RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Tuesday, the August 6, 2002/Sravana 15, 1924 (Saka)

(Ministries: Civil Aviation; Commerce and Industry; Finance and Company Affairs; Petroleum and Natural Gas; Tourism and Culture; Water Resources)

Total number of questions—155

Delay in development of airports in NE Region

2071. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether development of airports in the North East Region has been seriously hampered due to delay in execution and cost escalation;
- (b) if so, the reasons for delay in construction and completion; and
- (c) what remedial measures Government have taken in this regard?

Revival of Delhi flying club

2072. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to revive and introduce new features for the Delhi flying club; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Upgradation of Lucknow airport

2073. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have taken action for upgradation of Lucknow airport;
- (b) if so, whether any action plan has been formulated by Government in this regard; and
- (c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

Serving of eatables to air passengers

†2074. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that responsibility to sell eatables at Airports and serving of eatables to air passengers has been entrusted to private sector;
- (b) if so, what are the details of the private sector firms together with the responsibilities as well as the places for which the work has been entrusted;

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

- (c) whether rate of dividend is also fixed for private sector while entering into an agreement for imparting responsibility; and
- (d) if so, the details of the rate and system adopted to monitor the said rate?

Leasing of aerodromes

- †2075. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government of Malaysia have requested the Indian counterpart to lease out the Chennai aerodrome:
- (b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto:
- (c) whether Government are going to take some strategic decision to lease out Indian aerodromes; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

AI flights to European countries

- 2076. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Air India had stopped its flights to some European countries and other destinations in Australia and Korea;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what steps are being taken to resume the flights?

Flights from Bangalore to major cities of Karnataka

2077. SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN: SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received any requests to operate Indian Airlines/ Private Airlines to link major cities of Karnataka with Bangalore;
- (b) if so, whether Government have conducted any study of the Air traffic potential in the region; and
- (c) if so, whether the Ministry of Civil Aviation has agreed to start Air operations of Indian Airlines from Bangalore to the other major cities of Karnataka?

Rebate to Government employees

- 2078. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the AI is giving some rebate/ facilities to Government servants travelling officially by this carrier;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government servants on personal journeys will also get some concessions, etc.; and
- (d) if not, whether Government would consider such a proposal for promoting tourism and attracting more passengers?

Sale of air tickets by authorised companies

†2079. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several firms have been authorised for sale of air tickets by the Department of Civil Aviation;
- (b) if so, the total number of firms so authorised till June, 2002;

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

- (c) whether it is also a fact that a directive to this effect is included in the agreement while authorising that under sub rule 5(F) of the agreement no authorised firm would sell tickets below the fixed price;
- (d) if so, whether Government have received any complaints in this regard;
 - (e) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (f) the action taken in this regard so far?

Review of agreements on foreign flights

- †2080. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are contemplating to review the agreements pertaining to foreign flights; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Renaming of Jollygrant airport, Dehradun

- 2081. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received a proposal to rename Jollygrant airport, Dehradun as Swami Ram airport;
- (b) if so, the details regarding the status of the proposal;
- (c) by when the airport is likely to be renamed; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Flight between Hyderabad and Kuwait

- 2082. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether any request from the

Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received in the Ministry of Civil Aviation for operating a direct flight between Hyderabad and Kuwait;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken in this regard?

Privatisation of non-operational airports in A.P.

- 2083. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that airports at Donakonda, Cuddapah and Warrangal in Andhra Pradesh are non-operational and State Government has no interest in these airports;
- (b) if so, whether Government propose to privatise these airports for aviation activities; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Purchase of less fuel consuming aircrafts

- †2084. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the aircrafts committee constituted by the Indian Airlines has given any suggestion for procuring aircrafts consuming less fuel for the low cost flights;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Indian Airlines has prepared any cost details regarding the possibility of operating low tariff flights to promote air travel and to utilise additional capacity;
- (d) if so, whether Indian Airlines will shortly introduce 'no-frills and low tariff flights; and
 - (e) if so, the details of such flights?

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

Upgradation of airports in Tripura

2085. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that the NEC has decided to operate small aircrafts linking important towns of the North-Eastern region;
- (b) if so, the number of services in the region and of these which will be undertaken in near future:
- (c) what measures have been taken to upgrade the airports of KAMALPUR, KAILASAHAR, DHARAM NAGAR and other airports in some sub-divisional towns of Tripura;
- (d) whether there is a proposal to extend short services of air-crafts to link more important towns of Tripura; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Investigation in helicopter crash

2086. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the official team investigating the helicopter crash in which former speaker GMC Balayogi was killed, has discovered that the crash was due to the error of Pilot; and
- (b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to ensure proper training of Pilots and proper upkeep of Helicopters?

Training of Senior Superintendents (ATC)

2087. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Senior Superintendents (ATC) initially nominated for ADC/

- Approach Control course number 11 at CATC Allahabad and those nominated subsequently *vide* AAI letter dated 2nd July, 2002:
- (b) whether it is a fact that Senior Superintendents subsequently nominated for the said course belong to 1998 batch but sent for the course earlier than those belonging to 1996 and 1997 batches; and
- (c) if so, what were the circumstances necessitating nomination of Junior Superintendents (ATC) for training?

Air facilities to Sikkim

2088. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the air link facilities extended to the States of North East including Sikkim;
- (b) the aircraft handling capacities of the airports;
- (c) the airports where night landing facilities has been extended; and
- (d) the airport expansion/development programmes being taken up or to be taken up?

Airborne collision system at airports

2089. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Airports Authority of India proposes to develop a space-based augmentation system with the help of I.S.R.O. to prevent air accidents;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) the progress made in this regard;
- (d) whether the Airborne collision Avoidance System has been installed at all the major Airports in the country; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Indo-British trade talks

2090. SHRI K.NATWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indo-British have started talks to promote bilateral trade;
- (b) if so, whether the British delegation visited a number of States during the month of May, 2002 to discuss the improvement of trade with India;
- (c) if so, to what extent agreements have been reached between the two countries; and
- (d) if so, what efforts are being made to improve the Indo-British trade during the current year?

