### RAJYA SABHA

#### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Thursday, the May 9, 2002/Vaisakha 19, 1924 (Saka)

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy; Communications and Information Technology; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; External Affairs; Labour; Parliamentary Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Road Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation)

#### Total number of questions—155

#### Growth of agro industries

4505. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of agro industries in the country;
- (b) the details of measures taken by Government to improve the performance of the agro industries;
- (c) how far these measures have helped the agro industries; and
- (d) the steps stipulated in the Tenth Five Year Plan for a healthy growth of agro industries?

# Development of coir industry in Maharashtra

4506. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for promotion and development of coir industry in the country particularly in Maharashtra?

## Infrastructure for Agro and Rural Industries

4507. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of fruits and vegetables that are processed in the rural industries;
- (b) the percentage of fruits and vegetables that are wasted because of lack of the processing facilities;
- (c) the infrastructure Government have granted to enhance the agro and rural industries;
- (d) the percentage of finance given to agro and rural industries *vis-a-vis* in the urban sector; and
- (e) the number of people employed in the agro and rural industries in the country during the last three years State-wise and Year-wise?

#### Irradiation Technology

### 4508. DR. KARAN SINGH: SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Irradiation Technology has been gainfully employed in various developed countries, to protect the harvest against pests, moth, moisture, fungi, rats and rodents during storage, to enchance the shelf life of the harvested produce;
- (b) if so, whether Government have any scheme to set up a network of Irradiation Centres on these lines, throughout the country, to prevent wastage of foodgrains and other harvest during storage; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in pursuance thereto?

#### **Nuclear reactors**

- 4509. SHRI C. RAMACHAND-RAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that eight nuclear reactors are likely to be ready by 2008;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what is the cost involved and the capacity of these reactors?

## Expansion of Kalpakkam nuclear power reactor

- 4510. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is proposed to expand the nuclear power reactor at Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu with a view to increasing its production potential;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Atomic power

- 4511. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the atomic power generated in April, 1997 by the atomic power plants in the country;
- (b) the atomic power being generated at present with the generating capacity added during the last five years;
- (c) the plans to increase this power generation during next five years; and
  - (d) the other details in this regard?

## Power generated by atomic power stations

- 4512. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the power generated through the atomic power stations during the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) whether Government have identified global markets to export nuclear power reactors or components; and
  - (c) if so, the details thereof?

#### Telephone connections in Delhi

4513. DR. KARAN SINGH: SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

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

(a) whether despite written and oral assurances given to telephone users to the effect that all telephone connections in the Union Territory of Delhi under MTNL would be provided within six months from the date of application with due security asking the applicants to make a complaint, if not, provided within this period, such applicants have to wait for years together; and

(b) if so, the number of applicants in Delhi who had to wait for their turn for such connections for over six months and over one year since January, 1999 Sectorwise and the reasons for such delay?

#### Financial burden of retirement benefits

- 4514. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware of the press report to the effect that the Finance Ministry has opined that the financial burden of retirement benefits of the employees of erstwhile DoT and present BSNL is on the BSNL itself during the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto;
- (c) the financial burden on the BSNL if the Finance Ministry's view is implemented; and
- (d) the likely adverse impact as a result thereof in terms of the development programme of the BSNL?

### Availability of telephone on demand

- 4515. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there are some areas or districts in the country where telephone is available on demand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof State and UT-wise; and
- (c) by when, Government propose to make telephone available on demand throughout the country?

#### **Expenditure Reforms Commission**

- †4516. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any Expenditure Reforms Commission had been constituted in his Ministry to give recommendations to lessen extravagant expenditure in his Ministry and its departments/corporations;
- (b) if so, the recommendations made so far by the commission;
- (c) the details of the recommendations which are yet to be implemented by his Ministry or its Departments and the reasons for non-implementation thereof so far; and
- (d) by when these recommendations are likely to be implemented?

#### Commemorative stamps on Kargil War and Indian Farmer

- 4517. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are considering proposals to bring out commemorative stamps on "The Indian Farmer" and "Kargil War"; and
- (b) if so, by when the proposals are likely to be implemented?

## Complaints in Najafgarh telephone exchange

- 4518. SHRI GANDHI AZAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
  - (a) whether it is a fact that few complaints

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

- are attended within 24 hours of filing at Najafgarh telephone exchange, New Delhi;
- (b) if so, the percentage of complaints attended within 24 hours during the last six months:
- (c) whether there had been cases of consumers receiving telephone bills even before installing a telephone under this exchange if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the action taken in such cases?

#### Cyber crime protocol

- 4519. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have proposed to the United Nations to draw up a cyber crime protocol to be ratified by all Member-nations to control the cyber space;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and U.N.'s reaction thereto:
- (c) whether the proposed agreement would contain provision for controlling virus attacks also and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) by when the protocol is likely to be put in place?

#### Cable Theft

- 4520. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of cases of theft of underground cable of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. have grown steadily over the years;

- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years alongwith the loss suffered by the MTNL; and
- (c) the number of cases which have since been solved and the number of persons arrested during the above period?

## Out of order units at telephone exchange in Almora Distt.

- †4521. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that nine units out of existing ten are lying out of order for the last one year at Basore telephone exchange in Almora district of Uttaranchal and the lone functional unit always repeats the message that, "All lines of this route are busy" thus causing a lot of inconvenience to the consumers; and
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to restart all the units of the said exchange and the action being taken against such officers whose negligence has made these units non-functional?

### Tardy policy of telecom Deptt.

- †4522. SHRI GHANSHYAM CHANDRA KHARWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the daily "Aaj" dated the 21st March, 2002 under the caption "Mainpuri Dursanchar Vibhag Ki Dhulmul Nitiyon se Janta trast";
- (b) if so, the details of the action taken/ likely to be taken against such officers and employees;

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

- (c) if no action has been taken, the rationale therefor:
- (d) the remedial steps taken to stop such incidents; and
- (e) if no step has been taken, the rational therefor?

