of the National Rural Health Mission;

(b) if so, the details including steps proposed or to be taken to implement above recommendations and regions/ districts covered under above programme, State-wise as on today;

(c) whether Task Group-3 report envisaged Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS), and prescribed a minimum functional grade of Community Health Centres;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal for Community based social audit in IPHS; and

(f) if so, details thereof alongwith the details of New Hospital Registration

System to be introduced for monitoring the functioning of hospitals?

**Malaria deaths in North-Eastern States**

4731. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the North Eastern States report half of the country's malaria deaths;

(b) whether Government have initiated any plan to bring down the percentage of malaria deaths in North-Eastern States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether water-borne diseases are also quite prevalent in the North-Eastern region; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to control water borne diseases in this region?

**Children's deaths due to dropsy**

†4732. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of children have died because of dropsy in the country;

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

(c) the measures taken by Government to check the disease of dropsy?

**Increase in urological surgery**

4733. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Safdarjung Hospital and Dr. RML Hospital, majority of the surgical patients are urological patients;

(b) if so, the number of indoor/outdoor patients registered in these two hospitals during the last three years, month-wise and hospital-wise; and

(c) the number of beds available in general ward, special ward and nursing homes for urological patients, hospital-wise?

**Rural health schemes in T.N.**

4734. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the on-going rural health schemes in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the amount released to various States including Tamil Nadu in connection with rural health during the last five years;

(c) whether quality healthcare is not available to many parts of rural areas in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government for providing quality healthcare to rural people?

**Efficiency test for doctors**

4735. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:  
SHRI N.K. PREMA-  
CHANDRAN:  
SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR:  
SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:

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

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for holding periodical tests/

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

written examination for the doctors every five years in Government hospitals;

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

(c) whether the Medical Council of India has been consulted in the matter and if so, its reaction thereto; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to put obligations to carrying out these tests?

#### **Population control by States**

4736. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government encouraged the State Governments to implement any population control programmes and if so, the details thereof;

(b) how many States in the country implemented the policy of two child norms and the details of such States; and

(c) the States which recorded the least and the highest population rates in the country considering the ratio of population after the last census?

#### **Work Study Report of Indian Nursing Council**

4737. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the internal Work Study unit on the Work Measurement Study of Indian Nursing Council, submitted in August, 2004 has not been implemented so far;

(b) if so, the reasons for not implementing it within the prescribed time; and

(c) the action, if any, taken against those responsible for the delay/non-implementation of the Study Report?

#### **National Rural Health Mission**

4738. DR. KARAN SINGH:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government have finally announced the date of launching the National Rural Health Mission in the country;

(b) if so, whether this Mission seeks to provide healthcare to entire rural population in the country;

(c) if so, to what extent this Health Mission will be able to bring efficiency to provide funds for infrastructure;

(d) whether under this Mission funds for infrastructure development and health-care personnel accountable to local community; and

(e) if so, the main object of this Mission and by what time work on this project is likely to be completed?

#### **Surveillance cell on foeticide**

4739. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to set up a national surveillance cell to check foeticide; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

### Dengue fear

4740. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of dengue have been recurring in different parts of the country recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stringent steps proposed to be taken by Government to protect the people against this deadly disease?

(a) whether Government are having any scheme to improve the functioning and upgrade the primary health centres in the country specially in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details of the programmes and schemes formulated for this purpose and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the scheme formulated by Government for allocation of funds in the current year for the above mentioned States for this purpose?

### Dangerous VIOXX in market again

4741. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have allowed to sell pain killer VIOXX again in the market;

(b) if so, the reasons for giving license for selling the banned drug again in the market

(c) whether the issue has gone before the Food and Drug Administration Advisory Panel;

(d) if so, the recommendations made by the Drug Administration Advisory panel;

(e) whether it is also a fact that VIOXX causes cardiovascular risks;

(f) whether the Ministry is also allowing drugs celebex and Bextra; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

### Improving PH centres in the States

†4742. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

### New OPD Block in Safdarjung Hospital

4743. SHRI R.K. ANAND:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that two new wings of the new OPD Block have been constructed in Safdarjung Hospital but the same have not yet been put to use defeating the very purpose of bringing the OPDs at one place;

(b) if so, the reasons for not yet shifting all the OPDs to the new Block; and

(c) the steps taken to shift OPDs in the new Block and by when?

### Deficient staff in SJ Hospital

4744. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:  
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Safdarjung

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Hospital (SJH), Delhi is deficient of doctors and its Neurosurgery department has only one consultant;

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to fill-up the vacant posts of doctors; and

(c) the number of patients died/suffered for want of doctors during the last two years?