Ban on import of items used for research

- †2091. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that America has imposed a ban on items imported from foreign countries used in universities, research institutions, scientific research institutions;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that America has warned Russia for giving Uranium fuel to India and said that it is against the commitment of nuclear nonproliferation treaty;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Achievement of export growth

- 2092. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether export promotion bodies are confident of achieving higher export during 2002-2003 as compared to poor performance in the previous year;
- (b) if so, whether during the last year, the export growth rate dipped to a negative 0.08 per cent;
- (c) if so, what are the main points on which the export promotion council has expected that the export growth will be 12 per cent; and
- (d) what efforts are being made to achieve this target?

FDI limit in pharmaceuticals

- 2093. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's decision to increase FDI limit in pharmaceuticals to 100 per cent from 74 per cent has evolved a good response;
- (b) if so, whether 11 pharma companies have applied to the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) to hike their stake to 100 per cent;
- (c) whether the Foreign Institutional Investment Authority has in the last 18 months resolved 69 of the 109 issues brought before it; and
- (d) if so, to what extent this decision has helped the pharmaceutical companies?

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

Industrial growth

2094. SHRI LALU PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Industrial Growth rate in 2001-2002 was the lowest in the decade:
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the export growth rate in 2001-2002 was zero;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government's management of financial sector has greatly undermined the confidence of our financial institutions; and
- (d) if the answer to parts (a), (b) & (c) above be in the affirmative whether Government propose to improve the industrial growth in the country?

Export Growth during 2001

2095. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as compared to most Asian countries, except China, India is the only one to record a positive growth in export;
- (b) if so, what was the total export growth recorded during 2001;
- (c) whether other major economies recorded a negative growth in exports; and
- (d) if so, what efforts are being made to improve the export growth further?

FDI in IT sector

2096. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has not been able to attract FDI in IT and Telecommunications

since 1991 as compared to other South Asian Countries:

- (b) if so, the total FDI secured during the last ten years out of which how much was in the IT and Telecommunications sector and how does it compare with China, Singapore, Thailand and Taiwan;
- (c) whether it is a fact that even with the FDI in the IT and Telecom sector, investment in hardware manufacturing and software development was negligible; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Export of flowers

2097. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTA-CHARJEE: SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government realize the potential of exporting flowers to Asian markets; and
- (b) if so, what steps Government have taken so far to encourage businessmen to export flower to various Asian markets?

Foreign investment proposals

†2098. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether proposals for foreign capital investment in various States were received during the fiscal year 2001-2002;
- (b) if so, the number of such proposals received during the said period in each State;
- (c) the number of proposals approved out of them; and

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

(d) the actual foreign capital invested after the approval of these proposals?

Report of Transparency International

- 2099. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a global anti-corruption organization Transparency International has said in its recent report that several multinationals including those from the U.S. and other G-7 countries were indulging in bribery and corruption in India;
- (b) if so, whether Government have taken note of the said report and taken steps to curb malpractices by multinationals in India: and
 - (c) if so,the details in this regard?

International Leather Complex at Nellore

- 2100. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have agreed in principle to set up International Leather Complex at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh;
 - (b) if so, the progress made in the project;
- (c) the details of amount allotted for construction of this complex; and
- (d) whether any time-frame has been fixed to complete this Complex?

Export Processing Zones in Karnataka

2101. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any proposals to establish Export Processing Zones in Karnataka for horticultural crops and processed agricultural products;
- (b) if so, whether State Government of Karnataka has recommended for establishing these Export Processing Zones at Bijapur, Chitradurga and Kolar; and
- (c) if so, the details of action taken in this regard?

Agricultural Export Zone in Madhya Pradesh

- †2102. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are considering to start Agricultural Export Zone in the country specially in Madhya Pradesh;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) by when the Agricultural Export Zone is likely to be started; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to create more employment opportunities and to provide the benefit of state of the art technology to the farmers in rural areas of Madhya Pradesh?

Promotion of ayurvedic and herbal industry in Kerala

- 2103. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have any proposal to declare Kerala as a special zone for ayurvedic and herbal industry and trade with special privileges and subsidies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

 $[\]dagger Original$ notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) whether any steps have been taken to organise trade fairs related to herbal industry and ayurvedic medicines under the auspices of Indian Trade Promotions Organization (ITPO); and
- (d) whether the ITPO is providing any help/financial assistance to the "International Herbal Trade Fair and Ayurveda Expo 2002" conducted alongwith World Ayurveda Congress from 30th October to 5th November, 2002 at Kochi, Kerala?

Export of potatoes

- †2104. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) the quantum of potato exported during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government have any plan to construct large number of cold storages and to give other incentives to the potato growing farmers for encouraging potato export in view of its increasing production; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Pace of investment in Indian industries

- 2105. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the pace of investment in the Indian industries has slowed down;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the investment made in Indian industry during the Ninth Five Year Plan, year-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to accelerate the pace of investment and create conductive atmosphere for investment during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

Performance in the import and export sector

- 2106. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) the total value of exports in both value and quantity of major products separately during the last financial year;
- (b) whether it is as per the estimated target;
- (c) if not, what steps are being taken to improve the performance;
- (d) what is the total value of imports during the last financial year; and
- (e) whether imports have increased or decreased as compared to the previous statistics?

Harassment of SCs/STs in STC

- 2107. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether entry of SC/ST and general category staff of STC was banned in the office premises immediately on their transfer from Delhi;
- (b) whether transfer orders were followed by caveat from courts;
- (c) whether salary due to those staff has also not been paid to them as the same is stated to have been transferred;
- (d) if so, whether such transfer has ever been effected in the history of STC:
- (e) if not, whether it is vindictive revengeful act of Chairman, STC to silence the SC/ST complainants; and
- (f) if so, what action Government propose to take in this matter and against the Chairman so that SCs/STs are not harassed/oppressed?

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

Patent of cow urine by US

- 2108. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that cow urine has been patented in United States;
- (b) what are implications of patenting it in US as this is a normally used medicine in the remote Indian villages; and
- (c) in what manner Government propose to help the poor villagers to overcome the negative implications?