# Lack of material for cable joints in Mainpuri

### †4523. SHRI GHANSHYAM: CHANDRA KHARWAR: SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1936 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st March, 2002 and state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a show piece pillar constructed in front of the main building of Department of Telecom is lying incomplete for want of material for quiet a long time;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the quantity of cable splicing material purchased/procured during the last five years with details thereof;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that this material has been under-utilized and sold in private hands;
- (e) if not, the details of the material used, year-wise; and
- (f) whether the joint at Anjani Exhibition is lying uncovered without permission and thus is subject to misuse?

#### Internet telephony

†4524. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have invited suggestions from the Internet Entrepreneurs to start internet telephony;
- (b) if so, the details of the suggestions received by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether Government are considering to encourage small and medium size IT Companies for export; and
- (d) if so, the outline prepared by Government in this regard?

#### Telephone facility in villages

- 4525. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of villages/Gram Panchayats proposed to be provided with telephone facilities in the country during 2002-2003, State-wise;
- (b) whether any concrete steps have been worked out to provide the said facility in all the villages of the country by March, 2003; and
  - (c) if so, the details thereof?

#### Branch post offices in H.P.

- †4526. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the prescribed norms are relaxed for opening of branch post offices in remote, hilly and border States, like Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details of the conditions that are relaxed;
- (c) the number of branch post offices targeted to be opened and upgraded in

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

Himachal Pradesh during the Ninth Five Year Plan and whether this target has been achieved and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the target fixed for the Tenth Five Year Plan alongwith the details of the action plan for its completion?

## Waiting list for telephone connections in Faridabad

- 4527. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the waiting list for telephone connections in Faridabad in general and Sehatpur, Saraswati colony in particular under Faridabad telecom circle;
- (b) whether any plan has been chalked out to allot telephone connections in a timebound manner for the above wait-listed consumers:
  - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

## Expenditure on publicity and gifts by MTNL

- †4528. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the amounts of money spent on publicity and gifts by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. from the 1st April, 2001 till date; and
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to stop extravagance in the Nigam?

#### Vehicles under MTNL

†4529. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of departmental and hired vehicles in MTNL Delhi/Mumbai as on the 31st January, 2002;
- (b) whether the officers provided with official vehicles are also drawing transport allowances;
  - (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by Government to check the said extravagance?

#### Telephone Adalats in Jharkhand

- 4530. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the Telephone Adalats organized in Jharkhand during the last one year:
- (b) the number of cases referred to these Adalats and disposed of during the above period; and
- (c) the steps proposed to reduce the cases in these Adalats?

### Penalty imposed by Courts in U.P.

- †4531. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1184 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th March, 2002 and state:
- (a) the officers who were fined and penalised by the court; and
- (b) the details of those 13 cases in which the court had fined the officers alongwith the charges in each case indicating the observations made, fine and penalty imposed in each case?

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

# Revocation of licences of private telecom operators

- 4532. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any directive has been issued by him to the private fixed line telecom operators warning them to revoke licences who have failed to provide rural phones;
- (b) if so, whether he has directed the operators to increase their coverage and install Village Public Telephones in their licence areas:
- (c) whether a number of operators have not so far fulfilled their targets; and
- (d) whether any time bound progarmme has been fixed by them for fulfilling their targets in the rural phones?

#### Sino-Indian cooperation in I.T. Sector

- 4533. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether India and China have decided to cooperate in bridging the digital divide and are looking to produce low cost computers for their rural masses as well as for export;
- (b) if so, whether a high-level Indian delegation visited China, discussed ways and means to enhance Indo-China cooperation in the I.T. sector;
- (c) whether Government have launched an ambitious plan to bridge the digital divide between urban and rural people; and
- (d) if so, whether Government have urged China to pool in their expertise in the hardware sector to meet the requirements of the combined populations of the two countries?

### MoU between India and Singapore

- 4534. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether India and Singapore have signed a Memorandum of Understanding in telecom sector;
- (b) if so, whether these were signed during the Prime Minister's visit to Singapore;
- (c) if so, the details of the agreement; and
- (d) the steps being taken to implement

## Waiting list for telephone connections in Madurai

- 4535. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of waiting list of telephone connections in Madurai district of Tamil Nadu, exchange-wise;
- (b) whether any new telephone exchange is proposed to be opened at Madurai during the current year;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

## WLL telephones in Bulandshahr

- 4536. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that VSNL has provided telephone facilities to Village-Jolly, Post-Sikandrabad, Distt.

Bulandsshahr (U.P.) under the Wireless in Local Loop which is inappropriate and causing a great inconvenience to the consumers who are demanding for Cable connection since the installation:

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government would instruct the authorities concerned for installation of cable connection at the earliest so that the proper benefits of telephone line could reach upto the villages and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Universal Obligations Support Policy**

- 4537. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 769 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th March, 2002 and state:
- (a) whether Government have initiated any efforts for implementation of Universal Obligations Support Policy (UOSP); and
- (b) if so, the allocations made under the above policy?

## VPT by private companies

- 4538. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that private sector licences of basic telephone service have not been able to fulfil their committed performance obligations in respect of provisions of Village Public Telephones (VPTs);
  - (b) the names of these companies;
- (c) whether Government propose to impose stringent penalty on these companies

for not adhering to the norms laid down by the telecom department;

- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether MTNL have also failed to provide basic telephone services in the remotest villages and if so, what is the percentage of coverage of basic telephone services provided by MTNL?

#### Slow pace of providing VPT

- 4539. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the pace of implementation of providing Village Public Telephones (VPTs) is very slow;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the organizations which are involved in the implementation of VPTs;
- (d) what is the obligation of BSNL in implementing VPT and what are its achievements; and
- (e) the reasons for disparities between private operators and BSNL installations and what is responsibility of DoT and BSNL towards implementing VPTs?