#### **Population explosion**

4745. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that by 2050, India will overtake Chinese populations per the UN's 2004 revision of the world population prospects released in February, 2005;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India and China, would account for 50 per cent of the world's population by 2050;

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to control population in the country; and

(d) the fertility rate in the country during the last fifteen years, year-wise and State-wise?

#### **New Standards for Community Health Centres**

4746. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have brought out a new standard for Community Health Centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have decided to provide manpower to Community Health Centres; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Free medicines to AIDS patients**

†4747. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide free medical facilities and medicines to the HIV/AIDS patients in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Japan and America have offered financial assistance for the treatment of AIDS; and

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

#### **Indian Organ Transplant Act**

4748. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to amend the Indian Human Organ Transplant Act of 1994 to fall it in line with global laws so that Indian patients do not have to go to such countries for Organ Transplantation where it is permitted under their laws; and

(b) whether Government are also thinking of considering acceding to dying patients' pleas for permitting them to donate their organs?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Government's various health programme**

4749. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the specific items relating to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare that find place in the Government's Common Minimum Programme;

(b) what specific steps have been taken by Government towards achievement of each of these items; and

(c) the plan of action if drawn, on each item?

**WHO norms on hospitals**

4750. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

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

(a) whether the WHO has laid down any norms for health sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all hospitals in the country comply with the said norms; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Staff shortage in AIIMS**

†4751. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Doctors-patients ratio in AIIMS, New Delhi is extraordinarily disproportionate, if so, the department-wise details thereof;

(b) whether the responsibility to

look after the patients remains with junior doctors and nurses whereas senior doctors seldom get time to visit wards;

(c) whether senior doctors stay in foreign countries after proceeding on long leave and carry out private practice there, which affects the working of the hospital;

(d) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, department-wise; and

(e) the action being taken by Government to improve the working of this hospital?

**Hepatitis-B vaccination**

†4752. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are satisfied with the progress of Polio Eradication Campaign being run in the country;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that a number of children are deprived of the Hepatitis-B vaccine in the country despite of its being very essential for the children;

(c) if so, whether Government are considering to run Hepatitis-B vaccination campaign together with the Polio Eradication Campaign with the help of State Governments; and

(d) if so, whether Government would consider to contact the WHO for the financial assistance for the success of the campaign?

**Revision of passenger fares**

4753. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have made

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

adequate provisions for meeting the additional cost of diesel it consumes, which works out to almost Rs. 250.00 a year;

(b) whether the volatility of crude prices, currently ruling, would have any impact on the fuel bill commitments of Railways for the year 2004-05; and

(c) if so, whether the Railways would propose upward revision of passenger fares?

**Rail lines to improve the supply of coal to thermal plants**

4754. SHRI ANAND SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the thermal generation has increased manifold but no additional railway lines have been laid to carry coal to these high coal consumption centres with the result that the thermal stations are running on a power supplies for 4-6 days;

(b) the rail linkages planned to improve the supply of coal to these plants; and

(c) the time-frame to implement these rail linkages?

**Interim report of UC Banerjee Committee**

4755. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UC Banerjee Committee in its interim report revealed that the Godhra Train fire was accidental;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether scores of people have been languishing in jails, arrested under POTA, on the charge of conspiring to set the coaches on fire; and

(d) if so, the details of persons booked by police in this connection and the present status of these accused?

**Nomination of Members on DRUCC etc.**

4756. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed by the Ministry for nomination of Members on DRUCC, ZRUCC and NRUCC, etc.;

(b) whether there is any provision for nomination of Members from the Office of Divisional Railway Offices, Zonal Railway Offices etc., on the recommendation of D.R.M. and Zonal Railway Managers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Frequent traveller scheme**

4757. SHRI LALIT SURI:  
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:  
SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) faced with decreasing patronage by higher class passengers, whether the Railways proposes to launch a frequent traveller scheme;

(b) if so, whether this scheme would be made applicable for use only during lean season when the occupancy is low;

(c) whether occupancy in upper classes are low at around 20 per cent during lean season; and

(d) the percentage of full fare paying passengers in upper classes of Rajdhani and Shatabdi trains where food is also included?

**Internet services to passengers**

4758. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to provide internet services to passengers through telecom bandwidth along its more than 60,000 kms. track network;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost likely to be incurred on laying of optical fibre cable along track network; and

(d) by when the project is likely to be completed?