FDI in specialised sectors

- 2109. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) the total FDI inflow in the country during the last three years, year-wise, sector-wise and country-wise;
- (b) what special efforts are being made to attract more FDI in the country, particularly in labour-intense sectors, medicine and healthcare and infrastructure development;
- (c) whether there is a great regional imbalance in so far as setting up of industries backed by FDI is concerned; and
- (d) if so, in what manner this imbalance is proposed to be corrected and what special packages are proposed to be offered to the MNCs to establish their units in backward areas?

Growth Centre Scheme

- †2110. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
 - (a) when was the Growth Centre

- Scheme to speed up the pace of industrial development as well as for rural industrialization was launched in the country;
- (b) the number of development centres proposed to be set up under the scheme alongwith the locations thereof;
- (c) the number out of them for which land has already been acquired;
- (d) the number out of them which have started functioning;
- (e) the year-wise expenditure incurred so far thereon; and
- (f) the achievement made so far in this regard?

Speeding up of container movements

- 2111. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is fact that inordinate delay in handling containers at ports during the last few weeks has brought exports to a virtual standstill, inasmuch as exports worth Rs. 250 crores and import goods worth Rs. 450 crores are reportedly stuck at various container depots and customs;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the short term/long term steps taken to speed up container movements to protect and promote international trade?

FDI in plantation sector

- 2112. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 631 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd July, 2002 and state:
- (a) whether FDI has also been permitted in other plantations;

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

- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the reaction of the foreign owned tea majors to the opening of the tea sector to FDI?

Use of debt recovery tribunals by NBFCs

- 2113. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the negative factor affecting the NBFCs is the non-availability of a speedy and effective mechanism for recovery of their dues;
- (b) whether NBFCs have requested Government to provide them the facility of Debt RecoveryTribunals by bringing them within the definition of financial institutions referred to in Section 2 (h) of the 'Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act,1993' by issuing a suitable notification so that the NBFCs registered under Section 45-1A of the RBI Act, 1934 are provided the facility of Debt Recovery Tribunals; and
- (c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

Income Tax rebate on foreign earnings

- 2114. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Income Tax Department grants a hundred per cent rebate on foreign earnings as part of Government policy to increase foreign exchange reserves;
- (b) if so, the details of film stars who have been allowed rebate during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the show cause notices issued to film stars etc. for alleged violations of rules during the last two years?

Duty on Palm Oil

2115. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether vanaspati producers have revived their demand to cut duty on palm oils to reduce burden on the industry; and
- (b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

Analysis of income tax returns

- 2116. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Revenue Department has done analysis of the profile of Income Tax returns filed in 2001-2002, income-wise;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether in this review it is found that non-salaried class people are underreporting their income;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken to bring more salaried class under the tax net?

Infrastructure Equity Fund

- 2117. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have decided to set up an Infrastructure Equity Fund;
- (b) if so, the details of Financial Institutions and Banks who are looking at

the infrastructure projects with an investment potentiality in these projects over the next four to five years;

- (c) the details of those infrastructure projects which have been selected on priority basis for Infrastructure Equity Fund; and
- (d) by when this fund is likely to be set up?

Loan to students

- 2118. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that due to cost factor, many interested and meritorious students in the country are not able to pursue professional studies;
- (b) if so, whether Government propose to liberalise educational loans and lend up to 10 lakhs under prime-lending rate (PLR) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the details of educational loans extended to the students in the country during the last three years, State-wise?

Excise duty evasion by ITC Ltd.

- †2119. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the amount of excise duty collected from Cigarette Factories situated in North and Western Uttar Pradesh and Haryana during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether Government are aware that ITC and Godfray Philip India are involved in tax evasion;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/being considered to be taken by Government against them; and

(d) if not, whether Government have taken/are considering to take any concrete steps to enquire into the accounts of those companies?

Agricultural financing by ICICI

- 2120. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the ICICI Bank has decided to target agricultural financing;
- (b) if so, whether they have identified it as one of the new growth areas in future;
- (c) whether the main aim of the bank is to reach out to the farmers and provide finance to them directly;
- (d) if so, what are the main steps the ICICI has taken in this regard;
- (e) whether any schemes have been prepared for the agricultural financing; and
- (f) if so, by when they are likely to be implemented?

Financial aid to Tamil Nadu

- 2121. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government of Tamil Nadu has sought Rs. 3,000 crore package to meet the present financial crisis in the State;
- (b) whether request has also been made to rescind the limit of borrowing capacities of the State Government for implementation of development programme; and
- (c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

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

DRF for backward districts

- 2122. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) what is the status of Rs. 2,500 crore Development Reform Facility (DRF) to support the most Backward District and States:
 - (b) the quantum of funds disbursed; and
 - (c) the names of the districts benefited?

Net bank credit to women

- 2123. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Ministry of Finance propose to increase the level of net bank credit to women from 2 per cent to 5 per cent in three years;
- (b) the details of schemes which will enable women to avail 5 per cent credit from financial institutions for the next three years;
- (c) what is the projected coverage of women entrepreneurs through these programmes, State-wise; and
- (d) the number of women's cells set up in various States to provide information and counselling for such projects?

Trafficking in heroin

- 2124. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether trafficking in heroin and other psychotropic substances has assumed the dimensions of a full-fledged soaring industry in the country;
- (b) whether this has led to the emergence of a new stratum of society called druglords, having the capacity not only to corrupt

the law enforcement but also buy political power; and

(c) if so, what steps, including amendment of law and modifications in enforcement processes have been and are being taken to deal with the menace effectively?

Complaints against former MD of TFL

2125. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: SHRI BHAGAT RAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) have received complaints from Tata Finance Limited (TFL) against the former Managing Director of TFL and certain brokers for violation of the Code of Conduct under SEBI Stock Brokers Regulation by issuing false backdated contract notes and bills;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken against the guilty executives of TFL and stock brokers by SEBI?

Refund cases of Income Tax

- 2126. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a large amount is pending for refund to IT payees;
- (b) if so, what is the estimated amount so pending;
- (c) whether there is any contingency plan to clear those arrears;
- (d) whether Government would refund these amounts with interest thereon; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Change in name of company involved in price rigging

- 2127. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that it has been revealed that in the controversial dealing of the Company M/s Home Trade, the Predecessor Company which came to be owned by a Mauritius based entity M/s Euro Asian Securities;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the change of the ownership pattern and name of the Company was allowed to take place by the DCA while the company was being investigated by the SEBI for alleged price rigging in 1994; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Collection of excise duty

- 2128. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there exists wide gaps between the net receipts from the Central excise duty and the budget estimate for the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Pending cases of customs and excise

- 2129. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTA-CHARJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of disputes relating to customs and excise has

- shot up to more than 10,000 during the last three years; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to reduce the number of arrears relating to these cases?