## WLL facility in Mainpuri

- †4540. SHRI R.N. ARYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 325 and Unstarred Question 1203 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th August, 2001 and the 29th November, 2001 respectively, and state:
- (a) the district-wise details of the 70,000 wireless local loop phones to be provided to villages and whether such phones would be provided in Mainpuri district;

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

- (b) whether the Kargil martyrs' village Shahjahanpur has since been provided with such phones; if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### VPTs in MP and Chhattisgarh

- †4541. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Village Public Telephones installed during last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the budgetary allocation made for the said purpose, State-wise; and
- (c) the number of panchayats in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh which are still devoid of telephone facility and by when telephone facility would be provided there?

# Direct exchange lines in rural areas

- 4542. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) provided in the country till 31st December, 2001, State-wise;
- (b) by when all the villages in the country would be covered by VPTs;
- (c) the number of Direct Exchange Telephone Lines (DELs) provided in rural areas as on 31st December, 2001, Statewise; and
- (d) by when all rural areas would be provided by DELs?

### I.T. industrial units

†4543. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of Industrial units in the Information Technology Industry were 8082 in 1995 and 16530 in 2001;
- (b) if not, the actual number of said Industrial units during the above years;
- (c) the number of workers engaged in these units, separately; and
- (d) the annual growth rate of workers getting jobs therein in each year from 1995 to 2001?

#### Vigil on cyber cafes

- 4544. PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFOR-MATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Delhi High Court has, recently, directed Government to keep strict vigil on the cyber cafes;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details which led to issuance of such a direction by the Court?

### Out of order VPTs in Rajasthan

- 4545. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Village Public Telephones remained out of order in the rural areas of Rajasthan;

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

- (b) the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to make them functional?

### **Review of Indian Telegraph Act**

- 4546. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that certain sections of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and 1898 give adequate powers to Government to intercept messages and postal articles of any person;
- (b) whether these provisions have invited lot of criticism as it impinge upon the rights of the citizen guaranteed under the Constitution; and
- (c) whether Government propose to review the Indian Telegraph Act so as to remove such provision which impinge upon the citizen rights?

### Advertisement of dispatch of bills

- 4547. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the practice in Chennai Telephones of advertising in the Newspapers regarding the details of dispatch of bills has been found quite useful;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to extend this practice to other cities; and
  - (c) if so, the details thereof?

#### Revenue generation by IT industries

## †4548. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that revenue generated by Indian Information Technology industries was expected to touch 4.7 Billion dollar till the end of March, 2001;
- (b) if not, the amount of revenue generated during said period; and
- (c) the year-wise rate of growth of revenue registered during the last three years?

### VPTs by private companies

†4549. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

- (a) whether Government have identified those private sector companies who have not achieved the target for establishing telephone facility in rural sector by March, 2002;
- (b) if so, the names of such companies and names of the circles where these companies have not achieved the targets; and
- (c) whether Government have taken any action against these companies and if so, the details thereof?

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

### Alliance with UTI to set up ATMs

- 4550. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Posts has entered into an alliance with the UTI for setting up of ATMs across the country;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any Post Offices have been identified by the Department for setting up of ATMs; and
- (d) if so, the details of Post Offices, Statewise?

# Improvement in efficiency of postal system

- 4551. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the major initiatives Government propose to take during the Tenth Five Year Plan period so as to improve the efficiency of the postal system;
- (b) whether there are any schemes that are going to be the extensions of the initiatives during the Ninth Five Year Plan period; and
  - (c) if so, the details thereof?

#### IT education in the country

4552. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that foreign institutions are providing information technology education in the country;
- (b) if so, the names of the institutions, country-wise, providing such arrangements in the country alongwith the locations thereof; and
- (c) the number of persons likely to be benefited annually by these arrangements and the expected annual expenditures to be incurred thereon?

#### TPDS beneficiaries in Maharashtra

- 4553. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have been requested by Government of Maharashtra to increase the number of Targeted Public Distribution System beneficiaries in the State from the present 65.34 lakhs on the basis of population as per 2001 census; and
- (b) if so, Government's response thereto and the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

#### **Export of rice**

- 4554. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in 'Navbharat Times', dated the 12th April, 2002, under the caption "Behad kam kimat par kiya ja raha hai achhi kism ke chaval ka niryaat"; and
- (b) if so, Government's response thereto and what corrective steps have been taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

#### Long-term grain export policy

4555. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

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

- (a) whether India has evolved a longterm grain export policy;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this policy has been implemented; and
- (d) if not, by when it would be implemented?

#### Foodgrains distributed free of cost

- †4556. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1857 given in the Rajya Sabha on 6th December, 2001 and state:
- (a) the details of the foodgrains distributed free of cost as per order of his Ministry;
- (b) the number of districts where these foodgrains were distributed alongwith the number of its beneficiaries and also the minimum and maximum quantity of foograins distributed to a person or a family as rice, wheat or flour; and
- (c) the number of bidders, the sale price of the foodgrains and the quantity-wise details thereof?

## Setting up consumer courts

4557. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the financial assistance made to the State Governments for setting up of consumer courts during the last three years; and
- (b) the details of the financial assistance made to Tamil Nadu during the current year?

#### **Procurement policy**

- 4558. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the policy governing procurement of rice, wheat and other foodgrains from the farmers;
- (b) the details of the foodgrains procured from each State/UT during the last three years, year-wise and item-wise;
- (c) the percentage of foodgrains procured from each State/UT *vis-a-vis* the total stock held in the storage centres of the FCI during the last three years, year-wise and item-wise; and
- (d) the amount spent on procurement of foodgrains and the amount released to each State/UT towards the procurements, during the last three years, year-wise, both in Rupee and percentage terms?

# Decentralisation of procurement of foodgrains

- 4559. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have, recently, decided to decentralise procurement of foodgrains for distribution through PDS;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;

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

- (c) whether it is also a fact that this matter was discussed with the State Governments;and
- (d) if so, what is the outcome of the consultations with the State Governments?

#### **New Consumer Protection Act**

- 4560. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are considering to have a new Consumer Protection Act;
- (b) if so, whether the provisions of this Act shall apply to all the claims except in respect of which corresponding remedies of judicial nature are available;
  - (c) if so, what are its main features;
- (d) to what extent, this Consumer Protection Act would be useful; and
- (e) by when, a final decision is likely to be taken for introducing the proposed legislation in this regard?