**High speed freight train corridor**

4759. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI  
BARUPAL:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI  
REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has been asked to set up a dedicated high speed freight train corridor to connect major ports of country with four metros;

(b) if so, whether the Rashtriya Rail Vikas Yojana framed by Railways envisages laying rail lines along Golden Quadrilateral of roads that is being laid to link four metropolitan cities;

(c) whether Railways have decided to lay a track specifically for high speed freight trains;

(d) if so, steps Government propose to take to implement the same; and

(e) whether Railways has already submitted the plan on dedicated track for freight traffic?

**Garbage cleaning**

4760. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that unsatisfactory performance of Rail Track Vacuum Suction Cleaning Machine imported at a cost of Rs. 9.29 crore resulted in non-realisation of expected benefits, consequently, the garbage cleaning work is done manually through contractual agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the policy of Government regarding garbage cleaning?

**Lapse on the part of certain railway staff**

4761. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during February, 2005, Railway tickets for the Suburban Trains issued to the commuters at the Railway Ticket Issue Counter at Tambaram Railway Station, Southern Railway, Chennai were found to be earlier dated, on checking by the squad (due to the concerned Railway person's failure to correctly punch the date of issue of the tickets) and the commuters were penalized for no fault of theirs; and

(b) whether this kind of lapses were noticed elsewhere, and if so, the corrective measures envisaged to put an end to this system failure or human failure?

**Occupation of reserved compartments  
by army personnel**

4762. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR  
SANGHI:  
SHRI NAND KISHORE  
YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of instances have  
been reported about Army Jawans and  
policemen with unreserved tickets entering  
into reserved compartments and taking  
away the seats of the passengers whose  
seats are reserved;

(b) if so, whether such instances have  
come to the notice of Railways;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether efforts have been made to  
ensure that no person is allowed to enter  
the reserved compartments in express and  
mails;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Banning of licensed porters**

4763. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased  
to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a  
decision to ban licensed porters of Railways  
to handle parcels;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of licensed porters  
in the country;

(d) whether this decision is likely to  
have an adverse effect on the livelihood of  
these porters; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government

to protect the interests of these licensed  
porters?

**Shatabdi Express between Delhi and  
Agra**

4764. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:  
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the  
Commission on Railway Safety has refused  
to give green signal to start Shatabdi  
Express between Delhi and Agra @ 150  
kmph;

(b) whether it is not a fact that as per  
the integrated plan of the Railway Ministry,  
the speed of Shatabdi trains have to be  
increased from 1st April, 2005;

(c) if so, the reasons for not allowing  
Shatabdi Express @ 150 kmph by  
Commission on Railway Safety; and

(d) the basic objections raised by the  
Commissioner on Railway Safety to run  
train between Delhi and Agra @ 150 kmph.?

**Wastage of diesel at Gorakhpur  
Station**

†4765. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will  
the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to  
state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 30  
thousand litres of diesel was wasted  
through the drains due to the leakage in the  
Wagon standing in the warehouse of  
Gorakhpur Railway Station of N.E.  
Railway;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been  
conducted by the Railways in this incident;  
and

(c) if so, the facts in this regard  
alongwith the action taken against the  
persons responsible for this incident?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Safeguarding logistic economy**

4766. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have addressed the logistic economy specifically in case of small scale industries clusters;

(b) whether the Indian Railway propose to have approach towards safeguarding logistic economy between the small scale industry cluster and their potential market which needs to be extended throughout the country for exposing cluster based economies; and

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

**Red Tariff Rules**

4767. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: DR. ALLADIP. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways follow the Red Tariff Rules for movement of hazardous cargo;

(b) whether it is a fact that Railways have not updated the rules determining ways of transporting hazardous cargo;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal by the Railways to adopt the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code for movement of hazardous cargo;

(d) if not, the reasons for the Railways not updating the rules with regard to movement of hazardous cargo through crowded cities and towns in the country; and

(e) the steps proposed to consider having safer rules for rail travel and movement of cargo?

**Extension of Delhi-Ahmedabad rail lines**

†4768. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi-Ahmedabad rail line is proposed to be extended upto Gandhi-nagar;

(b) whether the budget for the same has also been sanctioned;

(c) if so, the reasons for not starting any work on the project till now; and

(d) by when the said work would be started?

**Paradip Port Trust**

4769. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Paradip Port Trust has asked for allotment of additional rakes for transportation of iron ore from the mines to the port;

(b) whether Railways have expressed their inability to agree to the request;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether this will not result in diversion of traffic to road bringing in its wake congestion and pollution problems; and

(e) if so, whether Railways will reconsider their decision?