Expansion of LIC in rural and semiurban areas

- 2130. SHRI C.P. THIRU-NAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India has formulated a strategy to grow its business in rural and semi-urban areas of the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the scheme has been cleared by IRDA; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the guidelines issued by IRDA or corporate agencies?

Tax collection from Mumbai

- 2131. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) what was the Direct/Indirect tax collection from Mumbai last year;
- (b) what are the details of such collection during the last three years;
- (c) whether the collection of Direct/ Indirect tax from Mumbai is falling down; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Extension in service to MD of Kangra Cooperative Bank, Delhi

2132. SHRI BHAGAT RAM MANHAR: SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have given extension in service to the present Managing Director of Kangra Cooperative Bank Limited, Delhi after his superannuation in office;
- (b) whether his extension in service is in violation of Government rules and regulations; and
- (c) if so, the reasons for granting extension to the MD and whether Government would consider revoking their order of extension, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Non recognition of Prathama examination by SBI

2133. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that "Associate Banks of SBI do not recognise "Prathama" examination being conducted by Hindi Sahitya Sammelan Allahabad (UP) as equivalent to matriculation for the purpose of employment as notified by the Ministry of Human Resource Development *vide* notification-(63)-No-F-24-4/2001-TS-III dated 26th July, 2001;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
 - (c) the action proposed to be taken

against erring bank officials for not implementing Government's instructions in this matter?

Broker-cooperative bank nexus

- 2134. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India's report shows broker-cooperative bank nexus detected in December, 2001;
- (b) if so, whether the RBI in its report pointed out that securities so far clearly indicate fraudulent transactions and serious irregularities in violation of RBI guidelines; and
- (c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to remove the broker-cooperative bank nexus?

Widening of tax net

2135. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether he had issued instructions to the tax authorities to introduce number of measures like bringing people having banklockers under the tax net and intensifying search and scrutiny to plug tax evasion in order to shore up revenue;
- (b) if so, whether he also has plans to go beyond the one-by-six scheme to attain the revenue target;
- (c) if so, what is the total number of raids conducted during the last six months;
- (d) how much cash, etc. were unearthed during these raids; and
- (e) what action has been taken against those held responsible?

Ernst and Young report on NPAs

2136. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the latest report of the Ernst and Young on NPAs in the Asia Pacific region wherein it is stated that the Non Performing Assets (NPAs) of Indian banks and financial institutions stand at 25 billion dollars as against the estimate of 16.7 billion dollars made by the RBI in its last annual report; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction to such a big variation in the two estimates?

Income tax raids

†2137. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "IT raid makes record haul of over Rs. 8 crores" appearing in Indian Express dated 16th April, 2002;
- (b) if so, what are the details of the IT raids conducted in major cities during the last one year;
- (c) whether Government have taken the help of other agencies which helped the IT to widen the scope of investigation;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of persons apprehended together with those against whom action has been taken; and
 - (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Credit deposit ratio in Bihar

- 2138. SHRI LALU PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the deposit in the nationalised banks in Bihar is nearly Rs. 31 thousand crores;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that as against the deposit of Rs. 31 thousand crores the credit to people by these banks stand at Rs. 8 thousand crores *i.e.*, 23 per cent;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that due to faulty system of nationalised banks, the credit-deposit ratio in Bihar does not improve; and
- (d) if the answers to above parts be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to remove the imbalance?

Bihar Finance Bill, 2001

- 2139. SHRI LALU PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Bihar Finance Bill, 2001 which proposed to augment Rs. 250 crores is still pending with the Central Government; and
- (b) if so, whether Government propose to clear it soon?

Debt recovery tribunals in the country

†2140. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Debt Recovery Tribunals have been set-up in various States for solving the cases of debt recovery by financial institutions in the country;

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

- (b) if so, the names of the States where these Tribunals have been set-up; and
- (c) the average number of cases in which decisions have been pronounced by these Tribunals during the last three years?

Overdraft of State Government

- 2141. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) what is the limit of overdraft a State can draw, State-wise;
- (b) the names and details of overdraft drawn by States during the last two years;
- (c) whether Government propose to set up a panel to reform RBI's present practice with regard to overdraft limits by States;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Domestic savings

- 2142. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a decline in the domestic savings rate from 25 to about 22-23 per cent of GDP will have adverse impact on the economic growth of the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the targeted growth rate of 7 to 8 per cent will not be achieved without insuring domestic savings at 32 per cent of GDP;
- (c) what are the new productive saving instruments planned by Government that would assure a reasonable rate of return to householders and thereby encourage domestic savings; and

(d) whether any tax free-saving instruments, beyond those indicated in the budget are contemplated, if so, whether these would be indicated?

Cadre restructuring of Directorates of Income tax

- 2143. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that while restructuring the cadre of Income-tax Department, the cadres of Directorate of Income-tax were not restructured;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is any proposal for restructuring the cadres of Directorates of Income-tax:
- (d) if so, by when it is likely to be implemented; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Excise duty on medicines

- †2144. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a proposal for heavy increase in excise duty on medicines is under Government's consideration;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry of Finance has sent any proposal in this regard to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the likely impact of price hike of medicine on the common man?

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

Action against plantation companies

- 2145. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether SEBI has launched prosecution against eight plantation companies who failed to refund the amount despite directions of the market regulators;
- (b) the reasons for taking action against only 8 companies;
- (c) what are the names of the other companies that owe money to the depositors;
- (d) how much money they have collected during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (e) by when are they expected to return the money?

Interviews for executive directors

2146. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of Finance has decided to review the confidential reports of the general managers who appeared for interviews for the posts of the executive directors;
- (b) if so, whether these reports have been fully considered and submitted to Government;
- (c) if so, by when action will be taken to appoint these executive directors;
- (d) the details of total vacancies at present; and
- (e) the number of executive directors who have been selected?