# Demand for actual transportation charges

- 4561. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government of Gujarat has represented to the Union Government for allowing actual road transportation charges in respect of lifting of levy sugar price equalisation fund scheme;
- (b) if so, whether Government are considering the proposal; and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

# Cases pending before District Forum in Pondicherry

- 4562. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUK-KARASU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of cases pending before the District Forum and the State Commission in the Union territory of Pondicherry;
- (b) the number of cases filed and disposed of during the last three years; and
- (c) the amount paid as salary, daily allowance and travelling allowances to the District Forum and State Commission during the period 2000-2001 and 2001-2002?

#### Distress sale of paddy and wheat

- 4563. SHRI C. P. THIRUNAVUK-KARASU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that despite farmers have been given minimum support price for their produce, the cases of distress sale of paddy and wheat have been reported from various States;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the FCI is adopting uniform policy of procurement throughout the country;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

## Reimbursement of transportation charges

- 4564. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have reimbursed the transportation charges for the levy sugar nominees, particularly in Saurashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

## Flouting of regulations for transportation of rice from FCI godowns

- 4565. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the regulations for transportation of rice from the Food Corporation of India godowns are being flouted by the exporters in the matter of claiming transport subsidy; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the policy about the rice lifted by the exporters from FCI for export after cleaning/sorting the rice to take out brokens is being misused by first selling the entire quanity in the local market at the lower rates and purchasing the same at the higher rate?

### Sick sugar mills

- 4566. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of sugar mills lying closed and in sick condition in the country, State-wise;

- (b) the specific reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to revive them in the interest of the farmers?

#### Decontrol of sugar from PDS

- 4567. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to decontrol sugar from PDS;
- (b) if so, whether Government have conducted any study to know whether sugar industry and sugar cane growers would be benefited by this move; and
- (c) whether Government are aware that in Karnataka thousands of tonnes of sugar has been stored in godowns for sale; if so, in what way Government can help to clear the stocks?

## Revival of militancy in Punjab

- 4568. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan has embarked upon a plan for revival of militancy in Punjab in a big way, as per recent press reports;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has entrusted Lashkar-e-Toiba with the task of training men from Babar Khalsa International and the International Sikh Youth Federation to use weapons and infiltration into India via Jammu region; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction in regard thereto?

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

## Prabhakaran's efforts to establish better relations with India

- 4569. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported statement made by LTTE chief V. Prabhakaran to the effect that he wanted to forge closer and better ties with India which is crucial to the success of peace process;
- (b) whether it is a fact that he urged Government to forget the past and lift the ban on his organisation which was imposed 14 years back in the wake of assassination of Rajiv Gandhi; and
- (c) if so, Government's reaction in regard thereto?

#### Indo-Thailand agreements

- 4570. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that India has signed some agreements with Thailand recently;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) in what manner the two countries are being benefited out of these agreements; and
- (d) how long this agreement will be operational?

### Terrorist groups banned by USA

- †4571. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the terrorist organisations and groups which were involved in terrorist activities in India have been banned by the America during last one year;

- (b) the names of terrorist organisations and groups in whose respect the imposition of the ban was requested by Government but the US have not banned them, so far;
- (c) the number of Pakistan based terrorist groups which are operating their terrorist activities in India; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken by Government for getting them banned?

#### Nexus between Indian terrorists and Nepalese Maoist

- 4572. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that some Indian terrorists outfits are giving assistance to Maoist militants who have unleashed a reign of terror in Nepal;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Maoist have developed nexus with India's MCC and PWG;
- (c) whether the issue came up for discussion in the recent official meeting of both the countries; and
- (d) if so, the details of decision taken therein?

## Bringing back of Kohinoor and Peacock Throne

- 4573. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 766 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th July, 2000 and state:
- (a) whether Kohinoor diamond and the Peacock Throne are still held by the Britishers;
- (b) if so, whether the matter was raised during the recent visit of the British Prime Minister; and

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

(c) if not, the action proposed to bring them back at the earliest?

#### Visit of US Assistant Secretary of State

4574. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether US Assistant Secretary of State visited India and has discussions with Indian officials on developments in the Indo-US relations and situation in the subcontinent:
  - (b) if so, the main subjects discussed;
- (c) the officials and Ministers with whom she met and had discussions; and
  - (d) the outcome of her visit?

#### Ignoring warnings on illegal flights

4575. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI: SHRI ABANI ROY: SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his Ministry has received various representations about illegal flights taking off from Delhi as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 23rd April, 2002;
- (b) if so, whether his Ministry has ignored the action on various representations and warnings;
  - (c) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (d) whether the role of officials responsible for the act has been probed in this case and if so, with what results; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to ensure that such illegal flights do not take off from Delhi?

#### Dialogue between India and USA

4576. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and USA have started a broad-based dialogue which would include Indo-Pak relations development in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the talks held and whether India and USA have agreed to reduce the tensions on borders between India and Pakistan and other neighbouring countries; and
- (c) if so, to what extent USA has agreed to help and assist in reducing the tension?

#### American help to check brain-drain

- 4577. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "US to help India check brain-drain" published in the Hindu on the 14th March, 2002;
- (b) if so, whether United States have decided to extend help to India to check the phenomenon of brain-drain; and
- (c) if so, the manner in which United States would help India?

## Visit of diplomats to Gujarat

- 4578. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the names of countries whose diplomatic representatives visited Gujarat in the wake of recent riots in the State and made comments;

- (b) whether Government have reacted thereto; and
  - (c) if so, the details thereof?

# Enactment of domestic legislation on terrorism

- 4579. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have not enacted domestic legislation on terrorism under U.N. Security Council Resolution 1373;
  - (b) if so, the reasons for the delay; and
- (c) by when this legislation is likely to be enacted?