**Facilities of toilets at Suburban Railway Stations in Mumbai**

†4770. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

facilities of toilets at all the Suburban Railway Stations in Mumbai, but they are not properly maintained and kept clean;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any steps to improve their condition;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Extension of trains**

†4771. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to extend Coimbatore-Rajkot train to Ajmer, Pooja Express from Jammu-tawi-Jaipur to Ajmer and Ajmer -Bangalore train to Coimbatore;

(b) if so, by when the work is likely to start in this regard; and

(c) the details thereof?

#### **Survey work for the new railway lines**

†4772. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new railway lines for which proposals of carrying out survey work have been included in the Railway Budget of 2004-05;

(b) the time-frame fixed for completing survey work for the said new railway lines;

(c) the criteria fixed for sanctioning new railway lines after completion of the survey work;

(d) State-wise figures regarding railway network in the country; and

(e) position of Rajasthan regarding railway network as compared to that of other States and details thereof?

#### **Over utilisation of railway tracks**

4773. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether over utilisation of Railway Tracks to the extent of 125 per cent would go against Railway Safety;

(b) whether rejected wagons and coaches are re-used without clearance from the NCW;

(c) whether this kind of rejected wagons and coaches are used almost to the 80 per cent to 90 per cent in the Southern Railway;

(d) the measures to avoid this situation; and

(e) whether among the railway accidents, it is found that human failure is the highest, and the special measures undertaken to curb this kind of failures?

#### **Bio-diesel from Jetropa**

†4774. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:  
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after finding the diesel manufactured from the seeds of the plant namely Ratanjot (Jetropa) appropriate for the vehicles the public sector oil company, the Indian Oil Corporation and the Indian Railways have jointly initiated a drive to grow them on the vacant railway land along the rail-tracks; and

(b) the extent to which the bio-diesel manufactured as such found to be fit and the manner in which the Ratanjot farming is planned to be started?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Catering service in the Railways**

†4775. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to change the catering service in the railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to include the food plazas of Indian and foreign brands of companies under this policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Rail projects of various zones**

4776. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway projects of various rail-zones in the country which have been completed during the last three years;

(b) the details of projects likely to be completed during the year 2005-06; and

(c) the details of new projects of the country to be taken up during 2005-06, railway zone-wise?

### **Darbhanga-Narkatiyaganj and Darbhanga-Jainagar Rail-line**

†4777. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the year 2004 was fixed as a target for conversion of Darbhanga-Narkatiyaganj and Darbhanga-Jainagar metre gauge line into broad gauge line in Bihar; and

(b) if so, what is the latest position and details thereof?

### **Railway Consumer Advisory Committee**

†4778. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railways have asked the Hon'ble MPs for nominations to the Railway Consumer Advisory Committee;

(b) if so, the reasons for not nominating the persons whose names have been sent, so far;

(c) whether Government are aware that the area covered being too big, the demand for nomination of one person is not sufficient; and

(d) whether Government are contemplating to increase the number of Members?

### **Double line on Hapur-Moradabad rail route**

4779. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to lay down double line on Hapur-Moradabad rail route;

(b) if so, the time schedule and if not, the specific reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that passenger trains and goods trains both run late by several hours due to single railway line there resulting in undue delay in transportation of goods; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to make specific provisions in the Budget to convert this line in the next two years, if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Increasing the speed of Shatabdi Express**

4780. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that increase in the speed of Shatabdi Express has been put on hold;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government feel that it may be dangerous to run the fastest trains on the Indian Tracks?

**Andhra Pradesh Express**

4781. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh Express which halts at all the major stations of *en route* States takes only 26 hours to reach Hyderabad from New Delhi whereas the newly introduced Andhra Pradesh Sampark Kranti Express which stops at only three stations in Andhra Pradesh, namely Kazipet, Ramagundem and Sirpur Kagaznagar reaches Secundrabad from Delhi in 28 hours;

(b) if so, the reasons for longer time taken by Andhra Pradesh Sampark Kranti Express between Delhi and Secundrabad; and

(c) whether Government would consider reducing the time taken by Andhra Pradesh Sampark Kranti Express to reach Secundrabad from Delhi and *vice versa*?

**Rail route electrified during the last three years**

†4782. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of railway route, in Kms. in the country electrified in the last three years togetherwith the total length of narrow gauge line, in Kms., division-wise converted into broad gauge line;

(b) the amount allocated for this purpose in this period togetherwith the amount spent so far; and

(c) the current status of the said work in this regard?