Corruption charges against Chairman of Oriental Bank of Commerce

2147. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH 'LIBRA':

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that serious charges of sexual misdeeds and harassment and corruption against the present chairman-cum-Managing Director of Oriental Bank of Commerce were reported to him in August, 2000;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government thereon?

Loan by RRBs in Madhya Pradesh

- †2148. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the amount of loans disbursed by each Regional Rural Bank in Madhya Pradesh during the last two years;
- (b) whether increasing corruption in Regional Rural Banks has deprived the farmers of availing benefits from banks;
- (c) if so, what effective steps have been taken by Government in this regard; and
 - (d) the details thereof?

Order issued against SBI by Securities and Exchange Commission of USA

- 2149. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether the Securities and Exchange

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

Commission in USA has issued "cease and desist" order against the State Bank of India:

- (b) if so, the reasons for issuing such adverse order against our prestigious national bank;
- (c) whether any appeal/protest has been lodged by the bank against the said order;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Majority holding in ARCIL

- 2150. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd. (ARCIL) to tackle bad debts of banks and financial institutions has been allowed majority holding and management by private sector;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons as to why it could not function as a public sector undertaking with full Government and legal backing;
- (d) what advantages have been contemplated to keep ARCIL in the private sector; and
- (e) the safeguards taken to ensure that ARCIL does not exceed its brief in recovering the debts?

CRISIL rating of IDBI

- 2151. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the CRISIL rating of IDBI has come down from AAA+ to AA+ in about two years;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the credibility of IDBI?

Vigilance of RBI over Private Banks

- 2152. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any constant vigilance over the functioning of Private Banks and Private Financial Institutions by the Reserve Bank of India;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the reasons for upgradation of Charminar Bank of Hyderabad to a Multi-State Scheduled Bank despite severe financial irregularities found by Reserve Bank of India?

Report on alcoholic beverages industry

- 2153. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindu Business Line dated 17th May, 2002 regarding the report on alcoholic beverages industry submitted to the Ministry of Finance by the Joint Working Group set up by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries;
- (b) if so, what are the details of the recommendations; and
- (c) what action Government have taken on those recommendations?

Liquidation of Regional Rural Banks

- 2154. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government have liquidated

some of the RRBs in the country during the last few years;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the All India Regional Rural Bank's Federation has expressed concern over Government's attempt to liquidate RRBs:
- (d) if so, whether the recommendations of the Working Group on Amendments of RRB Act, 1976 has been fully accepted; and
- (e) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

Income-tax refunds

†2155. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: SHR MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the income-tax refund due for the year has been paid to the concerned persons;
- (b) whether he is aware that the refundprocess is getting delayed due to nonavailability of income-tax refund voucher; and
- (c) if so, whether Government propose to grant permission to get it printed in private printing presses?

Checking of suspicious transactions

- 2156. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) what changes the Reserve Bank of India propose to suggest to the commercial banks to check all suspicious transactions;

(b) the action taken to implement them?

Hometrade. com scam

- 2157. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are fully seized of the ramifications of the recent hometrade.com Urban Cooperative Bank involving Government securities and if so, summary of the investigations made so far:
- (b) the reasons for the Reserve Bank of India not acting on hindsight after the Madhavpura Urban Cooperative Bank scam and other Pune based Urban Cooperative Bank scams, to prevent the hometrade.com scam; and
- (c) whether Government would probe the questionable role of the RBI in permitting Urban Cooperative Banks to continue perpetrating such frauds in regular succession?

Sale of UTI's stake in ITC

- 2158. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Unit Trust of India is planning to unload its stake of 14 per cent of ITC shares in the stock market;
- (b) if so, whether UTI propose to offload the stake through an open bid system to ensure an attractive bid offer from interested buyers;
- (c) whether ITC has been exerting pressure on Government to prevail upon the UTI not to off-load its stake in favour of British American Tobacco; and

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

(d) if so, whether Government would permit UTI to decide upon the choice of bidder on sole consideration of highest bid amount?

Tax evasion by All Cargo Movers Private Ltd.

- 2159. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have noticed tax evasion by All Cargo Movers Private Ltd., East of Kailash Community Centre, New Delhi;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that they do not deduct tax on the salary of their employees;
- (c) if so, the details of action taken by Government in this regard; and
- (d) the details of taxes paid by the said company and its branch office during the last three years?

Release of defaulters list

- 2160. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Unions of the Bank Officers have recently released the wilful defaulter's list and blamed that Government policies are responsible for this;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government propose to review the Ordinance on asset recovery tribunal also; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Customer profile for opening bank accounts

2161. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the financial background of a bank customer and customer profile is to be made mandatory before allowing a bank account to be opened;
- (b) if so, the purpose of insisting on financial background; and
- (c) what other changes are proposed to be made in the private and public sector banking of the country?

Internal Asset Reconstruction Fund for UTI

- 2162. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Unit Trust of India has decided to set up an internal Asset Reconstruction Fund (ARF);
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with its terms of reference; and
- (c) the steps taken to improve the Net Asset Value (NAV) of various schemes of UTI?

Pending Income-Tax refund cases

- 2163. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of income tax refund cases pending as on 31st March, 2002;
- (b) the reasons for delay in settling all pending income-tax refund cases; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for expeditious completion of pending income-tax refunds?

Investigations pending against Companies

2164. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many cases of complaints against companies which are to be investigated by the Department are pending for action;
 - (b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;
- (c) the reasons for such a long delay in action; and
- (d) by when they are likely to be completed?

Vacant posts in insurance and banking sector

- 2165. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of top posts lying vacant for more than a year, more than six months and more than three months in the insurance and banking sectors;
- (b) the reasons for delay in filling up of these posts;
- (c) whether any directions have been issued for improving the situation; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Review of poverty alleviation strategy

2166. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to review the poverty alleviation strategy

and reducing and re-targetting subsidies with a view to cut the overall fiscal deficit substantially; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating reduction and re-adjustments and retargeting of respective subsidies, indicating phase-wise targets under the new strategy?