# Torturing of Indian High Commission's employee in Islamabad

- 4580. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Indian High Commission employees in Islamabad are feeling unsafe and recently one of the employees was physically tortured by police for nearly nine hours;
  - (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) whether the officials of Indian High Commission in Islamabad are deliberately alleged to be indulged in spying activities on flimsy grounds; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to protect the officials of the Indian High Commission working in Islamabad and to take up the matter with the Government of Pakistan?

## Closing down of Gurdwara in Kuwait

- 4581. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Kuwaiti Government has closed down the only Gurdwara in that country;
  - (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) whether this matter has been discussed with the Kuwaiti Government; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

## Membership of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

- 4582. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the President of Kazakhstan has advocated for India's membership on the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation;
- (b) whether India has sought the membership of this organisation;
- (c) by when a decision on this is likely to be taken;
- (d) which other countries are its members; and
- (e) what are objectives of this organisation?

### Depicting J and K and Arunachal Pradesh as disputed areas by Microsoft

4583. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Map

Point, 2002, which is an elaborate detailed software, prepared by the Microsoft showed Jammu and Kashmir and Arunachal Pradesh as disputed areas;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any protest has been launched either through diplomatic or other channels before the US Government in this regard; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### Reaction on Gujarat incident

- †4584. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the type of reactions Government have received from Central Asia and specially Gulf countries on the recent incidents of Godhra and Gujarat; and
  - (b) Government's response thereto?

#### American aid to India and Pakistan

- 4585. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the US has agreed to provide a large scale aid to India and Pakistan, both of which have now classified as frontline States supporting the US in the war against terrorism:
- (b) if so, the total aid, so far, provided to both India and Pakistan by the US;
- (c) whether India has objected on this issue because Pakistan has been continuously siding the terrorist activities in India; and
- (d) if so, the US Government's reaction on India's objection in providing aid to Pakistan?

#### Agreements with Indonesia

- †4586. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that some agreements have been signed with Indonesia during the last six months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and when these agreements would be implemented; and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

## Visa relaxation to facilitate tourism and trade

- 4587. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether during the recent visit of the Prime Minister to Singapore and Cambodia, any mutual arrangements were reached for relaxing or removing visa restrictions to facilitate tourism and trade between them:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the volume of trade and tourism between India, Singapore and Cambodia during 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02; and
- (d) the estimated increase during 2002-03?

#### American help for victims of attack on American Centre

- 4588. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the US Government has offered to help relatives of cops killed in American Centre attack in Kolkata;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

(c) the action taken to ensure that the next of kin of victims killed while guarding the American Centre is benefited by the offer?

#### Police verification for passports

4589. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the normal time taken/prescribed to get the police verification done for issuing the passports to persons whose verifications are required from two or more places; and
- (b) the action taken by passport authorities in issuing passports if verification reports are not received within stipulated time from police authorities?

## Impact of communal carnage in Gujarat on India's image

4590. SHRI MANOJ BHATTA-CHARYA: SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the international image of India has been badly tarnished following the continued communal carnage in Gujarat; and
- (b) if so, the details of effective measures Government are contemplating to recover the lost image?

## Working children

- 4591. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of working children in the country as per 2001 Census, State-wise;

- (b) whether it is provisional or final count:
- (c) whether child labour is on increase; and
- (d) the manner in which Government propose to eliminate the child labour so as to enable them to enjoy their childhood?

## Skill building and training for construction workers

- 4592. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to undertake a big exercise for skill building and training of construction workers during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken for training and certification of trained building construction workers?

### National Skill Development Fund

- 4593. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindu dated the 14th April, 2002, regarding the Second Labour Commission's recommendations for establishment of a National Skill Development Fund;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
  - (c) Government's reaction thereto; and
- (d) by when the Commission's recommendations are likely to be received by Government?

#### Strike call by Central Trade Unions

- 4594. SHRI C. RAMACHAND-RAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether all the Central Trade Unions announced their resolve to observe strike on April 16, 2002, in protest against Government's "Anti-Workers" policies; and
- (b) if so, whether Government have taken any action to start talks with the representatives of the Union to avert such strikes?

## Summary termination of coal company workers

- 4595. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a provision for summary termination of workers in some coal companies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what steps are being taken to abolish such an impugned order?

## Deployment of unemployed youths in Centrally sponsored programmes

- 4596. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have any proposal to deploy unemployed youths in Centrally sponsored programmes like pulse polio, census, preparation of voter list, etc. under Central/State Governments Schemes;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

## Labour productivity

- †4597. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the country's position has come down to the seventh place in Asia in the field of labour productivity as per Analysis Report of Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) Government's reaction thereto?

## Decline in employment opportunities for skilled/unskilled labourers

- 4598. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there has been steep decline in employment opportunities for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labourers in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana during 2000 and 2001;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to increase employment opportunities for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labourers in these States?

## Pending labour disputes

- 4599. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of labour disputes pending in various labour courts in the country and the rate of their disposal during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the number of cases decided in favour of employees/workers, State-wise, year-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to expedite the pending cases?

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

## Child labour in Match and fire works industry

- 4600. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of child labours engaged in Match industry, fireworks industry and other industries as on the 31st March, 2002, State and industry-wise; and
- (b) whether it is a fact that most of the employers do not engage adults in such industries?

#### Corruption in ESI hospital, Ghaziabad

- 4601. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that corruption is prevailing in the Employees State Insurance Scheme Hospital, Modinagar, Ghaziabad;
- (b) if so, whether Government have received any representation from the beneficiaries in March, 2002 in this regard;
- (c) if so, what action has been taken to get the sorry state of affairs of the above ESI Hospital enquired into and to improve the situation; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Inspection in EPF organisation

- 4602. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the inspections are restrained in the EPF organisation and as a result thereof the number of new coverage has been decreased and the number of defaulters have been increased in alarming manner:
- (b) the break up of the new coverages and the number of defaulters for the last five years, year-wise;

- (c) whether Government would consider for conducting periodical inspections to decrease and discourage the number of defaulters; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Affairs of EPF organisation

- 4603. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that posting and transfer of officers has became a trade/business in the EPF organisation;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that even the compassionate appointments are held up for more than six months in cases of sudden demise of the staff of Group C employees; and
- (c) if so, the number of cases pending/ held up for more than six months and the reasons therefor?