**Strengthening the RPF**

†4783. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any necessary steps to further strengthen the Railway Protection Force, keeping in view, the safety of passengers in all the trains;

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

(c) the details of the strategy formulated and implemented by Government to make strict arrangements for checking the crimes taking place everyday in the trains and for the safety of passengers?

**Gauge conversion in Southern Railways**

4784. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Southern Railway had fixed a target of 300 Km. for gauge conversion this year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Southern Railway had completed gauge conversion of 250 Km. during the last year;

(c) what are the routes to be completed during this year for gauge conversion;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Southern Railway had decided to increase the speed of all express trains; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Transportation of Onion**

4785. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS  
BAL APTE:  
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN  
PANY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an *ad-hoc* Committee of Maharashtra legislature Onion had called on the Union Minister of State for Railways on November 6, 2003, to request for making special transport arrangements for Onion, including, (i) availability of ventilated wagons; (ii) reduction in freight rates for the perishable commodity and (iii) making a railway siding available near different onion growing areas like Lasagaon, Manmad and Nasik;

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter; and

(c) the arrangements since made for proper transportation of Onion?

#### **Doubling of railway lines**

4786. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS  
BAL APTE:  
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN  
PANY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how far the work relating to doubling railway line of (i) Diva-Kalyan, 5th and 6th line (10. 73 Kms.) ROR; (ii) Panvel-Jassai (JNPT) (28.5 Km.) ROR 20%; (iii) Pakni-Solapur (16.28 Kms.) ROR-3;

(iv) almo-Mohal (17 Kms.) has progressed so far; and the cost incurred thereon; and

(b) by when the project is likely to be completed?

#### **Sale of saline water on Railway Stations**

†4787. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received several complaints regarding the sale of saline water in the name of mineral water on Railway Stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have formulated any concrete scheme to check the sale of saline water in the name of mineral water; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Catering services on railway platforms and in the trains**

4788. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether majority of catering activity on railway platforms and in trains is in the hands of private caterers;

(b) if so, the details in percentage terms;

(c) whether Government agree that there is much scope for improvement in this behalf in ordinary passenger/express trains; and

(d) the specific steps being taken ensure quality food at the prescribed rates to passengers?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Committee to review the Disaster Management System**

4789. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Railways had constituted a High Level Committee to review the Disaster Management System;

(b) the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) whether Government have accepted these recommendations;

(d) how many of these recommendations have been implemented, so far; and

(e) the recommendations which have not been implemented, so far, and the reasons therefor?

**Number of train mishaps**

4790. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:  
SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:  
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many train mishaps have occurred during the last five years, zone-wise;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/to be taken by Government to prevent such mishaps?

**Import of duty free raw materials by Steel industries of Chhattisgarh**

†4791. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the non-Governmental steel industries in Chhattisgarh which have imported duty free raw materials from abroad to complete the export of steel pipes during the last three years;

(b) the number out of these industries which could not make the export of steel pipes to other countries even after such import;

(c) whether the industries which could not make the export of steel pipes on import of raw materials;

(d) if not, the details of these industries; and

(e) the action being taken by the Government against those industries?

**Supply of iron and steel to WBSIDC**

4792. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:  
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request has been made by West Bengal Government for allocation of Iron and Steel materials to West Bengal Small Industries Development Corporation (WBSIDC) in the interest of small scale sector in the State; and

(b) if so, the details of the same and action taken by Government in this regard?

**Steel Prices**

4793. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOOT:  
SHRIMATI SUKHBUN KAUR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tata Steel

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

has hiked its long-term contract prices by 20 per cent effective from April 1, 2005;

(b) if so, whether other PSUs and Joint Sector Steel Plants are likely to follow suit;

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

(d) the impact of rise in steel prices on Indian Economy and common man?

#### **Sinter plant at BSP**

4794. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SAIL had decided to revamp sinter plant-2 in Bhilai Steel Plant and to install air turbo compressor and oxygen turbo compressor at oxygen plant in Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details such as capacity, cost and date of commissioning;

(c) the amount allocated for the purpose;

(d) the date by which these are likely to start functioning; and

(e) their contribution towards annual steel production?

#### **Steel production**

4795. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the the Minister of STEEL be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 607 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th March, 2005 and state:

(a) the details of the concrete plan to achieve the target of steel production by over 100 million tonnes per annum by 2020;

(b) whether the iron ore reserves of the country are sufficient to meet the target;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps proposed to be taken thereon; and

(d) the role assigned to public sector steel companies in achieving the target particularly to Salem Steel Plant?

NEW DELHI;  
The 30th April, 2005  
*Vaisakha 10, 1927 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

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