Single regulator for NBFCs

- 2167. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have been considering the feasibility of having a single regulator for all financial operations like non-banking financial companies (NBFCs), private companies and chit funds;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and context in which the matter has been taken up for consideration; and
- (c) what decision, if any, has been taken in the matter?

Pilot asset reconstruction company for NPAs

- 2168. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a scheme for setting up a pilot Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC) as one of the measures to curb NPAs has been finalised;
- (b) whether there has been delay in implementing this scheme as ICICI bank has not yet submitted its business plan; and
- (c) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

Income tax holiday for industrial units in M.P.

- 2169. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received any representation from Government of Madhya Pradesh for extension of Income Tax Holiday of the Industrial units in the State beyond 2002 on the analogy of North-Eastern States; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and what action Government have taken/propose to take in the matter?

Services of Public Sector Banks

- †2170. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Public Sector Banks in the country are losing the confidence of common man despite having a large network and huge staff strength and there is a rapid increase in attraction towards Private Sector Banks;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what effective steps have so far been taken by Government to improve the services of the Public Sector Banks and to bring it at par with those of Private Sector Banks?

Opening of bank accounts

- 2171. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to bring rigidity in opening bank accounts by a customer;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the reasons for creating data bank?

Scheme for self-employment of NABARD

- 2172. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether NABARD had drawn up self-employment scheme for agriculture graduates and unemployed youths in the country; if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of unemployed Agriculture graduates in Karnataka; and
- (c) the total amount sanctioned/released for unemployed Agriculture graduates in Karnataka for starting business ventures during the last three years?

Agenda of G-20 Finance Secretaries meeting

- 2173. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether India hosted G-20 Finance Secretaries meeting during July, 2002; if so, what was the agenda of the meeting and the outcome of the deliberation;
- (b) the recommendations made for global economic recovery and measures for high growth rate; and
- (c) whether impact of the accounting frauds on the world financial order was also discussed; if so, the results thereof?

Confiscation of contraband goods in Manipur

- 2174. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
 - (a) the details of quantities and cash value

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

- of contraband goods seized by the Customs Department in Manipur;
- (b) the quantities and cash value of the seized goods returned to owners after enquiries;
- (c) the quantities and value confiscated; and
- (d) in what manner confiscated goods are being disposed off?

Pending cases of FERA violations

- 2175. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of cases filed in various courts by the Enforcement Directorate before 31st May, 2002 which was the deadline for wrapping up of pending cases of FERA violations;
- (b) the details of cases of FERA violation still pending with Enforcement Directorate; and
- (c) in what manner Enforcement Directorate will deal with these pending cases?

Backlog vacancies for Programmercum-Operator

- 2176. SHRI GANDHI AZAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 437 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd April, 2002 and state:
- (a) the details of SC/ST, name-wise, who got experience relaxation for the Programmer-cum-Operator post;
- (b) what was to be done to fill up backlog vacancies as per bank discretion;
- (c) the reasons for showing two backlog vacancies and not promoting reserved

- employees who became eligible after giving 6—12 months experience relaxation during last three years; and
- (d) by when all issues with All India Association for SC/ST and physically handicapped People's Upliftment (P) will be sorted out?

Fake currency racket in Gujarat

- 2177. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that many fake currency note rackets have been busted in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;
- (c) the action taken by Government against the operators of such rackets; and
- (d) the remedial action taken/proposed to be taken by Government to curb such activities in Gujarat?

Revenue deficit of States

- 2178. SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the revenue deficit in States has plunged to Rs. 513 billions during fiscal year, 2001 from a surplus of Rs. 6 billions during fiscal year, 1986;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government propose to formulate urgent reforms to save the position;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Defaulting companies in steel sector

- 2179. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that many private sector companies in steel industry have borrowed more than Rs. 40,000 crores from Financial Institutions/Banks and are unable to repay the loans resulting in wastage of public money;
- (b) if so, what are the details of these companies whose total lending of all Financial Institutions/Banks to steel industry are more than Rs. 5 crores, company-wise; and
- (c) what are Government's plans to ensure that the Financial Institutions/Banks recover this money from defaulting companies in steel industry?

Single window appraisal mechanism

- 2180. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been formulated to set up a single window appraisal mechanism for large infrastructure projects costing over Rs. 250 crores:
- (b) if so, the details of the proposed machinery and its present status;
- (c) whether any common set of appraisal benchmarks have been evolved for large projects which might require financing from more than one lender institution so as to avoid separate project appraisal and approval by each lending body and to cut short the time lag in the take off of the projects; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

CVC norms regarding investment in insurance companies

- 2181. PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the norms issued by the Central Vigilance Commission recently with regard to the investment and other activities of the insurance companies;
- (b) what prompted the Commission to issue such norms;
- (c) whether such issuance of norms has helped to restore credibility of the insurance companies;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Miscrepancies in Tatas investment in Tata Tele Services

2182. SHRI AMAR SINGH: SHRI R. S. GAVAI: SHRI ABANI ROY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Department of Company Affairs has examined the complaints made against the Tatas on investment in Tata Tele Services from out of VSNL's reserves;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) the decision taken on the issue?

Corruption charges against CMDs of Banks

- 2183. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the names of persons appointed as Chairman-cum-Managing Directors of

Nationalised banks during the last two years;

- (b) the names amongst those referred in (a) above against whom charges of corruption and sexual misdeeds were reported to Government, RBI and CVC before their appointments; and
- (c) whether CVC/CBI clearance was obtained before such appointments; if not, the reasons therefor?

LPG pipeline project in A.P.

- 2184. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that construction work for a 600 kms. long LPG pipeline between Visakhapatnam and Secunderabad has started;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the pipeline is going to be extended from Vijayawada to Tirupati;
- (c) if so, whether the study relating to commercial viability has been carried out;and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Supply of LPG at petrol pumps

- †2185. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are contemplating to provide LPG at petrol pumps; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Procedures adopted in Octane Test

- †2186. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the kind of containers determined for the sample of Octane Test of adulteration in petrol and diesel;
- (b) the details of locations where Octane Test is being conducted;
- (c) whether the sample can be collected in the empty bottles of liquor or kerosene; and
- (d) whether petrol and diesel pumps get the Octane Test done at the depots of the oil company itself before receiving the delivery of oil; if not, the justification of taking the sample at petrol pumps for the said test?