### Measures to control unemployment

- 4604. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that unemployment in the country has been growing at an alarming rate and frustration has been building up among the unemployed educated youth;
- (b) if so, the comprehensive plan/ measures evolved to control this unabated increase:
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor:
- (d) the details of the proposal under Government's consideration to give unemployment allowance to unemployed youth registered with various employment exchanges; and
  - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### Elimination of child labour

- 4605. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have given thought to control child labour in the country;
  - (b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;
- (c) whether any time-bound action plan has been drawn-up to completely eliminate this shameful practice in a phased manner; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

## Committee on problems of industrial child labour

- 4606. PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a Committee was constituted to study the problems of children working in hazardous industries;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said Committee has submitted its report to Government;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (e) if not, the reasons for the delay?

## Unemployed persons

- †4607. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of unemployed persons in the country, State-wise, as on the 31st January, 2002;
- (b) whether Government have formulated any policy to provide employment to the literate and illiterate unemployed persons; and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Recommendations of Committees on Labour Law Reforms

- 4608. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) what are the recommendations of the Geethakrishan Committee, Rakesh Mohan Committee and the Montek Singh Ahluwalia Committee on Labour Law Reforms;
- (b) how far these have been reacted upon by major Trade Unions in the country; and
- (c) what action has been taken by Government on these recommendations?

# Depositing of Provident Fund by companies

†4609. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have detected some irregularities being committed by the companies in different States by not depositing the amount of their share in the Provident Funds of their employees well in time:
- (b) if so, the names of those erring companies which are not depositing the amount of their shares in the Provident Funds of their employees well in time in each State; and
- (c) the financial loss suffered by the employees in each State due to these irregularities?

# Remittance of EPF contribution to employees' account

4610. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 60 per cent of

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

the EPF money deducted at source by the employer along with the matching contributions is not being remitted to the member's EPF account and lakhs of employees are not being issued contribution slips:

- (b) if so, what are the details in this regard at the end of 31st March, 2001 and 31st March, 2002; and
- (c) what measures are being taken to safeguard workers' interests?

#### EPS settlement of retired workers

- 4611. SHRI MANOJ BHATTA-CHARYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether all the cases of EPS have been settled for the retired workers till 31st December, 2001;
- (b) if so, the number of employees whose EPS could be settled, Sector-wise;
- (c) whether there are number of Public Sector Enterprises (PSE) employees whose pension settlement could not be effected so far: and
- (d) the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

#### Welfare fund for beedi, cine and noncoal mine workers

- 4612. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether five welfare funds are in operation for beedi workers, cine workers and non-coal mine workers;
- (b) if so, the number of workers, the amount of funds allotted and utilized during last three years for each group of the above workers, State-wise, Category-wise and Year-wise;

- (c) whether district units are the nodal points for implementing the above schemes; and
- (d) whether the representatives from the workers society would be included at the nodal point for better participation of workers in the scheme?

## Criteria for promotion of Group C officers belonging to SC/ST category

- 4613. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that in the case of promotion made for Group 'B' post/services from Group 'C', separate lists should be drawn up of the eligible SC/ST officers arranged in order of their *inter-se* seniority in the main list and adjudged by the D.P.C. Separately in regard to their fitness;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the criteria for the promotion of Group 'C' SC/ST officers to Group 'B'?

# **Extending CSS Cadre restructure** recommendations to CSSS

- 4614. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTA-CHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1325 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th November, 2001 and state:
- (a) whether the Committee of senior Officers has since submitted its report;
- (b) if so, the details of recommendations made and the decisions taken thereon;
- (c) whether Government propose to extend these recommendations to members of CSSS, specially regarding revision of pay scales;
- (d) what is the time taken members of CSSS in promotion from one grade to another:

- (e) whether Government propose to take any steps for removal of their stagnation vis-a-vis CSS grades; and
  - (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

## Meeting of Departmental Council (JCM) of DOPT

- 4615. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTA-CHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2112 given in Rajya Sabha on the 9th August, 2001 and state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that despite submission of agenda for 56th Meeting a long back, no meeting of the Departmental Council (JCM) of Department of Personnel and Training has been held, so far;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the steps taken to remove the impediments;
- (c) whether the demands raised/ proposed to be considered in this meeting have been departmentally examined;
- (d) if so, the result of such examination; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to convene the meeting forthwith and timely meetings in future?

# Recommendation of Committee for CSS cadre restructure

4616. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Departmental Committee constituted to review cadre structure of Central Secretariat Service has since submitted its report;

- (b) if so, the details of the recommendations made therein;
- (c) whether Government have assessed impact of the recommendations on stagnation of officers in various categories particularly Grade-I/Selection Grade and Senior Selection Grade during the next four to six years; and
- (d) if so, how many Grade-I officers of select list 1987 to 1990 are likely to be included in the select list of selection Grade Officers/Directors by July 2004 who have already rendered nearly 14 years of approved Group 'A' Service?

# Alagh Committee to review functioning of Civil Services Examination

- 4617. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Y.K. Alagh Committee appointed by Government to review functioning of the Civil Services Examinations has submitted its report;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations:
- (c) whether Government have examined these recommendations; and
- (d) the decision taken with regard to their implementaton?

## Departmental inquiry

- 4618. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether departmental inquiry can be initiated even when that matter is under the consideration of civil/criminal court;
- (b) if so, the details of the relevant provisions; and
- (c) if not, the fate of such a departmental inquiry?

# Filling up of the post vacated by suspended employee

- 4619. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the post on which an employee placed under suspension can be filled up by transfer/promotion during the on-going suspension;
- (b) if so, the details of the relevant provisions; and
- (c) if not, the steps proposed for stopping such transfer/promotion?

### Transfer of suspended employees

4620. SHRI GAYA SINGH: SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether CCS (CCA) Rules 1965 provide for transfer of employees within the region or to another region even when they are under suspension;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof:
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of the procedure of conducting departmental proceeding in such cases; and
- (e) whether the enquiry officers etc. are reappointed/transferred following the interregional transfers?

### Compassionate appointment

- 4621. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the existing norms and criteria for compassionate appointment of dependant of the deceased employees;
  - (b) whether the quota of compassionate

- appointments has been curtailed/reduced due to curtailment of Central Government staff:
- (c) whether Government propose to increase quota of compassionate appointments for the dependant of deceased staff; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

### Second generation economic reforms

- 4622. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether in a bid to usher in second generation economic reforms in the agricultural sector, the Planning Commission has recommended some bold and radical measures;
- (b) if so, whether allowing private sector in the management of the food economy and encouraging private trade in procurement of foodgrains has also been suggested;
- (c) if so, what are the other recommendations made by the Planning Commission; and
- (d) whether Government have agreed thereto?

### Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes on State subjects to States

- 4623. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) what steps Government have taken to improve Centre-State relations through transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes on the State Subjects to the States alongwith funds;
- (b) whether the schemes on Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) because of their

being intrinsically related to State subject matters are going to be transferred to the States with funds and earmarking;

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

## Setting up more Agricultural Export zones

4624. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRA-IAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the action taken to withstand competition under the World Trade Organisation by enhancing Water Conservation Schemes and storage facilities for farmers;
- (b) whether Government proposed to set up more agricultural export zones for this purpose; and
  - (c) if so, the details thereof?

#### Drafting of plans on five year basis

4625. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether plans are drafted on five year basis;
- (b) if so, the logic behind such five year plans;
- (c) whether Government have ever considered to draft two or three years plan;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

## High Level Committee for population control

†4626. SHRI B.P. SINGHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

 (a) whether any high level Committee for population control was constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister;

- (b) the names of the members of this Committee and the number of meetings of the said Committee held so far:
- (c) the decisions taken by the Committee regarding population control and the pace of implementation of these decisions; and
- (d) the details of the special achievements regarding family Planning duirng the last five years?

## Percentage of Population living below poverty line

- 4627. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the percentage of population of the country living below the poverty line at the beginning as well as at the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan;
- (b) the steps being taken to improve the situation; and
  - (c) the other details in this regard?

## Annual plan allocation for Punjab

4628. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the annual plan outlay allocated for Punjab during the current year;
- (b) whether the State Government has made any demand to increase the allocation; and
  - (c) if so, the details thereof?

## Loan-grant ratio in Central Plan assistance

4629. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether various State governments, particularly Rajasthan, have proposed any

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

changes in the loan-grant ratio in the Central Plan assistance;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the present outstanding loan burden against Rajasthan and other States, and whether any specific suggestions have been made to mitigate the same?

#### Target set for development of NER

- 4630. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the targets set under the different schemes for development of NE Region during the Ninth Five Year Plan period;
- (b) how far these targets have been achieved; and
- (c) the approach adopted in the Tenth Five Year Plan relating to development of NE Region?

# Monitoring mechanism for implementation of PMGY

†4631. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have also set up any monitoring mechanism for effective implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the States where this mechanism has already been set up?

### **Eradication of poverty**

†4632. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a time-frame has been fixed by the World Bank for eradication of poverty by 2015;
- (b) if so, whether in India also the same time-frame has been fixed as the target;
  - (c) if so, the details of the facts;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that annual growth rate of GDP in the country will have to be enhanced for achievement of the said target; and
- (e) if so, to what extent the annual growth rate is necessary for ensuing years?

## Involvement of private sector in construction/maintenance of NHs in Kerala

- 4633. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether construction and maintenance of National Highways in Kerala have been entrusted with the private sector under BOT basis;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the sectors coming under Kerala which have been identified to be considered under BOT sheeme;
- (d) whether Phase III and Phase IV of Kollam Bypass in National Highway-47 will be taken under BOT basis for its completion; and
  - (e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

## Utilisation of allocation under CRF scheme in Assam

4634. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the allocation made and

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

actual utilisation of fund under CRF Scheme in Assam during last three financial years, year-wise:

- (b) the date of actual handover of NH-52 to BRO/BRTF and sector-wise developmental plan envisaged in each subhead like improvement, widening replacement of timber bridge etc.; and
- (c) the actual allocation and utilization made for repair, widening improvement and replacement of timber bridges as well as restoration of breaches of NH-52 during the last three financial years, head-wise and sector-wise?

# Economy in fuel consumption by laying cement roads

4635. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the cost of laying one kilometer of bitumen road and cement road and the life span of bitumen and cement road, separately;
- (b) whether there would be saving upto 15 per cent in fuel bills for new roads laid in concrete in comparison to bitumen roads constructed at the same time;
- (c) whether Rakesh Mohan Committee pointed out that Cement roads would save Rs. 25,000 crore in transport cost and the maintenance costs would be negligible and the life span would be 40 years; and
  - (d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

# Maintenance and development of Highways

†4636. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Central assistance allocated by Government to the State Governments during each year of the Ninth

Five Year Plan for maintenance of roads and development of highways;

- (b) the targets fixed by Government during the said period for this purpose;
- (c) whether these targets have been achieved; and
- (d) if not, the status of every State at present and the reasons for non-achievement of targets?

### Construction of bridges on Khateema - Panipat National Highway

†4637. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that huge damages are caused to lives and properties following wiping away of vehicles every year on the 'rapats' falling between Najeebabad and Haridwar on the Khateema -Panipat National Highways;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government have sanctioned Rs. 12 crores for constructing bridges over these rapatas on NH-74; and
- (c) if so, by when, permanent pucca bridges are likely to be constructed on all these 'rapats'; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

## Declaring Delhi—Yamunotri Highway as National Highway

†4638. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of roads declared as National Highways during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;

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

- (b) the roads likely to be declared as National Highways in Uttaranchal during the current year; and
- (c) whether the Delhi-Yamunotri Highway-47 is proposed to be included therein?