Transfer policy of Petroleum companies

- †2187. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the employees/officers in various Petroleum Companies in Delhi who are continuously working at the same place in same office and department for the last 10—15 years;
- (b) the policy relating to the transfer of employees/officers working in various companies;
- (c) the steps being taken by Government for implementing the transfer policy; and
- (d) by when the said transfer policy would be implemented?

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

Differential price on import of crude oil from Middle East

- 2188. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article by Shri Mathew Panickar which appeared in the Week dated 30th June, 2002 to the effect that countries like India pay for their imports of middle east crude oil, on an average, Dollar 1 to Dollar 1.5 more than countries of Europe and America:
- (b) if so, what are the reasons for this phenomenon; and
- (c) whether Government will undertake effective measures to get this differential price removed?

Securing of oil and gas supplies by India

2189. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and China race to secure future oil and gas supplies to meet the rising domestic needs;
- (b) if so, whether there is a proposal for energy highway from Russia and Central Asia through China;
- (c) whether there is keen interest among global companies, including India's exploration major Oil and Natural Gas Corporation to get equity stake in the CIS countries;
- (d) if so, whether any concrete steps in this regard have been worked out; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Entry of GAIL in LPG retailing

- 2190. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Gas Authority of India Limited plan to move into the retail marketing of LPG;
- (b) whether it would adversely affect the investments that the Indian Oil Corporation has made in developing its own marketing network based on supplies from GAIL pipelines;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) what is Government's reaction thereto?

Allocation of natural gas to Andhra Pradesh

- 2191. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Andhra Pradesh has recommended to the Central Government to allocate Natural Gas to BSES Andhra Power at the cost of two other power projects; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Allocation of gas to companies

- 2192. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that some companies without any infrastructure have been allotted gas; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years?

Availability of natural gas in Tripura

- 2193. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of States in which the presence of natural gas has been discovered;
- (b) the number of places in Tripura where exploration of natural gas has been made and in how many cases it was successful;
- (c) the quantity of natural gas which is expected to be present under the earth in Tripura;
- (d) the quantity of gas to be liftable everyday and how much is being consumed now; and
- (e) the number of gas-based projects which are in the process of installation in Tripura?

Impact of international price on domestic LPG price

- 2194. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there have been reports in the Hindustan Times of 27th May, 2002 that the indian national companies would bear additional burden on cooking gas as a result of increase in the international prices, if so, what is the additional burden per LPG cylinder;
- (b) what is the present subsidy per cylinder Government are bearing and how much the national companies are losing per day with international prices soaring up; and
- (c) whether it is proposed to pass this additional burden to the consumer, if so, how much per cylinder?

Marketing rights to foreign oil investors

- †2195. SHRI RAMDHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of private and foreign companies who have agreed to invest in the field of oil-exploration in exchange of marketing rights;
- (b) the increase in oil production likely to occur due to this;
- (c) whether Government propose to give marketing rights to private and foreign companies in case they invest in oil exploration and refining;
- (d) if so, the number of companies which responded in this regard; and
- (e) by when final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Disparity among LPG/SKO dealers in Delhi

- 2196. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a number of LPG agencies and SKO dealers in Delhi are having different refill sale and allocation;
- (b) if so, whether new SKO dealers are given less allocation in respect to old dealers and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the reasons for not bringing all the LPG dealers/SKO dealers at par and make equal allocation to SKO dealers; and
- (d) the details of plans to make such SKO dealers at par with other old dealers?

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

Rise in crude oil import

- 2197. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether India's crude oil production has recently recorded a steep rise and if so, to what extent;
- (b) whether ONGC's Gujarat oil fields recorded highest output recently and whether Government expect this trend to continue for more years to come;
- (c) whether the overall trend indicates larger volumes of crude oil imports every year and whether against a crude oil import of 40 million tonnes in 1998-1999, the imports rose to 76 million tonnes in 2000-2001; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Indo-Iraq agreement on oil sector

- 2198. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have entered into an agreement with Iraq to bolster trade ties inter-alia in oil sector, if so, the details of the agreement; and
- (b) in what manner it will help the country in oil sector?

Subsidy on LPG and Kerosene

2199. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: SHRI **BHAGATRAM** MANHAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided a flat rate of subsidy on LPG and Kerosene immediately;

- (b) if so, what are the details thereof; and
- (c) to what extent the consumers will be benefited from this subsidy?

India's share in global tourism

2200. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has been reported that India and China will be the toppers in travel
- (b) whether Turkey has pushed India out of its first place position last year;
- (c) whether according to the WTTC, India challenges Turkey to regain number one billing;
- (d) if so, whether according to the WTTC, India is expected to grow at a rate of 9.7 percent over the next ten years with China at the third place; and
- (e) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

Negligence of ASI

- †2201. SHRI **JANESHWAR** MISHRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that historical memorials, sites and heritages scattered throughout the country are facing danger to be ruined because of negligent attitude;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the situation has become grave as Archaeological Survey of India is not discharging its responsibilities;
- (d) if so, whether Government are going †Original notice of the question received in Hindi With

the prevailing discrepancies therein and to make it accountable; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Allocation of funds for temples in Madurai

2202. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of popularity and importance of Meenakshi Amman Temple and Lord Karthik Temple at Tirupurakundram in Madurai;
- (b) if so, whether any special funds are allocated by Archaeological Survey of India for their maintenance every year; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Maintenance of historical sites

2203. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any proposals by the ASI for maintaining important historical sites in Delhi, Agra, Jaipur and Goa where maximum foreign tourists visit;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government propose to take action against such miscreants who cause damage to our heritage sites?

Problems of the domestic hoteliers

- 2204. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned,

"Hoteliers look for growth abroad with tourism hit" which appeared in The Business Standard, dated the 20th June, 2002:

- (b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto: and
- (c) the measures to be adopted to address the problems of the domestic hoteliers mentioned in the newsitem?

Delegation sent to Gulf countries on tourism

†2205. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had recently sent a delegation to visit the Gulf countries for the purpose of promoting the indian tourism industry;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) the outcome of the said tour?

Recessionary trend in tourism sector

2206. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tourism sector is facing recessionary trends recently;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some State Governments like Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka have taken measures to deal with the recessionary trend;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government propose to provide a package to lift tourism sector from recession?

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

Protected monuments in Karnataka

- 2207. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the monuments in Karnataka which have so far been declared as protected monuments;
- (b) the amount released during the year 2001-2002 for taking up preservation and other development works in these monumental sites;
- (c) whether Government have any plan to declare some other monuments as protected monuments in Karnataka; and
- (d) the monuments which are proposed to be declared as protected monuments in Karnataka during 2002-2003?

Centrally Sponsored Schemes for tourism in Gujarat

- 2208. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of Centrally Sponsored Schemes relating to tourism which are under consideration for Gujarat; and
- (b) by when, these schemes will be executed?

Development of tourist infrastructure in A.P.

- 2209. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that lack of proper tourist infrastructure like affordable accommodation, transport etc. are the main reasons for the sluggish growth of tourism in Andhra Pradesh and the rest of the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what action Government have taken so far for the development of tourist infrastructure in Andhra Pradesh and the rest of the country?

Development of tourism in Chhattisgarh

- †2210. SHRI RAMDHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether ASI has upgraded/ reconstructed some of the monument places during the last three years which a view to develop tourism in the country;
- (b) if so, the year-wise and state-wise/ place-wise names of such upgraded spots and the amount earmarked monument-wise for the upgradation work particularly in Chhattisgarh; and
- (c) the monument spots identified for upgradation/reconstruction during 2002-2003 and monument-wise and state-wise expenditure made for the said purpose?

Safety of historical places in Chhattisgarh

- †2211. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Archaeological Survey of India has handed over the responsibility of safety of prehistorical places in district Durg of Chhattisgarh to the State Government after making a survey wherein canal and road have been constructed by illegal mining of stones and "muram";
- (b) whether it is also a fact that encroachment and mining has been

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

attempted on a large scale in the protected pre-historical places in Chhattisgarh; if so, details thereof; and

(c) the details of scheme formulated by Government to ensure the protection of such pre-historical places?

Sound and light show at Charminar, Hyderabad

- 2212. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received a proposal from Andhra Pradesh for organising sound and light show at Charminar monument in Hyderabad;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said proposal has been approved by Government;
- (d) if so, the funding pattern of the scheme and time-frame by which it will be commissioned; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Public libraries in rural and urban areas

- 2213. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of new public libraries started with the initiative of Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation in rural and urban areas during 2001-2002;
- (b) the amount of funds spent for supply of books to the existing libraries during 2001-2002, State-wise; and
- (c) the total Central grant allotted to the foundation and how much of it was spent on staff and other overheads and how much on purchase of books for libraries?

VRS in ITDC hotels

- 2214. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is heavy rush for VRS in ITDC hotels;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons for hotel employees not favouring disinvestment process in ITDC?

Allocation of funds for tourist development in Tamil Nadu

- 2215. PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of funds allocated for the development of tourist spots in Tamil Nadu and other parts of the country during the last three years;
- (b) whether any State Government has sought special financial assistance for the development of tourist spots in the States; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Utilization of funds by States

- †2216. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :
- (a) the quantum of assistance provided by Government to the States to raise the level of ground water level during the last three years and to what extent success has been achieved State-wise as a result thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that certain States have not taken any action in this regard even after getting the allotment;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

(d) the steps Government have taken to ensure the full utilization of the allotment for the scheme?

New methods for water harvesting

- †2217. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :
- (a) whether Central Ground Water Board has suggested certain new methods for water harvesting;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, what steps are being taken by Government to tackle the water crisis?

Monitoring Committee of Cauvery River Authority

- 2218. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Monitoring Committee of Cauvery River Authority used to meet for discussing the availability of water and related aspects;
- (b) if so, the details of meetings held for the last one year;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to provide alternative employment to the unemployed agricultural workers in the Cauvery River delta districts of Tamil Nadu;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, whether Government will provide relief/compensation to the above agricultural workers?

Irrigation projects as national projects

2219. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of irrigation projects in the country which have been declared as national projects;
- (b) whether Government have any proposal to declare more irrigation projects as national projects in the country; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Repair of irrigation projects and dams in Kerala

- 2220. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that certain major irrigation projects and dams of Kerala are in need of urgent repairs and the State Government of Kerala has requested for Central assistance;
- (b) whether Government have extended any assistance to Kerala for undertaking such repairs; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether Government would consider to extend financial help to the State of Kerala?

Completion of irrigation projects in Chhattisgarh

- †2221. SHRI RAMDHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :
- (a) the names of irrigation projects in Chhattisgarh which are lying incomplete;
- (b) the dates of commencement of these projects and the targets fixed for their completion;
- (c) the reasons for delay in completing the projects;

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

- (d) the original cost of these projects and the actual estimated cost at the time of completion; and
- (e) the district-wise names of irrigation projects likely to be completed in Chhattisgarh during the Ninth Plan period?

Compensation to the oustees in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh

- 2222. SHRI MANOJ BHATTA-CHARYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether cash compensation is being given as an alternative to land-based rehabilitation to the SSP dam oustees in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, whether the provision of NWDT are being changed; and
- (c) if so, what are the details of the reasons for such gross change?

Foreign loans for anti-sea erosion in Karnataka

- 2223. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has submitted a comprehensive master plan for obtaining external fund for undertaking various Anti-Sea Erosion Schemes in the State;
 - (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the amount of allocation made to the State to meet its short and long term needs considering the enormous loss of life and

property owing to sea erosion in the State?

Sea-erosion in Karnataka

- 2224. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the coastal areas in Karnataka are facing severe sea erosion;
- (b) if so, the steps taken so far to prevent sea erosion;
- (c) whether the State Government has sought financial assistance in the year 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003; and
- (d) if so, the details of amount sanctioned and released so far during the last three years?

Ancient course of river Saraswati

2225. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN 'DURRU': DR. AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up a expert committee to trace the ancient course of river Saraswati;
- (b) if so, the details of its terms of reference; and
- (c) by when this sacred project is going to be completed and what are its budgetary allocations?

New Delhi; *The* 31st July, 2002 *Sravana* 9, 1924 (Saka) R.C. TRIPATHI, Secretary-General.

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