#### Wastage of fuel at intersections

- 4639. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether 20 per cent of fuel used is wasted at 466 intersections in the capital;
- (b) whether as per the study conducted by the Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) 3.25 lakh litres of petrol and more than one lakh litres of diesel is wasted at the intersections; and
- (c) if so, how Government propose to curb this wastage as also to check pollution in the capital?

## Under utilisation of Central fund in constructing highways in North Eastern States

- 4640. SHRI DRUPAD BOR-GOHAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that some of the North Eastern State Governments are very slow in utilising the fund released by Government for improving and constructing highways in these States;
- (b) if so, the highways, indicating their locations and the funds utilised alongwith the percentage of utilisation; and
- (c) what measures have been proposed to improve the situation?

#### NHs in Bihar

- 4641. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received any demand for declaring more National Highways in the country;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the demand for declaring Darbhanga-Jainagar, Birpur-Madhepura, Hazipur-Mushrigarari as National Highways has been considered by Government; and
  - (d) if so, the outcome thereof?

## Improvement of roads in Bihar and Jharkhand

- †4642. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the funds spent by Government for improvement of roads in Bihar and Jharkhand during the last three years;
- (b) whether less funds have been allocated to Bihar and Jharkhand for improvement of roads as compared to other States during the above period; and
  - (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

## Condition of National Highways in Bihar and Jharkand

- 4643. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware of bad and deteriorating condition of National Highways in Bihar and Jharkhand;
- (b) whether any instructions have been issued to the State Government in this regard;

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

- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the amount spent during 2001-2002 on maintenance and upkeep of the National Highways in each of these States;
- (e) the places where this amount has been spent; and
- (f) by when all these Highways would be repaired fully?

### Mafia interference in implementing World Bank funded Road Development Schemes

- 4644. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that various Centrally Sponsored Road Development Schemes funded by the World Bank in various States are dogged by the activities of underworld mafia;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government have received reports that mafias are not allowing such schemes/programmes to be implemented; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure implementation of various road development schemes without mafia's interference?

## Lack of facilities on National Highway No. 8

- 4645. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that National Highway No. 8 between Delhi and Jaipur is more prone towards accident due to lack of facilities: and
- (b) what steps have been taken to identify the deficiency in road facilities on NH-8 and make it safe and accident free?

### Upgradation of Bhuj-Khavada-India Bridge-Dharamshala State Highway

- 4646. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the proposal to upgrade the Bhuj-Khavada-India Bridge-Dharamshala State Highway into National Highway is being considered from defence point of view; and
- (b) by when the proposal would be approved?

## Action plan to minimise accidents on highways

- 4647. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the fatal accidents taken place on the roads during last three years, the figures State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) whether Government have conducted any study of the loss of human resources on the roads because of the accidents;
- (c) whether his Ministry has made any plan to deal with the accidents on the highways;
- (d) whether Government have drawn up any contingency plan to minimise accidents on the highways; and
  - (e) if so, specific details thereof?

## States' share in toll

- 4648. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to collect toll from the vehicle users of all four-lane national highways, by-passes and major bridges;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount expected to yield; and
- (d) whether a part of the toll would be given to the State Governments and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

## Construction work on NH between Mohania and Sasaram

†4649. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the ongoing construction work on 45 kilometer stretch of National Highway in Bihar between Mohania and Sasaram has been suspended due to some reasons;
- (b) if so, which authority was entrusted with the responsibility of the said construction; and
- (c) the reasons for suspension of the construction work at present?

#### Special package to SSI

- 4650. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that lot of small scale industries in and around Delhi and other parts of the country have been closed down;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that our small scale industry is ill-equipped and not fully geared to complete with the onslaught of cheap imports; and
- (d) whether Government have formulated any comprehensive special package to small scale industries to enable them, to tide over the crisis?

### Relief to SSI from BIFR

- 4651. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) the amount blocked in the small scale industries, bank-wise;
- (b) the number of the small scale industries referred to BIFR;
- (c) what relief small scale industries have got from BIFR for last three years; and
- (d) the number of people employed in the small scale sector as on date?

#### Concessions to SSIs

- †4652. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to give more concessions to small scale industries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and by when Government are going to implement the same: and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### Protection of interests of SSI sector

- 4653. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that small scale industries sector has been facing very tough competition from multi-national companies;
- (b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to protect their interests; and
- (c) the details of the incentives given or proposed to be given to this sector to ensure their survival?

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

# Workshop on ozone depleting substance

- 4654. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Small Industries Service Institute Organised one day awareness workshop on 'ozone depleting substances' at Balanagar, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh in March, 2002';
- (b) if so, what have been recommendations of the workshop; and
- (c) the steps being taken to bring about awareness of depleting ozone substances?

# Expansion/development of SSI in rural areas

- 4655. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any proposal for expansion and development of small scale industries in the rural areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposals for the above purpose; and
  - (c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

# Steps to make Indian space programme self-dependant

- †4656. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Governmental and private users of the Indian satellites set up

- in space at present and the revenue earned by Government therefrom alongwith the details of the expenditure incurred on these satellites; and
- (b) the innovative steps Government propose to take to make Indian space programme self-dependant?

### Income tax net for beneficiary Committees conducting work of MPLADS

- 4657. SHRI N. K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the beneficiary Committees which are conducting the works of MPLAD Scheme have been brought under the preview of Income Tax;
- (b) whether Government are aware that the beneficiary Committees are reluctant to take up the work because of the existing provision of Income Tax;
- (c) whether Government would consider to review the above provisions; and
  - (d) Government's reaction thereto?

# Schemes sanctioned under 20-point programme in Gujarat

- 4658. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of schemes sanctioned during the year 2001 under 20 point programme in Gujarat; and
- (b) the details of the Central assistance provided to the State to implement the schemes under this programme?

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

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## **MPLADS Funds**

4659. PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds sanctioned to each MP under MPLADS for the last two years;

(b) the details of the works/projects taken up and completed during the same period;

(c) whether Government have come across any problem faced by the MPs in the execution of projects under MPLADS; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

New Delhi; The 3rd May, 2002

Vaisakha 13, 1924 (Saka)

R.C. TRIPATHI, Secretary-General.

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